

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North Fourth Street

GIRARDVILLE, PA 17935

PHONE: (570) 276-1635 FAX: (570) 276-1640 e-mail: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Reorganization Meeting

2023

PLACE: Municipal Bldg. **DATE:** January 02, 2024 **TIME:** 7:30 PM

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum called Reorganization Meeting and Borough Council Meeting to order. Please everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by the Mayor.

ROLL CALL (Mayor did Roll Call)

Members present: Joseph Kessler, Brian Dempsey, Mark Rainis, Edward Burns, Charlie Marquardt, Josephine Heffner, Attorney Arlen "Rick" Day, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum.

Members absent: None

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum administered the Oath of Office to all elected Borough Officials prior to the meeting. Duly sworn were, Council Members Charles Marquardt, Edward Burns, and Brian Dempsey. Mayor Judith Mehlbaum handed in copies of Oath of Office and Certificate of Election. The Mayor then chaired the meeting for purposes of reorganizing.

The floor was opened for nominations. I (Mayor Judith Mehlbaum) call for a nomination for Council President. Edward Burns made a nomination for Charles Marquardt, Brian Dempsey seconded. Take a vote. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

I (Mayor Judith Mehlbaum) would like to take a nomination for Vice President of Council. Brian Dempsey made a nomination for Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum will now turn the meeting over to President of Council Charlie Marquardt.

The Mayor passes the chair to Council President Charles Marquardt. Council President Charles Marquardt takes the chair and continues with nominations.

Charlie takes over the rest of the Reorganization Meeting and said we need a motion for Secretary/Treasurer. Edward Burns made a motion for Josephine Heffner. Mark Rainis seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Borough Solicitor. Edward Burns made nomination for Fanelli, Evans, & Patel, P.C. Arlen "Rick" Day. Brian Dempsey seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for chairman of vacancy board. Edward Burns nominated Joe Chiaretti. Brian Dempsey seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Bank Depository. Joseph Kessler nominated Midd Penn. Edward Burns seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Code Enforcement Officer. Joseph Kessler nominates William Killian. Mark Rainis seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for 2 Assistant Code Enforcement Officers. Brian Dempsey nominates Frank Zangari and Dan Cress. Joseph Kessler seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Permit Officer. Joseph Kessler nominates Jean Ann Parfitt. Edward Burns seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Borough Engineer. Edward Burns nominates Entech Engineering, Inc. Don Cuff. Brian Dempsey seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Sewer Enforcement Officer. Edward Burns nominates Larson Design Group. Brian Dempsey seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Environmental Certifying Officer. Edward Burns nominates Charlie Marquardt. Brian Dempsey seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Outside Permit Enforcement. (BIU) Edward Burns nominates BIU. Mark Rainis seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Tax Collection Committee. Brian Dempsey nominates Joseph Kessler. Mark Rainis seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Nomination for Right -to- Know- Officer. Brian Dempsey nominates Mark Rainis. Joseph Kessler seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Committees:

Finance: Mark Rainis, Joseph Kessler

Building: Mark Rainis, Charles Marquardt

Street: Brian Dempsey, Edward Burns

Police: Edward Burns, Brian Dempsey

Q. Of L: Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Brian Dempsey

Recreation: Mark Rainis, Brian Dempsey

Personnel: Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis

School Bldg: Mark Rainis, Edward Burns

Blight Task Force: Joseph Kessler, Brian Dempsey

Landfill: (Representative) Joseph Kessler, (Alternate) Brian Dempsey

Land Bank: (Representative) Frank Zangari, (Alternate) Joseph Kessler

Flood Plain Manager: Daniel Cress

Emergency Management Agency (EMA): Kevin Kulish, Heath Ressler

President of Council: Charles A. Marquardt

Vice President of Council: Joseph Kessler

Vacancy Board: Joe Chiaretti

Tax Collection: Joseph Kessler

Right -to- Know-Officer: Mark Rainis

*Permission to pay all bills as submitted and due. Mark Rainis made the motion. Brian Dempsey seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

*Motion to close Reorganization Meeting. Edward Burns made the motion. Brian Dempsey seconded. All those in favor. The ayes have it.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 14th, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. Date: January 11, 2023 Time: 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Edward Burns, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

Members Absent:

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:

Joe Chiaretti (from 336 West Main Street): I am here to talk about lowering the speed limit to 25 miles per hour. I want to support that position and I am sure that our police will support this, the trucks that are going down Main St. are going faster than 40 miles per hour. Mt Carmel has a 25 mile speed limit through town, Mahanoy City has a 25 mile per hour speed limit, Nesquehoning has a 25 mile speed limit and Lehighton has a 25 mile per mile speed limit. So, it is not unusual to take that position. Monday morning, I was out in Ashland, I took my wife to the 5th St. Dr. 's office and I was sitting there along Centre St., only to find out that all of the loaded trucks that are coming through Girardville, are also coming through Ashland all loaded, the empty ones are coming back through Girardville and going back up through Ashland's streets. I could not get over that. I took a ride uptown, from 3rd St. all the way up to May's Restaurant, there is not a single speed limit marker. I couldn't believe it. So, I called Danny Weikel, he's an old friend of mine, and I said "Danny, are you having any trouble with these trucks speeding through town?" He said, "Joe, it's a disgrace. I said, "well we are going to consider doing some 25 miles per hour speed limit in Girardville" and he said, "well, we are going to talk about it, it's on the Agenda. That and the Jake Brakes is driving the Community crazy". I was curious about

2

this Jake Brake business so, I Googled Jake Brake, only to find out that there are actually only four states in the Country that forbid the use of Jake Brakes in their state, California, Oregon, Washington and Colorado. And interesting enough, on that same report it says that most Communities that are dealing with streets that are accompanied residential area, prohibit or discourage the use of Jake Breaks. So, I think that unless we reduce the speed mileage from 30 miles to 25, we are eventually going to have to deal with this Jake Brake business. Because I don't know whether there are a couple of guys slowing down, I spend a lot of time in the front of my house, that see me tinkering around and they blast the Jake Brakes. I gotta tell you, it's disturbing. But at any rate, I wanted to voice my concern that I totally support the lowering of the speed limit from 30 to 25 miles per hour. I encourage you to do everything you can to make that happen. Thank you.

Charles Marquardt: Thank You Joe. Anybody else? At this time I will start the Approval of Reports.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Edward Burns, seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Joseph Kessler, seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: Motion made to accept the Tax Collector's Report and to Pay the Tax Collector made by Edward Burns, seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Mayor/Police Report: Mayor Judith Mehlbaum read that there were 2 Traffic Citations issued, 21 Warnings issued, 45 Incidents, and 1 Reportable Motor Vehicle Accident.

- 1) (2) Animal Complaints
- 2) (1) Burglary Complaint (stolen copper/abandoned residence)
- 3) (4) Drug Investigations
- 4) (1) Assist Other Agency
- 5) (3) Quality of Life Incidents (Borough Ordinance Violations)
- 6) (7) Assist Other Jurisdictions
- 7) (4) EMS Assists
- 8) (1) Dumping Complaint
- 9) New Evidence Procedures and Policies in Effect
- 10) All Currently Employed Officers are Up to Date and in Compliance with MPOETC Standards.
- 11) Lt Talanca is Researching Gaming Grant Possibilities in an Attempt to Secure any Grant Funds that May be Available for the Police Dept
- 12) Lt Talanca will be Acting OIC Under Direct Supervisor of the Mayor
- 13) Communications have been Underway with a Reporter from the Local Paper and Press Releases will begin Jan 1st 2023 and will be Submitted to the Press Bi-Weekly
- 14) Lt Talanca has Placed the Order for the New Police Computer

A Motion to accept the Police Report was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Permit Officer's Report: A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Fire Chief's Report: A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Edward Burns. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. A motion to adopt **Resolution 01-11-23** to get a 2023 Tax Anticipation Note for \$45,000.00 from Mid Penn Bank, was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- b. A motion to purchase 137 East Main Street and 240 West Preston Avenue for Demolition purposes only by the County. Motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- c. A motion to lower the speed limit on the Main Street and Mahanoy Avenue to 30 miles per hour and the use of Jake Brakes, was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR:

Street Committee:

Edward Burns: The work that naturally, the water company did through CK. We did a walk through many times and the walk through wasn't completed. I mean, I know that we are in the middle of this project. But, there was stuff that was done that is not complete and we are not getting any response. I think that we should send a letter to, I guess to Aqua, stating that where

they at with this? There are people in town, that their properties were disturbed and there is nothing being done about it. So, as far as getting a letter out them?

Arlen Day: Yep, just give me a list of the items and we will put them all in one.

Charles Marquardt: So, we need a motion to submit a letter to Aqua, regarding the current water project that is still going on through Aqua by CK Construction. Anybody make a motion?

Edward Burns: I will make a motion.

Charles Marquardt: A motion on the floor, Second?

Mark Rainis: I will second it.

Charles Marquardt: All those in favor? **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Police Committee:

Charles Marquardt: We need 4 new tires for the SUV. We got a good price with the program of \$735. We need a Motion for this: A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

At This Time:

Council is going to go into an **Executive Session** to discuss some personnel matters.

“The Executive Session lasted for two Minutes.”

