

MINUTES
BROOKVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 3, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.

The Brookville Borough Council met in the large conference room on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. with the following in attendance:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Richard Beck
Phil Hynes
Karen Allgeier
Todd Gumpher
David Taylor
Lucy Ames
Sarah Gallagher

STAFF

Manager Dana Rooney
Police Chief Vince Markle
Fire Chief Chris Henry
President of the Brookville
Volunteer Fire Company -
Eric Sweitzer
Public Works Director -
Jonathan Rhoades
Code Enforcement Officer –
Vince Markle
Recorder Christine Gunning
Solicitor Jim Dennison

VISITOR/MEDIA

Justin Felgar
Alex Nelson
Gary Hoffman
Bob Lewis

CALL TO ORDER:

President Phil Hynes called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Vice-President Karen Allgeier moved to approve the minutes of the December 6th meeting as submitted; seconded by Member Todd Gumpher. Motion carried 6-0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- A. Approval of Expenditures** – Member David Taylor moved to approve the accounts payable for December 21, 2022, December 30, 2022, and January 3, 2023 as submitted; seconded by Member Lucy Ames. Motion carried 6-0.
- B. Fund Level Financial Statements** – President Phil Hynes stated you have the Fund Level Financial Statement Summary, and if you have questions, we are here to answer them.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- A. Gary Hoffman – Trees** – Gary Hoffman stated he lives on Waterford Pike, and he was at a Borough Council meeting back in November concerning some trees that are on what he believes to be Borough property on the right of way. Mr. Hoffman stated the trees block his view when he comes out of his driveway, he thinks they should be removed, and he was here tonight for an update. President Phil Hynes stated Solicitor Jim Dennison has been incapacitated for a month, and has not had a chance to look into this. Solicitor Dennison stated he and Public

Works Director Jonathan Rhoades will look at it. Mr. Hynes stated we will try to get you an answer.

REPORTS:

Chief of Police

- A. **Statistics** – Police Chief Vince Markle stated in December the Brookville Police Department had 133 calls for service, wrote 185 citations, 23 incidents, 123 warnings, and 22 parking tickets. Police Chief Vince Markle stated there were 3 felonies, 17 misdemeanors, 4 drug arrests, 21 summaries, and 2 302 committals.
- B. **Officer of the Month** – Police Chief Vince Markle stated Officer Jaime Rinker was Officer of the Month.
- C. **Training** – Police Chief Vince Markle stated this month his officers will be attending Identity Theft Crimes Training and Public Recordings of Police Activities.
- D. **2022 Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Reports** – Police Chief Vince Markle stated he received their 2022 UCR reports, and our town had a two hundred and thirty-three percent increase in arrests related to aggravated assault, burglaries, and thefts. Chief Markle stated there was a seventy-five percent increase in simple assaults. Chief Markle stated there was a fifty-three point eight five increase in driving under the influence (DUI) arrests. Chief Markle stated out of the DUI arrests, there were only four alcohol and the others were drug. Chief Markle stated while these numbers are staggering to hear, it is due to the economics we are going through right now. Chief Markle stated his officers did an outstanding job, and had a one hundred percent crime solve rate for 2022.

Fire Chief – Fire Chief Chris Henry read his written report (attached), and submitted his year end report (attached).

Public Works - Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades stated we are all recovered from the holiday storm, and are ready for the next one. Mr. Rhoades stated the salt supply is good. Mr. Rhoades stated they got all the vehicles undercoated before the snowstorm. Mr. Rhoades stated they started installing some new playground equipment at Memorial Park. Mr. Rhoades stated if weather allows, Terra Works will be back to button up the storm drain by S&T Bank and Goodwill.

Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement Officer Vince Markle stated he had no report this month.

Committee Reports - None

Solicitor

- A. **Depot Street Agreement** – Solicitor Jim Dennison stated Council Members received a copy of the agreement with the Redbank Valley Trails Association. Solicitor Dennison stated we have such a good relationship with them, and they have done so much work on that trail. Solicitor Dennison stated we appreciate everything they have done. Vice-President Karen Allgeier made a

motion to approve the Depot Street Agreement as presented; seconded by Member David Taylor. Motion carried 6-0.

