

Ivyland Borough Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

ATTENDANCE: Chuck Bristow, Sal DiPaolo, Dr. Chris Finello, Bill Linwood, Matt Piotrowski, Todd Savarese

ABSENT: Chris Branchide

OTHERS PRESENT: Krista DiPaolo, stenographer, Senior Judge Daniel J. Finello, Mark Freed, Borough Solicitor, Anthony Judice, Mayor, State Representative Brian Munroe, Janet Pacchioli, Treasurer, Chris Peterson, Borough Engineer, Fire Chief David Sharp

Establishment of Quorum:

Pledge of Allegiance:

Moment of Silence:

Swearing in of Council Member: Senior Judge Finello swore in Chuck Bristow, bible held by Katie Coulson. There was a presentation of a plaque to the Honorable Senior Judge Finello, Jr. recognizing him as an Honorary Ivyland Resident.

Minutes of 12/13/23: In review of the December 2023 minutes, Mr. Savarese requested the addition of page numbers and minor grammatical changes. Mr. Savarese made a motion to approve, Dr. Finello seconded the motion. Mr. Lindwood abstained due to absence. Motion passed 5-0-1.

Minutes of 1/2/24: Mr. Savarese made a motion to approve. Mr. Linwood seconded the motion. Mr. Bristow abstained due to absence. Motion passed 5-0-1. Mr. Savarese made a motion to amend the agenda to acknowledge State Representative Brian Munroe. Mr. Linwood seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0-0. Mr. Munroe described his reason for attending tonight's meeting, the awarding of the Covid-19 ARPA Small Water and Sewer Grant to Ivyland Borough. The grant was applied for and submitted in time due to the hard work of the Council and specifically Dr. Finello and Mr. Peterson. A ceremonial check for \$422,301.00 was presented to Council. The funds from this grant will be used to remediate the Greely Avenue stormwater issues, working on the prepared plan designed by Carroll Engineering.

- **Treasurer's Report:**

Mrs. Pacchioli read the December Treasurer's report. The balances are as follows as of 12/31/23:

General Fund:

Balance on Hand: \$606,562.21

Capital Reserve Fund: \$417,176.04

Liquid Fuel Fund: \$97,317.35

Fire Company Account: \$63,161.59

Total Funds 12/31/23 \$1,184,217.19

Treasurer's report accepted, subject to audit.

Mrs. Pacchioli read the January Treasurer's report. The balances are as follows as of 1/10/24:

General Fund:

Balance on Hand: \$587,804.50

Capital Reserve Fund: \$417,176.04

Liquid Fuel Fund: \$97,317.35

Fire Company Account: \$62,682.82

Total Funds 1/10/24 \$1,164,980.71

Treasurer's report accepted, subject to audit.

- **Bills List:**

Prepaid Bills List Total: \$28,519.76

Unpaid Bills List Total \$8,026.79

Mike Granieri's drain cleaning bill was not included in the unpaid list. The Treasurer did not get the bill before finalizing the Treasurer's report for January 2024. The drain cleaning work was done the week after Christmas 2023.

Treasurer noted that the prepaid list included annual payment for the borough's IT vendor contract. Mr. Linwood made a motion to approve the bills, Mr. DiPaolo seconded. Motion passed 6-0-0.

- **Correspondence:**

- a. Mr. Savarese asked about Certificates of Deposit for the new fiscal year. Mrs. Pacchioli shared that at the next Finance meeting, the Finance Committee would be looking into CDs and making recommendations to Council at the February meeting. Discussion was made by Council and the question "Does the investment of municipal funds into a COD account need approval?" was asked by Mr. Savarese. Mr. Freed recommended any movement of funds into CDs would require getting Council approval. The next Finance meeting is scheduled for 2/1/24.

- **Public Comment:**

- a. Mayor Judice shared that there were some initial audio issues with feedback on the new audio system. It was observed that after tonight's swearing in, audio did cut out then came back on during the swearing in of Councilperson Bristow. Dr. Finello shared that the 1/2/24 meeting had a minute of "offline audio" and that the audio then came back on after a delay. Mr. Bristow recommended having a hard internet/ethernet line installed for better performance. There was public comment that there was "a bit of feedback" during tonight's meeting. Mr. Bristow suggested that the audio system would still need some "tweaking" to make it perform optimally.

- **Code Enforcement/Zoning October Report:**

- a. Mr. Piotrowski shared that the owner of the Mill property is conducting work inside the building without proper permitting. Glen Guadeloupe from Keystone Municipal Services issued a Cease and Desist order (C & D) on the door. Mr. Guadeloupe also sent a C & D order via certified mail on Tuesday 1/9/24. Mr. Piotrowski commented that the owner stated that he will get a plan to the Borough Zoning Officer, Matt Hallowell. Owner appears to be complying with the stop work order.
- b. Mr. Piotrowski shared a complaint of rooster noise in the neighborhood. Mr. Piotrowski stated that he will be following up with Matt Hallowell on this issue.

Mayor Judice and Mr. Freed received a copy of the noise ordinance. Mr. Bristow commented that there is an ordinance, as it was written on his zoning approval for chickens, “no roosters” allowed in his zoning application.

- c. Mr. Savarese made a motion to approve the report, Mr. Bristow seconded.

Motion passed 6-0-0.

- **Report of President:**

- a. President reported that he had nothing new to report at this time.