Charles Marquardt: I call the meeting back into order to continue with the meeting. At this time Council is going to consider what action to take regarding **Officer Fabrizio Bivona** who is currently under suspension. A motion to terminate Mr. Fabrizio was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote All. Motion Carried.**

OPEN THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jeff Dunkel: I have some properties here in town that I rent out. For some people that are decent Landlords and take care of their properties. Year's ago, the Occupancy fee uses to be \$25 and then it was raised to \$50 and then to \$70. Now it is at \$125 and it has to be reinspected. I would just like you guys to consider that. It is hurting the people that do take care of their properties. Also the minimum bid requirement of \$12,500 for some of the purchases through the County, just wondering what the reason was behind that. You could just deny the property bids on a per basis bid. So I am not sure why you put the minimum bid up that high. Thank You.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

The Next Meeting Held On:
Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Respectively Submitted,
Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. **Date:** February 8, 2023 **Time:** 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Edward Burns, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

Members Absent:

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA: NONE

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Edward Burns, seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Edward Burns, seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: NONE

Mayor/Police Report: NONE

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Permit Officer's Report: NONE

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. A motion to adopt Ordinance 2-08-23 to update the storage container Ordinance to exclude Commercial Properties.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. A motion to approve the GAMA Clerk's rate to increase (.50 cents on November 11th, another .50 cents on December 11th, and another .50 cents on January 11th) to \$15.00 per hour. This motion was passed unanimously at the September 19th, 2022 GAMA meeting, was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- b. A motion was made to approve Paul Kowalick permission to hold the Summer Program for the GBA at the A Street School on the week of June 12th, from 10am until noon was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- c. A motion to give permission to the LAOH to hold their meetings in the Senior's Room on the fourth Wednesday of January, February, March, April, May, June, September, and October 2023 was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- d. A motion to declare that January 27, 2023 is "Dolly Eye" day in recognition of her celebrating her 100th birthday was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- e. A motion to declare that December 26, 2022 was "Betty Moran" day in recognition of her 100th birthday was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- f. We received a "thank you" letter for Entech's generous donation to Christ Cupboard in our name.
- g. Motions to give permission to:
 - (1) Host the annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade on March 25th 2023, with a rain date of Saturday April 1st 2023 . Motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
 - (2) To use the Borough Hall for registration purposes. Motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

- 8
- (3) To extend the Licensed premises of the Hibernian House to include the sale of alcoholic beverages within the confines of Beech and Line Streets on March 25th, 2023. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. Vote: All. Motion Carried.
 - (4) To block off Beech Street at the intersections of 2nd and Line Streets on March 25th, 2023. Barriers will be in place from 6am until 7pm. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. Vote: All. Motion Carried.
 - h. If residents sweep in front of their house before the parade, the Borough will pick it up.
 - i. A motion to have a person (Annetta Whitecavage) representing the Borough to collect a permit fee of \$100 for each vendor that registers for the parade. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. Vote: All. Motion Carried. (Edward Burns will call Joe Wayne to advertise our fee on the Parade's website.)
 - j. A motion to advertise for two part-time Police Officers for both day and night shifts was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. Vote: All. Motion carried.
 - k. A motion to pay for one-half of the cost to appoint Abigail Smith as a Notary for the Borough. GAMA is going to pay the other half. (The cost will be \$200 each for the complete package.) A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. Vote: All. Motion Carried.
 - l. A motion to give code extra time to inspect the property at 235 A Street. We are holding \$19,900 from their insurance proceeds for the fire that had occurred a year ago. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. Vote: All. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR:

Recreation Committee:

Paul Kowalick: We are applying for a DCNR Recreation Grant to get a new furnace at the A Street School. We need for the Borough to be our sponsor to apply for this grant. We will need the help of your Borough Secretary (Jo). I will fill out the application and letters needed, we just need you to be our Sponsor.

Charles Marquardt: We need a motion to approve that the Borough will be a sponsor for Paul's DCNR Grant.

Mark Rainis: I will make a motion.

Brian Dempsey: I will second it.

Vote: All. Motion Carried.

Annetta Whitecavage: The Food Harvest will be on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, Valentine's Day.

Annetta Whitecavage: We will be putting the Banners up on the last Tuesday of February. Some of the Banners need to be replaced because they are really faded. They will be up from May until November. When the Christmas decorations go up the Banners will come down.

Charles Marquardt: Did you say the last Tuesday of February?

Annetta Whitecavage: Yes, I did.

OPEN THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michelle O'Connell: We are having problems with juveniles throwing rocks at our cars on Upper Railroad Street. Yesterday, if I weren't outside going to get into my car, my window would have been hit. They hit the neighbor's car and almost smashed the window. Something needs to be done about this. Judy, could you have the Police patrol on Upper Railroad?

Judith Melbaum (Mayor): Right now, we can't provide it. We are short one cop and right now, we are having problems scheduling our Police. They all have other jobs so they have to work around that. Maybe once we hire two new Officers, we will have them patrol there often.

Michelle O'Connell: The kids are out of hand and their parents do nothing about it.

Mark Rainis: I caught some kids knocking on windows the other day. Then there was the incident with them throwing snowballs into the bar, almost hitting some people in the face. They broke a window at the towers by throwing snowballs. I know who the kids are, and they should be made pay for the smashed window. They are out passed 12 o'clock, their parents don't even care.

Dan O'Connell: I am known as the cop-calling slob. Can't you get police coverage from Ashland or Butler Township?

Judith Mehlbaum: That will cost us money, and it isn't cheap.

Charles Marquardt: I think it costs around \$50,000 a year. Gilberton has Frackville drive- by twice a day and they pay \$500 a week.

Dan O'Connell: Well, what about going regional?

Judith Mehlbaum: We tried that once and it did not work out.

Dan O'Connell: Well, we need some kind of coverage on Upper Railroad. I think joining the Regional is the best idea because, the cops here come and go. Nobody stays here. And, look at all the problems you have with the one right now. You can't keep anyone.

Charles Marquardt: We are hiring two new Officers. We are advertising for them this week.

Judith Mehlbaum: We will try our best.

Michelle O'Connell: We need the mirrors at C Street and Mahanoy Avenue and, also, the mirror on Upper Railroad Street replaced. They are broke from the kids in town vandalizing. They have been cracked for quite some time.

Charles Marquardt: We are aware of that. We will get them repaired. Is there anything else? Nothing?

10

MOTION TO ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

**The Next Meeting Held On:
Wednesday, March 8, 2023**

**Respectively Submitted,
Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer**

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. Date: March 8, 2023 Time: 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Edward Burns, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

Members Absent:

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:

Joe Chearetti: I have to ask the Borough Council to please be patient with me over my obsession with these trucks.

Betty Ann Bernosky: I am with you. I am right with you.

Annetta Whitecavage: I am, too.

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: Me, too.

Joe Chearetti: I told you before that I went up to the Gilberton Weigh Station, I found out that there are 300 trucks being weighed every day. One thing I noticed while I was standing talking to Ken, the Weighmaster, every truck had a weight of over 77,000 pounds. I left the Weigh Station, and I came home and I was thinking that there has to be something done about this so we can get something out of the usage on the streets. So, I called the Municipal Service Office for Schuylkill County in Allentown and I talked to a guy named John. Now he explained to me that there is not much that you do about it, because each truck pays a \$4,000 dollar tax. I am assuming that it is some kind of a usage tax, or highway use tax. Anyway, he told me that the legal weight limit on a truck is 73,280 pounds. These trucks are going up to Gilberton with two ton, 4,000 pounds heavier, so what do I do, I go back up to the weigh station and I ask the weighmaster "doesn't that bother you?" He said "no, not at all." It doesn't matter how much weight is on those trucks

12

because all that they are getting paid for is the 73,280 pounds, regardless of what it is, the truck driver and the owner of the truck gets paid for that 73,280 pounds. Now, when you think about it, 77,000 pounds verses 73,000 pounds, it's got to be making a mess out of our roads. So, I turned around and I made a little trip and I might ask the Council to try it. I drove from Julia Street, down to the West side, all the way up to Sosnoski's garage, nice and slow, now there is seven or eight places with significant bounces where it is obvious that the macadam is moving. But, there is two places where, one right across from the Post Office and the other one is right across from the old bank where there is three feet in diameter holes that are three to four inches deep and if you look real close, all of the macadam is breaking up. I bet you that within three or four months there will be two big potholes.

As a matter of fact, the way things are going, I am willing to bet you, if you drive from First Street in Ashland up to Fifth Street, you know you go under the traffic light, if you are not holding on to the steering wheel you lose control of the car. That's what Girardville's streets are going to look like, in my opinion. I challenge you guys to take that little trip, nice and slow up Girardville's streets. What's interesting is, you drive up from west to east and drive back down, because all of the trucks are empty it's smooth, not a thing wrong with it. I am telling you that, we are going to be just like Ashland's before too long, in my opinion that's what our streets will be like. And I congratulate the attempt the Borough on the efforts to reduce... The public thing in my opinion that we are going to be able to do before there is any further damage is to reduce weight. I went up to... to find out what it take's to get a weigh station set up and what do they allow. If they have a way, set up and you know that the 73,280 pounds, what if the weight is two pounds over the weight is it a fine, well is there an allowance?

OIC Jeremy Talanca: Well, I can't speak for the State Police. They may have different policies or practices, but they are pretty strict. And, I have spoken to the Mayor, President of Council, probably every one of them and we have a full-marked plan to combat this problem. That was one of the things that I also made the same phone call. Because our concern with the meeting and the weights of the trucks and those things, so that was another concern or part of our plan, in addition to painting more speed lines on upper and lower main where we can put them, so that we can track the speeds of the truck after it had accurately passed by. So, we actually have a plan to have about eight more sets of lines. We are working on this with Council, not only are we going to work the rigs, we are going to work on speeds, we are also going to work on the saturation patrols and we are trying to get other agencies to help us.

Joe Chieretti: I am glad to hear that. I was convinced that after everything was said and done, our only alternative was to reduce the speed and to reduce the loads.

Charles Marquardt: on the other issue with the bridges, I contacted Penn Dot. And what they told me that they do not bridge weight limit signs up, no longer. They do annual bridge inspections, if they deem the bridge to be unsafe based by the weight, they would put up a sign until they fix it, or if it is beyond repair, then they would close the bridge until it is fixed. They no longer put signs on them.

Robbie Krick: Well, that is stupid.

Charles Marquardt: That's what they told me.

Joe Chearetti: Well, if they lower the speed limit to 25 mph in Girardville, that would eliminate all the mud and everything on our cars.

Annetta Whitecavage: My windshield has a big cut

Charles Marquardt: They have a street sweeper that goes from Gilberton, cleans that place there. It goes from there, I guess that it goes over past your garage, right Rob? The highway out there?

Robbie Krick: Yes.