Borough Manager

- A. **Repository Bid(s)** – Manager Dana Rooney stated we have a repository bid for 22 Crestwood Circle in the amount of twenty-five dollars. Vice-President Karen Allgeier made a motion to approve the repository bid for 22 Crestwood Circle in the amount of twenty-five dollars; seconded by Member Lucy Ames. Motion carried 6-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. **Ordinance for Grass and Leaves on Streets** – Mayor Richard Beck asked if any progress is being made on getting an ordinance for grass being blown out onto the street. Vice-President Karen Allgeier asked would we just have to update the current grass ordinance? Solicitor Jim Dennison stated he will take a look at it.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Executive Session** – President Phil Hynes stated Police Chief Vince Markle needs an executive session for a personnel matter with action expected.
- B. **Homeless People** - Mayor Richard Beck stated it was brought to his attention that over the last few years we have homeless people camped out in different places in the Borough. Mayor Beck asked if there is some way we can prevent this from happening. Solicitor Jim Dennison stated he does not know of any ordinances that deal with it, unless you go into your Property Maintenance Code somehow. President Phil Hynes stated he recognizes the problem, and asked Council to consider the issue, and let him know if they have any ideas.

ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

- A. **Mayor Richard Beck** – Mayor Richard Beck thanked the Brookville Volunteer Fire Company and the Police Department for the great job they did dealing with the mess we had this winter.
- B. **Member Sarah Gallagher** – Member Sarah Gallagher wished everyone a Happy New Year, and thanked Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades and his crew for doing a great job on the roads.
- C. **Member David Taylor** – Member David Taylor stated he seconds what you all said, plus he had a call from Second Vice-President Randy Bartley saying he could not be here because he is in Clarion, and he knew Reporter Justin Felgar would be sick because our entertainment factor would be missing.
- D. **Member Lucy Ames** – Member Lucy Ames stated she echoes what the others have said. Mrs. Ames congratulated Police Chief Vince Markle on the one hundred percent crime solve rate. Mrs. Ames thanked Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades, Fire Chief Chris Henry, and their crews for keeping us so safe over this crazy weather we have had.

- E. **Member Todd Gumph** – Member Todd Gumph stated he echoes what has been said. Mr. Gumph commended Police Chief Vince Markle, Fire Chief Chris Henry, and Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades for a great 2022, and stated he looks forward to a good 2023.
- F. **Vice-President Karen Allgeier** - Vice-President Karen Allgeier stated ditto. Mrs. Allgeier stated the Brookville Volunteer Fire Company has a gun raffle March 25th, and asked everyone to buy tickets for it and come out to support them. Mrs. Allgeier thanked Police Chief Vince Markle and Public Works Director Jonathan Rhoades for everything they do. Mrs. Allgeier stated to her fellow Council Members, let us make 2023 the best we can.
- G. **President Phil Hynes** - President Phil Hynes stated he hopes we have a fine 2023, and stated he is leaving the committees the same as last year. Mr. Hynes asked the media if they had any questions.

MEDIA COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CLARIFICATION:

- A. **Justin Felgar – Homeless People** – Reporter Justin Felgar stated he has a comment regarding homeless people. Mr. Felgar stated the I-80 Trucker and Traveler Ministry helps transients. Police Chief Vince Markle stated they use them quite frequently.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Brookville Borough Council entered an executive session at 7:29 P.M. for a personnel matter with action expected. Executive session ended at 7:48 P.M. with the following action taken:

Personnel Committee Chair Lucy Ames made a motion coming from the committee to hire Rodney Weyant for parking enforcement. President Phil Hynes stated since this motion is coming from committee, no second is needed. Mr. Hynes asked all Council Members in favor of this motion coming from committee to say ‘aye’. Motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-President Karen Allgeier moved to adjourn; seconded by Member Lucy Ames. Motion carried 6-0 at 7:49 P.M.

Borough Manager