- **Engineer:**

- a. Mr. Peterson reported on the Navy Officer Housing Demolition Project. He reported work would be initiated at a kick off meeting on or around 1/24/24. He noted a demolition permit would need to be submitted for the work and inquired as to the fee. Discussion was had to waive the fee. Mr. DiPaolo made a motion to waive the fee and Mr. Linwood seconded. Motion passed 6-0-0. Mr. Piotrowski had a question about the grant for the project, the Greenways Trail Grant submitted back in May of 2023. Specifically, he asked if work being scheduled would be covered by the grant. Mr. Peterson said he would inspect the details of the project and report back to the Council. Dr. Finello commented that any question regarding the demolition project should be referred to previous Council meeting minutes, where action was required and taken on the Navy Officer Housing Project to ensure the safety and welfare of Borough residents.
- b. Regarding the Ivyland Hotel, Mr. Petersen shared that revised plans were submitted on 12/29/23. Carroll Engineering is reviewing plans and will have enumerated comments by the end of the week.
- c. Regarding the Greenways grant, Mr. Petersen is in communication with Heather Brosius at the state grant office and will be working on the next steps on how to utilize funding.
- d. PennDot proceeded on the repair of the sinkhole on Jacksonville Road, where it is adjacent to the Fire Dam Park. Mr. Petersen is reaching out to Penndot, to see if they will be replacing the drainage pipe at the repair. Jacksonville Road will be shut down for a short time to make the repairs. Pacchioli also commented, “we [vyland] are on the list with PennDot to repair the pothole in front of the Piotrowski residence on Jacksonville Road.”

- **Solicitor:**

Mr. Freed reported on the discussion for the Ivyland Hotel Land Use application. Scheduling conflicts with dates and the Planning Commission were being worked on. Mr. Freed is reaching out to members of the Planning Commission for dates to meet and keep the process moving. Mr. Freed has reached out to the applicant's counsel to secure an extension of the deadline on the application, so the Planning Commission and Carroll Engineering can fully review the latest application revision.

- **Unfinished Business:**

- a. Mr. Savarese commented that the LDL Engineering (previously Bouche & James) files would be available until 1/31/24. Mr. Peterson has not looked at the files from LDL but stated that they had arrived at Carroll Engineering's office.

- **Mayor:**

- a. Police department: December 2023: 24 traffic citations, 2 written warnings, one non reportable accident. The municipal court check for November 2023 was \$375.01.
- b. For the month of December the two patrol cars traveled 559 miles combined.
- c. Dr. Finello shared that Warminster was installing two red light cameras and asked if there was a possibility of getting one for Jacksonville Road. Mayor Judice discussed the PennDot study for "connecting roads traffic study". PennDot commented that Jacksonville is not considered a connecting road. Dr. Finello feels the intersection at Johnsville and Jacksonville Roads is dangerous and needs to be considered for improvement. Mr. DiPaolo asked Dr. Finello to possibly contact Sen. Farry and Rep. Munroe. Dr. Finello commented that neither are on the transportation committee.

- **Committee Reports:**

- a. Park and Recreation: Mr. DiPaolo is working on competitive bids for a new swing set and border for the playground in the Ivyland Village. Mr. DiPaolo asked Mr. Peterson for assistance in getting the required bids.
- b. Finance: Dr. Finello commented that the next meeting is 2/1/24. She discussed that the Finance Committee would be working on banking and CD recommendations for Council. She commented that she is excited about the grant. Dr. Finello thanked the Council, Mrs. Pacchioli and Mr. Peterson for quick

action to get the small water grant submitted. She noted that winning this grant may assist the Borough with getting grants in the future.

- c. Public Safety: Nothing to report.
- d. Borough Property: Nothing to report.
- e. Streets and Walks: Nothing to report.
- f. Planning Commission: Committee has received revisions from the applicant for the hotel.
- g. Fire Company: David Sharp, Fire Chief, wishes everyone a Happy New Year. The Fire Company had a six member duty crew 7 PM - 12:00 AM during recent bad weather, to patrol the borough and help during a brief power outage. They assisted in the collapse of a tree at Jacksonville and Wilson. Chief Sharp reported on the passing of long time member, Ellwood "Woody" Allen. A church service will be held at 1pm on January 30th at the Ivyland Presbyterian Church, with a luncheon following in Fellowship Hall. Burial will be held Feb 9th at 10:30 am, with a Fire Company procession starting at the Firehouse, proceeding to the Military Graveyard in Washington's Crossing. In the past 30-days, the department had five calls (2 Fire / 3 EMS/Other) - 94 YTD in 2023. Two new members have been read in December. Five members signed up for RIT (16 Hours), one for FF1 (192 Hours) and one for FF2 (132 Hours). The training committee met and selected 10 county classes for all members to take. Two members completed firefighter one in November at 192 hours each. Chief Sharp asked Council to keep the Fire Company posted about the Navy housing demolition project and the sink hole repair on Jacksonville Road. The Tac and Engine 62 in Service 2024 goals posted at station 62. The upcoming Ivyland Community events for 2024:

- April TBD – Easter Bunny in Ivyland
- May 5 – Breakfast
- June 8 – Coin Toss
- Aug. TBD – Ivyland 5K Runners Breakfast
- Sep. 7 - Coin Toss
- Oct. TBD – Fire Prevention
- Oct. 22 - Fund Drive Letter Start
- Nov. 29/30 - Coin Toss
- Dec. 8 - Breakfast
- Santa Comes to Ivyland Dec. 14

- **Emergency Management:**

a. No Report

- **New Business:**

a. Mrs. Pacchioli commented that all Council members received their financial disclosure forms in tonight's packets.

- **Public Comment:**

- a. Dr. Finello's microphone cut out during the meeting.
- b. Dr. Finello thanked fellow Council members for the recognition of Senior Judge Finello.

- **Personnel:**

a. No Report

- **Adjournment:**

Mr. DiPaolo made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Savarese seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Minutes approved by Borough Council

February 14
as presented 2024