Charles Marquardt: Then it goes out past our plant. So, that guy goes constantly around.

Robbie Krick: It goes out Big Mine Run.

People talking over each other.

Edward Burns: They only have one sweeper to take care of it.

People talking over one another.

Joe Chearetti: I was out at UniMart and I went to open my door of the truck, there was one truck going this way and another truck going that way, there was hardly enough room for you to open up your door when two trucks are passing each other. I am surprised that someone hasn't got hurt already or a car accident. Like I said Charlie, if there is anything that I can do. I will even pay for the signs.

Mark Rainis: A sign is one thing, any number can be on the sign, it don't mean nothing, unless we have police enforcing it.

Betty Ann Bernosky: There is a Statue that sits at the end of town and those trucks crawl.

Charles Marquardt: There were three statues in town that day. They were actually sitting over by Saint Vincents.

Mark Rainis: They were up in Gilberton the other day doing a safety blitz.

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: I have been watching them from up in my bedroom window, there were two that weren't tarped. I can't watch all of them. I sit up there because they go by every two minutes. I was behind one on Main Street and he was going 32 miles per hour.

OIC Jeremy Talanca: One of the things that there is too, we had to plan to get those speed lines up because there is a way we have to be able to prove and be able to enforce. With the roads the way they are and the weather conditions, we haven't been able to run that device to have had a way to paint those lines. If we get the lines down, which we plan on doing within the next week. That in addition to the weigh stations, we should have all angles covered, in terms of enforcement. That was the reason we were kind of hindering. We also did where we parked on the road. So there is going to be some lines painted so we can enforce it.

Mark Rainis: Safety issues is a problem. I sit and wait for my kid at the bus stop. In the morning I see the trucks go by and they are doing this, because they don't want to hit cars.

Robbie Krick: Word is out that we are watching them because the cops are out and I understand that we have a couple of Council Members out, word is out.

Mark Rainis: I have been out and I have been flagging a couple down. We were doing a couple of things with the Borough and I was telling them to slow down, slow down. What happens is right there they have cb's, they are in contact with each other. Then the next thing you know they are slowing down. We haven't had any police, because Jeremy had some issues and things like that. Once he gets back on, things are going to change. We are going to take care of it.

Joe Chearetti: I am glad to hear that.

Annetta Whitecavage: They hit every pot hole that there is and it doesn't matter whether or not they are tarped, the dirt go flying.

Robbie Krick: Whether they are tarped or not, there is a half a ton of coal that is dropped. Every day.

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: I believe that.

Robbie Krick: They are so overloaded, that it doesn't matter whether they are tarped or not.

People talking over one another..

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: That's what we have to get them on, is being overloaded.

Robbie Krick: Just the other day they dropped a half a load of coal all over the road.

Mark Rainis: There is a guy up here picking it up for the last couple of weeks. He has about four ton of coal right now.

People laughing.

People talking over each other.

Charles Marquardt: does anybody have anything else? I am going to open up the floor for approval of reports.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Mark Rainis, seconded by Edward Burns. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Edward Burns, seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: NONE

Mayor/Police Report: Mayor Judith Mehlbaum read:

- (1) Validations were completed with county communications (2 Gun still are on active status).
- (2) Donation received: a new color printer and wireless mouse were donated for the Police Office.
- (3) 3 new office chairs have been donated to the Police Department and Borough Office.
- (4) 1 steel two-seat prisoner bench has been donated to the Police department.
- (5) Plans have been made to install two new cameras in the Police Office to provide further security to Officers and Suspects.
- (6) The required UCR's are being compiled for all missing months of Police activity.
- (7) Property return: several items from the evidence locker have been marked to "release" status and property owners are being notified. (1) Handgun and (1) DVR recording device have been released to the proper owners. Others have been notified how they can receive their property back.
- (8) Greens Communications has offered to loan the Borough and Police 10 portable radios for the upcoming parade to ensure the safe communication of everyone involved. The

radios are being loaned free of charge and will be assigned to each person by the Police OIC.

- (9) The Borough is still working on manpower plans for the upcoming parade
- (10) .All current Officer's certifications have been entered into MPOETC and are current.
- (11) Police Officer's firearms qualifications will be scheduled for March or April (weather permitting)
- (12) Our Police Department is currently working with Parma Ohio Police regarding an \$18,000 fraud case.

Motion to accept the Mayor/Police Report was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Permit Officer's Report: Motion to accept the Permit Officer's Report was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian . **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. The annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade will be held Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 12:00 Noon until completion.
- b. Annetta Whitecavage will be collecting the \$100 permit fee from each vendor that registers at the Borough Hall. Registration will begin at 7am.
- c. If residents sweep in front of their houses for the parade, the Borough will pick it up.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. A motion to adopt Resolution 3-08-23-1 approving submission of a Demolition request to the County for 137 East Main Street at a cost of \$20,000 was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- b. A motion to adopt Resolution 3-08-23-2 approving submission of a Demolition request to the County for 240 West Preston Avenue at a cost of \$24,800 was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- c. A copy of the A Street School Blueprints was given to our Solicitor, Arlen Day by Robbie Krick to make a copy for the Borough. The prints will be copied by Entech Engineering at no charge to the Borough.

- 14
- d. PennDot will be conducting traffic counts in Girardville on 3rd Street between SR 4030 and A Street (3rd Street, Oak Street and A Street), from March 1st, 2023 through November 16th, 2023.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR:

STREET COMMITTEE:

OPEN THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

MOTION TO ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

The Next Meeting Held On:
Wednesday, April 12, 2023

**Respectively Submitted,
Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer**

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. **Date:** April 12, 2023 **Time:** 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Edward Burns.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Mark Rainis, Edward Burns, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

Members Absent: Charles Marquardt, Joseph Kessler.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:

NONE

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Brian Dempsey, seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Brian Dempsey, seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: Motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Pay the Tax Collector was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Mayor/Police Report: Mayor Judith Mehlbaum read:

6- Traffic Citations Issued

10- Pending Investigations

14- Criminal Mischiefs

- 1. (1) Criminal Mischief
- 2. (1) Disturbance – threats
- 3. (1) Mental Health – 302 Warrant
- 4. (1) Special- Megan’s Law

Pending Investigations- Criminal Investigations, Theft, Assisting other Agency, Fraud.

Warning Lines have been painted for truck speed enforcement.

We are rescheduling state police to bring out scales for the trucks due to weather conditions.

We have four pending Criminal Investigations which include (1) unauthorized use of vehicle, and (3) title 18 violations.

The amount of patrol hours have dramatically increased for the months of April and May.

Motion to accept the **Mayor/Police Report** was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer’s Report: A motion to accept was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Permit Officer’s Report: NONE

Fire Chief’s Report: A motion to accept was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis . **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. On March 16th, 2023, we were awarded the LSA State/DCED Grant for our Heating System Replacement in the amount of \$47,980.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. April 24th, 2023 will be the last Monday of the season for Ashes. They will still pick up the ashes on Fridays.
- b. Any resident having issues with having your trash picked up should call GFL directly: (570) 695-2519 or 1-(800) 832-1332.

- c. We need a motion to approve Frackville Girl's Softball's request to use the Little League Field for practice Monday through Friday, 5pm until dusk. They have their own insurance. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- d. We need a motion to accept the quote of \$1015.58 monthly for the renewal of Geisinger Health Insurance for James Evans. Right now, the monthly payment is \$1,039.04. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- e. Schuylkill Conservation District is conducting Mosquito Surveillance and West Nile Virus monitoring in the Borough. Surveillance will occur a few times a month in the borough until mid-October. There will be Mosquito Traps placed around the Borough.
- f. We have the Street Sweeper coming to clean the Borough on Monday, May 22, 2023.
- g. We need a motion to grant permission to the Office of Solid Waste and Resource Management of Schuylkill to host the 2023 Fall Cleanup at the A Street School. A motion was made Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR:

STREET COMMITTEE:

OPEN THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Paul Kowalick: Stated that because of the support that the Borough has given the GBA, we would like to present this Basketball with the words on it, "thank you for your generosity". I presented it Last month but, I wanted to do it officially this month. I know what happens whenever there are complaints about our program, it is addressed over here at the borough. So, because you do that, we appreciate it. And when there are complaints like that, please let us know. Judy came to us already about parking complaints, etc. Because we try to work with everybody in the borough to try to fix any problems ourselves instead of coming to you people. But our program is, we have had such a great program for the children. Without you support, that would never occur.

This year we spent \$5,000 on heat, we were lucky that it was a mild winter. So, as we plan more renovations, I will let you know. We are after grants right now through DCNR and I am contacting the County Officials for the Rescue funds plan from COVID-19. They have a lot of money that they are claiming to give to non-profits and that certainly did not occur yet. But we are promised every other month, including today, so hopefully we do that. Our next project is an air filtration project. That is not only going to clean the air for the children, but it is going to button up the gym a whole lot more, if it occurs. But that is a \$70,000 project, so I do not know how much they are going to help us.

Edward Burns: Well, you are doing a great job over there Paul.

Paul Kowalick: Well, it is not me, we have a great team and we have a lot of support. We have thirty sponsors, it is certainly not just me. We have great officers, a board of directors that meet every month, the children and their parents. So, we want to thank you. I know it is not much but, we did not buy that display case, just the ball.

Edward Burns: Thank you Paul.

Mark Rainis: Well, you are doing a great job if, the parking is the only issue. And of course, you are going to have parking issues with that many people.

Paul Kowalick: We sent fliers home, we addressed it with the mayor. People say we don't but, we certainly do.

Mark Rainis: And the positive thing is that we have so many people coming here and it is such a positive program.

Paul Kowalick: Well, we thank you.

Judith Mehlbaum: Thank you.

Solicitor Arlen Day: Ed said that he wants to challenge you to a game of one on one for \$100 using that basketball.

Paul Kowalick: I am concerned that would draw a crowd. Thank you guys, again>

Robbie Krick: I only have one thing. It's about the blueprints for the school. You are saying that the Borough never wanted the originals and I don't think that is the case. On March 31st of last year, I received a letter stating that the blueprints are the property of the borough, so you must return them as soon as possible. Signed Edward Burns. I just want it on record that the Borough did want the originals back.

Solicitor Arlen Day: I made the letter, we demanded the originals back, but they were willing to accept a copy. Yep, you're right.

Mary Beth Dougherty: Just a question about the Escrow Account on the Treasurer's Report. Is that all fire money?

Edward Burns: I understand that is what it is.

Mary Beth Dougherty: The reason I am asking is because we are taking a look at the insurance fire escrow right now and we are trying to possibly take it down right now and increasing the amount that a municipality can hold. And I was just trying to get a feel that one of my concerns is that it is kind of open-ended that there is no time frame on how long a property must be torn down before a municipality has to return the money to the policyholder. So, we are looking at all different avenues, angles. And I am just curious on how long the money has just been sitting there. Just in reference to making changes here.

Edward Burns: Charlie would know that.

Mary Beth Dougherty: Just a little tidbit on trying to make the insurance industry happy by putting some parameters on how long the insurance money can sit in limbo and what a municipality can do with it. Because I would like to see the municipality keep it. Because most times, it is the policyholder that when they are going to tear it down or if they are going to remediate it, they are going to do it right away. Otherwise, they take what they can get and run, instead of it sitting in limbo in the Escrow Account. So we are trying to find a way that you can utilize it for Blight purposes. So that is why I am just curious about it.

Annetta Whitecavage: I just want to report that the Hometown Hero Banners will be going up in May. There are still about twenty-five people that did not call to say they want them rehung or redone. So we extended the date until April 26th, so they have another week. If anybody wants to come and check out their banner in the senior room. So if some people don't want to put them back up, we do have new ones going up. I don't know when we are putting them back up, but the 26th is the deadline.

Judy Mehlbaum: So you need the money in by the 26th.

Annetta Whitecavage: By the 26th or, they are not going up.

Edward Burns: Anybody else?

A motion to adjourn was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Next Meeting will be held on:
May 10, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Respectively Submitted:

Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: April 12th, 2023

ROLL CALL

1. **Open Floor for Public Comment on Agenda**
2. **Approval of Reports (as available)**
 - a. **Minutes**
 - b. **Treasurer's Report.**
 - c. **Tax Collector's Reports and motion to pay the Tax collector.**
 - d. **Mayor/Police Report.**
 - e. **Code Officer's Report.**
 - f. **Permit Report.**
 - g. **Fire Chief's Report**
3. **Review and authorization to pay bills.**
4. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. **On March 16th 2023, we were awarded the LSA State/DCED Grant for our Heating System Replacement in the amount of \$47,980.**
5. **New Business**
 - a. **April 24th, 2023 will be the last Monday of this Season for Ashes. They will still pick the Ashes on Fridays.**
 - b. **Any Resident having issues with having your Trash picked up should call GFL directly: (570) 695-2519 or 1 (800) 832-1332.**
 - c. **The Frackville Girl's Softball is requesting the use of the Little League Field for practice Monday through Friday, 5pm to dusk. They have their own insurance. We need a motion to allow this.**
 - d. **The renewal of the Geisinger Health Insurance is for June 1, 2023 (James Evans). We need a motion to accept the quote of \$1,015.58 monthly to renew this Insurance. Right now the monthly payment is \$1,039.04.**
 - e. **Schuylkill Conservation District is conducting Mosquito Surveillance and West Nile Virus monitoring in the Borough. Surveillance will occur a few times a month until mid-October. There will Mosquito Traps placed around in the Borough.**
 - f. **We have the Street Sweeper coming to clean the Borough on Monday, May 22, 2023.**
 - g. **Office of Solid Waste and Resource Management of Schuylkill County is requesting Permission to host the 2023 Fall Cleanup at the A Street School. We need a motion to give them permission.**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH**MEETING AGENDA: April 12th, 2023****Correspondence****a. letters, flyers and magazines**

- 6. Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor.**
- 7. Open floor to public comment.**
- 8. Motion to adjourn.**
- 9. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 7:30 pm.**

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. Date: May 10, 2023 Time: 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.
Members Absent: Edward Burns, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:

NONE

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Mark Rainis, seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Mark Rainis, seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: Motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Pay the Tax Collector was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Mayor/Police Report: President Charles Marquardt read:

- * 33 - Incidents
- * 4- Traffic Citations Issued

- * 1-Non-Traffic /citation
- 0 – Warnings Issued
- 1. (7) – Abandon Vehicles Tagged
- 2. (3) – Abandon Vehicles Removed
- 3. (2) – Vehicle Complaints-Both Towed
- 4. (1) – Civil Complaint
- 5. (1) – Vehicle Theft / Unauthorized Use
- 6. (2) – Information – Break-In and Wanted Person
- 7. (1) - Warrant Service
- 8. (1) – Domestic
- 9. (1) – Criminal Mischief
- 10. (1) – Assist Other
- 11. (1) – Disturbance
- 12. (1) – Suspicious
- 13. (1) – Miscellaneous

Police part-time hours have been increased exponentially to approximately 48 hours per week to better serve the community.

Two Policies in place to better control the truck traffic and speeding.

12 hours per week have been strictly dedicated to truck traffic and speed enforcement.

Arrangements have been made for scales to be brought into town for truck weight enforcement.

Motion to accept the **Mayor/Police Report** was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: A motion to accept was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Permit Officer's Report: NONE

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey . **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Reminder that the Street Sweeper will be here on Monday May 22, 2023 (East side of town) and Tuesday May 23, 2023 (West side of town).

- 26
- b. The Contract for the LSA (DCED) Grant for our Furnace System will be executed. We can begin the project by taking bids now.
 - c. Senator Casey's Office has submitted our Borough Building Renovation Application. We are being considered for the Grant.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. We need a motion to renew our Membership with Northeastern PA Alliance in the amount of \$295.00 for the year. (Through this Membership we will be notified about Grants and Funding that are available for Various Projects. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- b. We are required to Upgrade our Quickbooks Software for 2023 (our version will no longer be serviced by them). We need a motion to purchase the new version of Quickbooks at an annual cost of \$1,464.00. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- c. We need a motion to contract with CoStars for the 2023-2024 Season to order 44 tons of Rock Salt. (We are only required to purchase 60% of the contract, which equals 26.40 tons). A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- d. We need a motion to approve the acceptance of a bid from Ron-Troy Asphalt Paving (\$19,400.00) to pave the 300 block of Preston Avenue. These funds will be paid for from our Covid Account. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- e. We Awarded A-1 Services for their bids for the Inlet Project. They are holding their quotes of \$8,382.00 for the inlet at Beech and 2nd Streets and \$7,882.00 for the inlet at Ogden Street. These funds will be paid from our Covid account. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- f. We need a motion to give permission to our Solicitor (Arlen Day) to draw up a Resolution which would regulate digging within the Borough. A Motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- g. We need a motion to give permission to our Solicitor (Arlen Day) to draw up a Resolution stating that Girardville Borough is going to Comply with the Municipal Records in Order to Dispose of Borough Records that we are no longer required to keep. A Motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- h. 235 A Street is ready for a final inspection.

CORRESPONDENCE

a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR:

STREET COMMITTEE:

Charles Marquardt: We currently, I know this as a matter of fact, there are quite a few people who have moved into town, especially down at the bottom of town. We have received plenty of calls from people. The little kids playing up on the where the mine water comes down at the former Bann building and down to part of the land by the trailer. The guy with the trailer, I guess the water comes down, flushed in there or something like that. Our guys went down there, today with some rocks and got them in there. I have a phone call into the Department of Mines in Wilkes-Barre, today, to have a man come down and look at this and see if they can help us with anything. We will show them what is going on there and maybe they can put some fencing up or something there to keep, cause the kids are just running around, right Annetta?

Annetta Whitecavage: The kids are jumping in the water, they are standing there with innertubes on. They jump in, they are playing. The one kid was like, four years old, standing there with an innertube on.

Charles Marquardt: I sent the police department up to the parents, and so on and so forth.

Annetta Whitecavage: I never saw these kids before they have to be over, now they are driving wagons, by Reckless's, all the way down Silver Street. They are going to get killed.

Charles Marquardt: And I know that they are going up in his driveway and coming down flying down on bicycles.

Annetta Whitecavage: The other day, one of the Mitchell's over there on a wagon, came flying down Silver. I just saw him flying down Silver. I don't know where he came back up,

Charles Marquardt: So, the neighbor in the trailer is going to post his property from his side, we are going to talk to Reckless to see if they can also put postings down by the outside there by the thing. We are going to ask them if they come in and they will look at it and see if they give us any kind of help or direction to go. Maybe put some kind of fencing up. We are just going through the procedure there. It has gotten worse this week than the week before and more than ever and I find out that it was just a few new families moved in with some young kids. We did reach out to those families so, hopefully that will stop that part. But there is potential for any kind of thing to happen at any given time.

Annetta Whitecavage: They are two and four years old.

Charles Marquardt: I was told that they range from two to six years old. The kids with the innertubes were going to jump in, the guy at the trailer said he had to yell at them and they yelled back at him.

Annetta Whitecavage: They are at the rocks and they are going to get stuck in the grates. If they caught their arm, that would really hurt.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Arlen Day: Yeah, Bivona. I spoke with his attorney, well, not really his attorney but, I raised the issue with the badge and the keys and possibly radios, bodycams and he said that he has a chest of stuff there that he left at his office, and he is going to contact him. He wants to give it to me to give to the Borough. So I will keep you updated on the progress on that. Maybe it is handled already. I don't know but, the attorney clearly is not representing him and doesn't want to get involved in any litigation, but he said he would be happy to get that to us to resolve that issue. If we have to file our own complaint against him, the DA will do it.

OPEN THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rob Krick: The lien against 124 A Street is for demolition? And the Borough paid the lien off?

Charles Marquardt: It was supposed to be taken care of by the person's attorney but the person never paid the money. Am I correct on that?

Solicitor Arlen Day: No, actually they sent the money to us instead of sending it to the County. Either way, it didn't get paid to the County when it should have been, but I worked it out with the County that all we had to do is pay it.

Charles Marquardt: Ok, I thought it was that they were supposed to pay it.

Solicitor Arlen Day: Well, the check should have gone to the County but, I am not going to say that it anybody's fault because we had a closing and the check was made out to the Borough instead of the County. Once the estate for the lady came into play, the attorney contacted me and we found out that it wasn't paid to the County and we talked to them instead of saying that it was a breach were we would have had to pay the full amount, they were willing to take the \$1,200.00.

Annetta Whitecavage: Is that the empty lot that we had and sold?

Charles Marquardt: Yes, to her. Now she passed away and her children want to sell it. I guess they are selling both properties, the empty lot and the house.

Rob Krick: Just another question, I saw the complaint forms on the desk. Is it the Borough Code Policy that you can't act on any violation that isn't in writing?

Charles Marquardt: Yes, it is the Code Department want the complaints filed so that they have a written record and I guess it is a good thing to have, only because then we can prove whether or not, that they went down and did what they were supposed to do, because some people say something to us, we tell them and if it don't get done, then they can come back to us and say you guys didn't do nothing or this guy did nothing. So, the Code Department asks that anybody that has a complaint then they don't do anything, you don't even have to sign it, it's just that the complaint form is filled out, you guys don't do anything.. Right, Danny?

Danny Cress: Yep, we have been doing this for the last three years.

Rob Krick: So, the code officer's don't act on anything unless there is a complaint?

Danny Cress: Well, it all depends on, well, 9 out of 10 times what I ask you to do is fill out a complaint form. I have been asking this for the last 3 years. If I have a complaint form, we have a record of it and we can go down there and take care of it. Okay, if people decide that they just want to ask the Borough Council and say I want this done. Well, sometimes we are doing stuff ourselves and so, I would rather have a record on paper. That way, I can go back and go down

there and check it out. Just get a complaint and fill it out, then we can go and give a ticket or whatever.

Rob Krick: We used to be pro-active.

Danny Cress: We have people that say well, I called the Borough pissed off. They come up here and they get the form and fill it out, you don't have to sign it.

Mary Beth Dougherty: So, again being proactive and not waiting for complaints, because obviously, we are all seeing crappy properties and are you are actually are not taking care of it unless, a complaint form is filled out. So far, you have done 6 citations a year.

Danny Cress: So far, I did 2 yesterday.

Mary Beth Dougherty: You have 6.

Danny Cress: You don't understand how it is.

Mary Beth Dougherty: I understand exactly how it is.

Danny Cress: No, you don't, because you are not listening. How many times have you filled out a complaint form?

Mary Beth Dougherty: I am not talking about any oral complaints. I am asking if you see what everybody else sees? Get your priorities straight.

People talking over one another.

Mary Beth Dougherty: Places are falling down, I get it.

Danny Cress: Yes,

People yelling at each other.

Mary Beth Dougherty: You don't do anything. You don't do anything.

Mark Rainis: They can't do anything unless, they are aware of the situation.

Mary Beth Dougherty: (yelling) My point is that if I can see it so should you. So, you should be doing your job without waiting for that form. Why don't you see the same things? I am not complaining.

Mark Rainis: Danny can't do his job unless, he is made aware of it.

Mary Beth Dougherty: Bullshit

Jeremy Talanka: Please calm down.

Rob Krick: So, why don't Council fill out complaint forms because you guys see what we see,

Mark Rainis: Danny made it quite clear to me that he has to be made aware. You can't just go and tell your neighbor, hey, there is shit on your porch.

Mary Beth Dougherty: I am talking about being proactive. If you were proactive in the code enforcement department, then there would be more than 6 citations a year. There is stuff on sidewalks, stuff on porches. There shouldn't be any of that if, you guys were doing your job the right way. My point is that they should be aware of it.

People yelling over one another.

Mary Beth Dougherty: They need to do their job. They should see the same thing.

Charles Marquardt: I know I, for one, I notify the code office when I see them. I also notify the police department. Am I right or wrong?

Mary Beth Dougherty: When is Killian here? I understand that he has some personal issues going on, but when is he here?

Charles Marquardt: I understand that he comes and goes when he can but, he has got some personal things going on right now.

Mary Beth Dougherty: What does he do when he is here? I mean 6 Citations and 6 Quality of Life tickets. That speaks for itself. That speaks for itself.

Michelle O'Connell: (Upper Railroad Street) ; I am going to talk in a professional way, I am not going to scream and carry on. I am so sick and tired of a Councilman bullying my family. I filed a right-to-know, last week. There is nothing about council blocking the road on Upper Railroad. Correct?

Josephine Heffner: Correct.

Michelle O'Connell: On the 28th of March 2023. Do you guys have an ordinance on blocking a road? Barricading a road , for example, cutting down trees.

Charles Marquardt: I don't know the specifics of it, but, people that are going to be moving, cutting down trees, doing anything, should notify the Borough in advance. The Borough in turn should determine whether, first of all, the person should post the time.

Michelle O'Connell: 24 hours in advance.

Charles Marquardt: They should notify the residents in the area, especially if you are on one-way streets or anything like that. That is the way we have always done it before and then go from there, notifying the fire department, the fire chief, just in case there are emergencies, you know that the street may be closed off. The same goes for anybody digging, any kind of construction, any kind of demolition, anything like that. My understanding is that in this situation, the fire chief was notified.

Michelle O'Connell: The Borough is supposed to give the permission, correct?

Charles Marquardt: Well, if he comes to the Borough and notifies us, in case we were not notified.

Mark Rainis: I asked for a permit and there wasn't one that was required.

Michelle O'Connell: The situation was a very unprofessional way to act, as a council representative with several public officials. I know that some of us do not get along but you could act in a professional way. On the date of March 28th, 2023, my mother had gone to a doctor's appointment, the road was barricaded from...

Mark Rainis: (interrupting)

Michelle O'Connell: 88 Upper Railroad. I was not home, I was at work. There was no notification that the road would be blocked that day. No 24- hour notice. My father came out and asked for that to be removed. The response, there is a trail camera on you, on railroad property for confrontation like this, by a Borough Council Member, Mr. Rainis. How is that serving your community and acting in a professional way? Screaming, carrying on. I know that I can get the same way, A picture right here facing my property. Why do you have to put a trail camera there, facing a neighbor? My mother has been there 63 years, her homestead. Taxpayer maintaining their property, clean it up. This is the response that we get. I am so sick and tired of it, bullying, unprofessional matter.

Mark Rainis: May I respond?

Charles Marquardt: No, let her finish then you can.

Mark Rainis: Well, she looked at me, I thought she wanted me to respond.

Solicitor Arlen Day: No.

Michelle O'Connell: I am just looking around in general. Why do you put a trail camera on a citizen? Yes, there is another outlet, down William Street. But suppose there was something blocking that way? There was one open.

Mark Rainis: Both were open.

Solicitor Arlen Day: Let her finish, Mark.

Michelle O'Connell: We go to the extreme of putting this on Facebook.

Mark Rainis: (interrupting)

Solicitor Arlen Day: Mark, please let her finish and then you will get your turn.

Michelle O'Connell: Here is the story, Mr. Kessler. There are trucks, delivery trucks, resident trucks driving up on our driveway. There is a manhole on the driveway, for the sewer. If you drive over it, you are fine. The blocks are scattered at the side of the driveway. They have been up for a year. But all of a sudden, they are a problem. It is a personal vendetta. I am sick and tired of it. My parents are up here longer than anyone, and never had an issue. I am not perfect. This bullying is off the wall. I want everybody to be aware of what is going on. Unprofessional! Why can't you be part of a solution instead of being part of the problem. We have to get buddies to come after me and take pictures. Calling me names on Facebook. That's the way we go. I just want to let you guys know, in a professional matter. Charlie, Eddie, Mayor Judy Mehlbaum, thank you for your help. I appreciate everything. Thank You.

Mr. Dan O'Connell: Why us, they have been there about a year. We are getting signaled out.

People yelling over each other.

Jeremy Talanka: I did not see a problem with it.

Solicitor Arlen Day: There could be a civil suit if someone gets hurt or damages their vehicle by the blocks, I mean anyone, not just you.

People yelling over one another.

Charles Marquardt: Order everyone, just calm down.

Mark Rainis: I have no idea why he was taking pictures.

People Yelling.

Mark Rainis: I will let you know how everything started.

People Yelling.

Mark Rainis: Let me talk.

People yelling.:

Michelle O'Connell: It's a ballpark number.

Mark Rainis: Well, you are a liar.

People yelling again and again.

Mark Rainis: Ann Marie came down with the tree cutters and we went up to the land. There were 2 young guys there. The road wasn't blocked long. You are just mad because it happened while your Mom was at the doctor.

People Yelling and Yelling.

Solicitor Arlen Day: That is what I was talking about. You could be liable if something happened.

People yelling and yelling at each other. People talking over each other.

Charles Marquardt used the gavel to adjourn the meeting (several times), with the help of our Office in Charge, **Jeremy Talanka**.

Next Meeting will be held on:

June 14, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

30
32

Respectively Submitted:

**Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: May 10th, 2023

ROLL CALL

- 1. Open Floor for Public Comment on Agenda**
- 2. Approval of Reports (as available)**
 - a. Minutes**
 - b. Treasurer's Report.**
 - c. Tax Collector's Reports and motion to pay the Tax collector.**
 - d. Mayor/Police Report.**
 - e. Code Officer's Report.**
 - f. Permit Report.**
- 3. Review and authorization to pay bills.**
- 4. Unfinished Business:**
 - a. Reminder that the Street Sweeper will be here on Monday May 22, 2023 (East side of town) and Tuesday May 23, 2023 (West side of town).**
 - b. The Contract for the LSA (DCED) Grant for our Furnace System will be executed. We can begin the Project by taking Bids now.**
 - c. Senator Casey's Office has Submitted our Borough Building Renovation Application. We are being Considered for the Grant.**
- 5. New Business**
 - a. We need a Motion to Renew our Membership with Northeastern PA Alliance in the amount of \$295.00 for the year. (Through this membership we will be notified about Grants and Funding that are Available for Various Projects)**
 - b. We are Required to Upgrade our QuickBooks Software for 2023 (our version will no longer be serviced by them). We need a Motion to Purchase the new Version of QuickBooks at an Annual Cost of \$1,464.00.**
 - c. We need a Motion to Contract with Co-Stars for the 2023 – 2024 Season to Order 44 tons of Rock Salt. (We are only required to Purchase 60% of the Contract, which equals 26.40 tons)**
 - d. We need a Motion to Approve the Acceptance of a Bid from Ron-Troy Asphalt Paving (\$19,400) to Pave the 300 Block of Preston Avenue. The funds will be paid from our Covid Account.**
 - e. We Awarded A-1 Services for their Bid for the Inlet Projects. They are Holding with the Quotes of \$8,382 for the inlet at Beech and 2nd Streets and \$7,882 for the inlet at Ogden Street. These funds will be paid from the Covid Account.**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH**MEETING AGENDA: May 10th, 2023**

- f. We need a Motion to give Permission to our Solicitor (Arlen Day) to draw up a Resolution Stating that Girardville Borough is going to Comply with the Municipal Records Manual in Order to Dispose of Borough Records that we are no longer required to keep.
- g. 235 A Street is ready for a final inspection.

Correspondence

- a. letters, flyers and magazines
-
- 6. Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor.
 - 7. Open floor to public comment.
 - 8. Motion to adjourn.
 - 9. Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. Date: June 14, 2023 Time: 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

Members Absent: Edward Burns.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:

NONE

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Joseph Kessler, seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Mark Rainis, seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: Motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Pay the Tax Collector was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Mayor/Police Report: Officer-in-Charge Jeremy Talanca read:

* 8 – Traffic Citations Issued and 6- Non-Traffic Citations were Issued

* 40 – Warnings Issued

* Incidents:

- 1) – (3) Criminal Mischief Complaints: In (2) of these Complaints the Perpetrators have been identified as juveniles, (1) incident solved with the assistance of a borough street employee.
- 2) – (3) Arson Complaints: These arson fires are being investigated by Girardville Police assisting PSP and appear to be related.
- 3) - (2) Burglary Complaints: Investigations are ongoing.
- 4) - (3) Drug Arrests
- 5) - (4) Drug Investigations
- 6) - (4) Assist Other Jurisdictions (or EMS)
- 7) - (13) Quality of Life Incidents.
- 8) - (1) Megan's Law Offender Complaint
- 9) - (3) New Megan's Law Offenders are now Residents of Girardville.
- 10) - (2) Sexual Assaults.
- 11) - (3) Boxes of disposed medications were taken to the Sheriff's Department for destruction from the take back box.
- 12) - (4) Civil Complaints
- 13) - 302 Warrants served.
- 14) - (5) Domestic Disturbances.
- 15) - (1) Community Action Complaint: The Bomb Incident which was handled by Pltrm Gonzalez, the Fire Chief, PSP, Bomb Squad and many other resources Which we were fortunate to have, is being investigated by PSP with Girardville Police assisting.
- 16) - (2) Fraud Investigations.
- 17) - (1) Unlawful use of a motor vehicle: The victim in this case declined prosecution.
- 18) - (3) Failure to yield to Police: We have had three separate incidents where the Operators of motor vehicles failed to stop when our marked Police Units Attempted to stop them.

The Mayor and Council have asked the Police to assist in identifying and addressing quality of life violations including: accumulation of rubbish, outdoor placement of appliances, unlawfully stored motor vehicles, litter and other violations of Borough Ordinance 2012-5 relating to Quality of Life.

The Police Department is investigating a program which would generate revenue by discarding previously seized weapons that are under court order for destruction.

The Police Department has obtained quotes for a second license in order to have our reporting system on two computers in the Police office.

The Department has also submitted quotes to replace one broken portable radio and install one mobile radio unit in car two.

The Police Department has increased the patrol hours in up-coming summer months to better serve our community.

Police have been working late hours to identify intoxicated drivers, check identification for juveniles out past curfew, individual causing damage and other illegal activity.

LT Jeremy Talanka is requesting the promotion of Ptlm Gonzalez due to his outstanding performance and dedication to the Borough. It is requested that he be promoted to the rank of Corporal. Pay rate would remain the same at this time.

LT Talanka and Council would like to present a certificate of appreciation to our Mayor for her dedication and love for the community.

A motion to accept the Mayor/Police Department was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: A motion to accept was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Permit Officer's Report: NONE

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. We need a motion to adopt Resolution 06-14-23-1, which states that we are complying with the Municipal Records Manual to dispose of Borough Records, which we are no longer required to keep. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**
- b. We need a motion to adopt Resolution 6-14-23-2, which regulates digging permits within the Borough. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**
- c. A motion to proceed with a draft of an Ordinance using Mt. Carmel's Ordinance as a reference, was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. We need a motion to purchase 7 West Ogden Street, which is on Repository Sale from the County for \$1.00. This property will go on the County's next

Demolition List. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**

- b. We need a motion to purchase 9 West Ogden Street, which is on Repository Sale from the County for \$1.00. This property will also be on the County's next Demolition List. A Motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR:

SCHOOL/RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Charles Marquardt: Announced that the Summer Basketball Camp was going on this week. With the weather this week, they have already missed two days. They still have two days left. So hopefully they will be able to have it on the two days that are left. The Basketball Association purchased the nets and hopefully Mike Manbeck will get the hoops for the back-boards.. Our guys will paint the backboards and maybe, we are going to seal the cracks on the court because there are some cracks in it. We asked Ron Troy to give us an estimate on it. We had it done several years ago and it seemed to work out for a while. We should have a price for that for next month. Then we can repaint the lines and stuff on it.

Arlen Day (Solicitor): Announced that we finally got Fabrizio's badge and keys back and a body camera.

OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: You heard Ltn talk about Quality of Life, everybody knows that Bill Killian's wife is ill. If you see anything, tell me or them so, there is some slack for Bill. Sometimes we can't be everywhere at once. If you see anything, call Borough Hall, call me, call the police and let us know.

Charles Marquardt: In the mean tme, Frank and Danny are doing the occupancies. And stuff like that. People decide to move in, in the middle of the night. We have been getting phone calls and they have been going out at all times of the night. It's happening all over town.

Annetta Whitecavage: Just a reminder that the food Harvest is on Monday June 19th. They'll line up on Third and go around.

Solicitor Arlen Day: Isn't there an Ordinance to prevent people from being in an uninspected property after a certain time.

Charles Marquardt: Yes, they can't be on the property after 7 o'clock if they are working on it and they can't be on it at all if they don't rent or own it.

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: We have had complaints about the O'Connell's. They have been working up until 11 o'clock with saws going or whatever. I got that complaint long after they did it so, there was nothing I could do about it then. So, keep an eye out. I was told about it four or five days after the fact so there nothing I could do about it.

Charles Marquardt: There is a situation up there,

Danny Cress: I will go check it out tomorrow.

Charles Marquardt: They did a nice job cleaning up the driveway coming down. In the process of doing that, all the dirt came down. They took the grass out that was holding all the dirt back. It's going up on the road, it's going into the storm boxes. Now the storm box is blocked. So, we are in the process of working with Penn Dot and our own guys trying to get that storm box opened up, up there. And possibly the one on B Street.

David Willis: Charlie, I have been talking about it for a long time and nothing was done about it. You know what I am saying.

Charles Marquardt: We are going to try and get to that. And possibly the one on Second Street we want to put a bigger storm box in. But it takes time.

John Smolock: I just want to mention leash laws, this has been going on for months and months. People going in and walk the trail without a leash. The dog would beat the owner out and you'll find the dogs loose. I scream at them trying to make them stay away from my dog. People are loosing control of their animals. It's been going on for some time now. I come down this road and have a wide view of what is going on. People feel free to let loose of their animals, they let them run around. And they are different animals, not the same ones.

Robbie Krick: There are people discharging their weapons by the road. They are going up by the A hole and parking right there and getting out of their vehicles and discharging their guns.

Ltn. Jeremy Talanka: Well if you catch them again, I can do something about it.

Robbie Krick: It's the same people all of the time.

Ltn. Jeremy Talanka: Does it happen at night time or when does it happen?

Robbie Krick: I think it is in the afternoon.

Mark Rainis: With summer coming they go up there all the time. People going up the tracks, they go swimming. We are gonna have people all of the time. I haven't heard anything about it. You would think with Joe Yakara being right there. Well anyway, there are people shooting guns up there.

Robbie Krick: Well, they are pulling off the road right there and firing their guns.

Charles Marquardt: Jeremy, you might want to notify the township about that.

Ltn. Jeremy Talanka: Absolutely.

ADJOURN

Charles Marquardt: We need a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**

**Next Meeting will be held on:
July 12, 2023 at 7:30 pm.**

Respectively Submitted:

**Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: June 14th, 2023

ROLL CALL

- 1. Open Floor for Public Comment on Agenda**
 - 2. Approval of Reports (as available)**
 - a. Minutes**
 - b. Treasurer's Report.**
 - c. Tax Collector's Reports and motion to pay the Tax collector.**
 - d. Mayor/Police Report.**
 - e. Code Officer's Report.**
 - f. Permit Report.**
 - 3. Review and authorization to pay bills.**
 - 4. Unfinished Business:**
 - a. We need a motion to adopt Resolution # 06-14-23-1 which states that we are complying with the Municipal Records Manual to dispose of Borough Records which we are no longer required to keep.**
 - b. We need a motion to adopt Resolution # 06-14-23-2 which regulates digging permits within the Borough.**
 - 5. New Business:**
 - a. We need a motion to purchase 7 West Ogden Street, which is on the Repository Sale from the County for \$1.00. This property will go on the County's next Demolition List.**
 - b. We need a motion to purchase 9 West Ogden Street, which is on the Repository Sale from the County for \$1.00. This property will also be on the County's next Demolition List.**
- Correspondence**
- a. letters, flyers and magazines**
- 6. Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor.**
 - 7. Open floor to public comment.**
 - 8. Motion to adjourn.**
 - 9. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 7:30 pm.**

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. **Date:** July 12, 2023 **Time:** 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

Members Absent: Edward Burns.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:

We had a guest speaker: Jim Rose, Local Government Policy Specialist from the Governor's Center for Local Government Services, PA- DCED, Pittston, PA.

Mr. Rose spoke about improving Municipal Fiscal Positions through:

- a. The development, adoption, and implementation of Multi-Year Financial Management Plans.
- b. Professional consultant services to assist a municipality in the adoption and implementation of Multi-Year Financial Management Plans or related municipal financial and management initiatives and improvements.

- c. The development of related studies, including an audit as required by GCLGS guidelines, to improve the management practices and/or financial administration procedures of the local government.
- d. The development of multi-municipal or regional intergovernmental cooperation initiatives and cost sharing strategies.
- e. Implementation activities recommended within the adopted STMP report.
- f. Training and capacity building activities that meet basic requirements to assist in the implementation of the plan recommendations.
- g. Contracts with professional services consultants to develop and implement recommendations related to eligible activities contained in an adopted STMP report.

Mr. Rose stated that the Strategic Management Planning program (STMP) offers tools and consultant services to improve a municipality's managerial administrative and financial capacity. **(He handed out folders to some of Council and the secretary with some program plans)**

He said that PA counties, cities, boroughs, towns, townships, and home rule municipalities are eligible. STMP includes grant funding (up to \$200,000) to support the hiring of independent financial consultants. Grant applications require a 50/50 local match. Reduced local cash matches may be considered based on financial hardships. Full guidelines and application are available at **dced.pa.gov/STMP**.

He stated that municipalities in financial despair are eligible for this program. He stated that Mahanoy City was helped through this financial program.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Mark Rainis and, seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Brian Dempsey and, seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: Motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Pay the Tax Collector was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Mayor/Police Report: Mayor Judith Mehlbaum read:

- * 12 – Traffic Citations Issue: 3- Non-Traffic Citations were Issued and 2- Borough citations.

* 33 – Warnings Issued

* Incidents:

- 1) – (7) Borough code quality life investigations
- 2) – (4) drug investigations ongoing
- 3) – (2) domestic disturbances
- 4) – (6) civil complaints
- 5) – (1) endangering the welfare of a child
- 6) – (3) assist other jurisdictions (or EMS)
- 7) – (2) gun violations
- 8) – (1) Megan's law offender complaint
- 9) – (3) NCIC validations
- 10) – (2) fraud investigations
- 11) – (4) civil complaints

Weapons/guns in evidence: paperwork has been started for the destruction of unclaimed weapons/guns.

UCRs info has been gathered for all outstanding months

Scheduling has been done for the August 2nd national night-out

All Officer updates for 2023 is now completed

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum also stated that there would be a Ranger's Night Out event to be held On Tuesday August 1, 2023 from 6 pm until 7:30 pm.

A motion to accept the Mayor/Police Department was made by Brian Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: NONE.

Permit Officer's Report: NONE

Fire Chief's Report: A motion was made by Brian Dempsey to accept the Fire Chief's report and was seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis . **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUISINESS:

- a. We need a motion to purchase 341 West Mahanoy Avenue, which is on Repository Sale from the County for \$1.00. This property will also be on the County's next Demolition List. A Motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**
- b. Not necessary to put on the Agenda.
- c. Not necessary to put on the Agenda.
- d. Not necessary to put on the Agenda
- e. The Ranger's Hose Company is planning a National Night Out on Tuesday August 1, 2023 from 6:00 pm until 7:30 pm. They are asking permission to close Ogden Street from Line to Second Street. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- f. Benesch and Company have issued an Intent to Enter Girardville to develop Replacement plans for the bridge at Julia Street over Mahanoy Creek. A motion was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- g. We need a motion to accept a bid from Ron-Troy Asphalt Paving Inc of \$1,000 to hot tar all cracks in the basketball court. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- h. We need a motion to accept a bid from Ron-Troy Asphalt Paving Inc of \$1,100 to seal coat the basketball court. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- i. Girard Hose Company is holding their Annual Block Party on Friday August 18, 2023 and Saturday August 19, 2023 and they are requesting the following from Council to approve:
 - (1)– A motion to hold their Annual Block Party on August 18th and 19th. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
 - (2)– A motion to give permission for the following road closure to begin August 18th @ 12:00 pm and ending August 20th, 2023 for Oak Street from 2nd Street to Vine Street. This request is to facilitate set up and tear down with Fire Fighter and Pedestrian safety in mind. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and made by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
 - (3) - PALCB requirement: Written permission from the Borough Council approving road closure and allowing the Fire Company to serve alcoholic beverages during the hours published on the Fire Company's "Special Occasion Permit". This request approval must be made on Borough letterhead to submit to PALCB permit request. A motion was made by

Mark Rainis and was seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

- (4) - A motion to approve their request for the following parking restrictions on parade day Friday August 18th, 2023 from 3pm through 8pm: South side of East Main Street from Second Street to 3rd Street. This request is to facilitate line up of parade apparatus and safety. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

- (5) - We need a motion to approve the request for Mayor's permission for Girardville Fire Police to be activated during the block party. A motion was made by Mayor Judith Mehlbaum and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

- (6) - A motion to approve the request permission from Council for additional Fire Police from out of town in the event there are not enough personnel to insure safety at all intersections of parade route. A motion was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

- (7) - Point of Contact for this request is George Misunis Jr., Fire Chief 45-01, Girard Hose Co. #1. Thank You in Advance.

- j. We need a motion to adopt Resolution 7-12-23 which approves submission of CDBG Funding Request to the County of Schuylkill for a Community Center Handicap Barrier Removal ADA Project. A motion was made Mark Rainis and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- k. Addition to the Agenda – A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey for 134 West Main Street to be torn down by the county/Land Bank. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR:

STREET COMMITTEE:

Charles Marquardt: We are waiting for a reply from Penn Dot regarding changing the speed limit to 25 miles per hour in Girardville. Penn DOT may have to do a study of Route 54 in order for them to make a decision.

Robbie Krick: I am not sure if those studies were already done, or not.

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: We received the bench for Louanne Olson. It is very nice. It just need to be put together by the guys. We are going to take the plaque that we received earlier down to the school and hang it there.

OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Robbie Krick: Is there anything we can do about prohibiting those coal trucks from using their Jake Brakes in town. The noise from that happens all day long, from morning to night.

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: It starts at 6am every morning, I can hear them from my upstairs window. It wakes me up every day.

Solicitor Arlen Day: I will check on it and find out what the process is.

Michelle O'Connell: Is something going to be done with manhole cover on Upper Railroad Street? Something needs to be done and soon. It is ridiculous. Somebody is going to get a flat tire.

Mark Rainis: I agree with her.

Charles Marquardt: Well, that is why we have a draft of an Excavation Ordinance. The Solicitor is working on it now. By next month, we will have something.

ADJOURN

Charles Marquardt: We need a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**

Next Meeting will be held on:
August 8th, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Respectively Submitted:

Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: July 12th, 2023

ROLL CALL

1. **Open Floor for Public Comment on Agenda**
2. **Approval of Reports (as available)**
 - a. **Minutes**
 - b. **Treasurer's Report.**
 - c. **Tax Collector's Reports and motion to pay the Tax collector.**
 - d. **Mayor/Police Report.**
 - e. **Code Officer's Report.**
 - f. **Permit Report.**
 - g. **Fire Chief's Report**
3. **Review and authorization to pay bills.**
4. **Unfinished Business:**

NONE
5. **New Business:**
 - a. **We need a motion to purchase 341 West Mahanoy Avenue on Repository bid for \$1.00. This property will be on the County's next Demolition Project.**
 - b. **We need a vote on a Repository Bid for 7 West Ogden St. – Accept or Deny. The Borough wants to purchase this property for Demolition purposes.**
 - c. **We need a vote on a Repository Bid for 9 West Ogden St. – Accept or Deny. The Borough wants to purchase this property for Demolition purposes.**
 - d. **We need to vote on a Repository Bid for 341 West Mahanoy Avenue – Accept or Deny. The Borough wants to purchase this property for Demolition purposes.**
 - e. **The Rangers Hose Company is planning a National Night Out on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 from 6:00 until 7:30 pm. They are asking permission to close Ogden Street from Line to Second Street. We need a motion for this.**
 - f. **Benesch and Company have issued an Intent-To-Enter Girardville to develop replacement plans for the bridge at Julia Street over Mahanoy Creek. We need a motion for this request.**
 - g. **We need a motion to accept a bid from Ron-Troy Asphalt Paving Inc of \$1,000 to hot tar all cracks in the basketball court.**
 - h. **We need a motion to accept a bid from Ron-Troy Asphalt Paving Inc of \$1,100 to seal coat the basketball court.**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: July 12th, 2023

- i. Girard Hose Company is holding their Annual Block Party on August 18, 2023 and August 19, 2023 and they are requesting the following for the Council to approve:
 - 1) To Hold the Block Party on those dates (Aug 18th and Aug 19th).
 - 2) Request the following road closure to begin August 18th, 2023 @ 12:00 noon and ending on August 20th, 2023 @ 12:00 noon for Oak Street from Second Street to Vine Street. This request is to facilitate set up and tear down with Fire Fighter and pedestrian safety in mind.
 - 3) PALCB requirement: Written permission from the Borough Council approving road closure and allowing the Fire Company to serve alcoholic beverages during the hours published on the Fire Company's "Special Occasion Permit". This request approval must be on Borough letterhead to submit to PALCB permit request.
 - 4) Request the following parking restriction on parade day Friday August 18th, 2023 from 3pm through 9pm: South side of East Main Street from Second Street to 3rd Street. This request is to facilitate line up of parade apparatus and safety.
 - 5) Request Mayor's permission for Girardville Fire Police to be activated during block party.
 - 6) Request permission from Council for additional Fire Police from out of town in the event there are not enough personnel to insure safety at all intersections of parade route.
 - 7) Point of contact for this request is George Misunas Jr, Fire Chief 45-01, Girard Hose Co. #1. Thank you in advance.
- j. We need a motion to accept Resolution 7-12-23 which approves submission of CDBG Funding Request to the County of Schuylkill for a Community Center Handicap Barrier Removal ADA Project.

Correspondence

- a. letters, flyers and magazines

- 8) Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor.
- 9) Open floor to public comment.
- 10) Motion to adjourn.
- 11) Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. **Date:** August 9, 2023 **Time:** 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Edward Burns, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA: NONE

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Edward Burns and, seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Mark Rainis and, seconded by Edward Burns. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: Motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Pay the Tax Collector was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Mayor/Police Report: Mayor Judith Mehlbaum read:

- * Traffic Citations Issued: 6; Non-Traffic: 6; Borough Citations: 3
- * 36 – Warnings Issued
- * Incidents:

- 1) – (9) Borough code quality life investigations
- 2) – (1) dangerous dog
- 3) – (2) domestic disturbances
- 4) – (5) civil complaints
- 5) – (1) endangering the welfare of a child
- 6) – (3) assist other jurisdictions (or EMS)
- 7) – (2) gun violations
- 8) – (2) fraud investigations
- 9) – (3) NCIC Validations
- 10) – (2) Parking Complaints
- 11) – (2) Neighbor Disputes
- 12) – (1) Burglary
- 13) – (1) Disorderly Person Arrest

Weapons/guns in evidence: paperwork has been started for the destruction of unclaimed weapons/guns. We have been communicating with Phoenix distributors to assist with destruction after a court order is obtained. This company will provide funding for usable parts.

Scheduling has been done for the weekend of the block party.

Plans have been established with the National night out.

Our department is receiving training from the County dog warden. We now have available local animal shelters for any lost pets. The dog warden also provided the current charging requirements for any dog violations.

A motion to accept the Mayor/Police Department was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: NONE.

Permit Officer's Report: NONE

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Joseph Kessler . **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Reminder that the Girard Hose is holding their block party on Friday August 18th and Saturday August 19th, 2023. The parade is Friday at 6 o'clock. They will be putting up no parking signs.
- b. We need a motion to adopt Ordinance 08-09-2023, which regulates cuttings, openings and excavations within the streets, public right of way of the Borough of Girardville; providing for the filling and restoration of the disturbed area; providing for the fees to be paid; prescribing the penalties for violation thereof; and replacing and repealing Ordinance #2011-1 and any other Ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith. The fee was revised to \$10.00 instead of \$100.00. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- c. Resolution# 7-12-2023 was adopted at last month's Borough Council Meeting has been approved a funding request to Schuylkill County's CDBG in the amount of \$70,000.00 for the community center handicap barrier removal ADA project. (Update of information – end to end)
- d. There is an update on the community project funding with the Senator Casey Grant for the Borough of Girardville Municipal Building renovations project with an appropriation in the amount of \$317,000.00 has made it into the final bill text. The US Senate Appropriations Committee released the twelve sub committee bills on July 21st, 2023. The bills will have to be passed in the Senate and then will enter a period of review with appropriations bills from the House of Representatives. Once both the Senate and the House agree to legislative text, they will be sent to the President for his signature and enactment into law.
- e. Our Solicitor Arlen Day is looking into Jake Brakes being prohibited in town. A study needs to be done.

NEW BUISINESS:

- a. We need a motion for our Municipality to participate in the update of the County Hazard Mitigation Plan. It is a strategy plan to help municipalities in Schuylkill County to recover more quickly from disasters. Together, we will lessen the financial impact of disaster on individuals and all levels of government. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Edward Burns. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- b. We need a motion to hold a town-wide yard sale. Jean Ann Parfitt and Mayor Judith Mehlbaum are requesting to host this event on Saturday August 26th, 2023 from 8am until 2pm. We also need permission, if anybody wishes to continue their sale past 2pm, that they be allowed. For residents wishing to get their name on the map, please sign up at Borough Hall anywhere between Thursday August 10th and Wednesday August 23rd, 2023 from 7am until 3pm. The maps can be picked up on Friday August 25th, 2023 from 7am until 3pm. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Edward Burns. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- c. The Vision Government Solutions, Inc. wanted to give us a heads up that their Reassessment Team will be entering into Girardville Borough in the next 2-4 weeks. They have attached a list of their employees and their vehicles in case we receive any phone calls regarding strange vehicles within the Borough.

IN ADDITION TO THE AGENDA:

- a. We are going to request the exemption of real estate taxes for 240 West Preston Avenue and 137 East Main Street. Our Solicitor will handle this matter. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- b. The Girardville Good Time Club would like approval to hold a TAG DAY on Monday September 4, 2023 from 9am until noon. Proceeds from the event will be used for the maintenance and hanging of the town Christmas Decorations. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- c. Entech Engineering has made a recommendation to approve the proposal from Burkhardt Mechanical Inc. Their COSTARS number is 359107. They recommend Option 2 from Burkhardt's proposal for a complete installation of Weil McLain BL-480-WF oil fired unit for the municipal building at a cost of \$38,229.00. Please note that this signed proposal would not include the garage oil unit heater quoted at \$13,811.00 under option 2. The motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Edward Burns. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR:

STREET COMMITTEE:

Edward Burns: Just that Aqua is back in the Borough doing some work on Preston Avenue. There is still no word from them.

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Paul Kowalick: The Summer Camp in June was a success, but we had so much rain. The basketball court is going to be repaved. Manbeck is going to supply four new rims and they won't be put up until next year. The AOH supplied the job johnnies. Borough guys will be painting the courts and putting up the rims. Keep in mind that we may get the air filtration system.

Charles Marquardt: We just got the basketball courts sealed by Ron Troy.

OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Willis: Where is the work getting done on Main Street?

Mark Rainis : Up by Sosnoski's Garage.

David Willis: What is the sense enacting Ordinances, when we don't have code to reinforce them? Also, why can't we get a new code enforcement officer? I am saying that we should get a new Code Enforcement Officer.

Mary Beth Dougherty: Is Mr. Killian still getting paid?

Charles Marquardt: Just on the work that he is getting done, he has been down here. His wife is back in the hospital again. He was just down here last week working with Frank on some calls.

Mary Beth Dougherty: I know, I was talking to Frank last week, on some properties being cited. Are they doing anything other than the 300 Block?

Charles Marquardt: Yes, they cited some properties and did some Occupancies.

Mary Beth Dougherty: Is there a code report for tonight?

Charles Marquardt: No, I reached out to him, but his wife is back in the hospital. I am sorry, all I can do is apologize. I do know for a fact that he had to take her back in.

Mary Beth Dougherty: Well, we don't like the fact that he is still getting a paycheck.

David Willis: There is a lot more that you can do, besides apologize.

Robbie Krick: If he's getting a paycheck, then he should at least have a report. He should have to file a report.

Jeremy Talanka: He did give me a couple of properties that had debris and things. We started citing properties last month. We ticketed some that had excessive garbage

Mary Beth Dougherty: There shouldn't have to be somebody having to egg you on.

Jeremy Talanka: The thing is that we are limited on hours. Anything that a civilian or resident may give us, we would be happy to check it out.

David Willis: You guys shouldn't have to be told for you to act upon it. If you take a ride around town on every block there is something.

Jeremy Talanka: We are not normally code. We are taking that upon us just to help out.

Charles Marquardt: Alright, the code enforcement committee is going to reach out to Bill and see what is going on. And we will get some answers and if we have to look for a new code enforcement officer, we will. They have to be certified, right?

Edward Burns: On that note, GAMA is also helping out by issuing citations. Jeremy has cited and GAMA has too.

Ed Labie: Well, he shouldn't be getting paid if he's not doing anything.

Mark Rainis: At least the police are doing code work, with their hours being limited. You need to get the forms in and do it the right way. Frank and Danny have been stepping up to the plate. I see on facebook that everybody is bitching and moaning about it. Just come in and fill out a complaint form, that way there is a paper trail.

Robbie Krick: How many houses are on the list to be torn down? What are they, except for my garage.

Charles Marquardt: We have to wait for the Judicial Sale and see how many there are.

Robbie Krick: There's no priority, I am just asking. Is there a list?

Mark Rainis: We do have a list.

"People talking over one another"

Robbie Krick: There are twelve on East Mahanoy Avenue. There has to be 150 to 200 within the Borough, easily. There should be some kind of plan to prioritize what ones should be taken down.

Charles Marquardt: If we could get Joe Macullia's property, then all three of those properties can be taken down. That's a priority. The one next to Margaret Hailey's, we are trying to get that one taken down, the roof is off it and everything else. The code department is issuing them based on their severity and what violations there are. We got guys, like that Joe who just paid their

taxes on it. Our guys were citing him again. He has no permit and he was in there working. He has to go through the whole permit process, again.

Mary Beth Dougherty: Pottsville has a list that they follow to take properties down and it documents the problems with the property. I have caught code officers in this town just flat out lying by saying that they cited properties, when they haven't. I have talked to the magistrate and they had told me that they weren't cited. The girl at the magistrate had said that it is a long time since Girardville has cited anybody.

Michelle O'Connell: Question, is that yard sale free or is there a fee for it?

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: There is no fee for it, we have waived that.

Michele O'Connell: Do you have to register?

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: To be on the map, you do.

Michelle O'Connell: Another question, do you have an update on the manhole cover?

Edward Burns: Our guys went up there and put some patch on it. The whole street needs to be paved. I went up there the other day. I ran over it.

ADJOURN

Charles Marquardt: We need a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Edward Burna and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**

Next Meeting will be held on:

September 13th, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Respectively Submitted:

**Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: August 9th, 2023

ROLL CALL

1. **Open Floor for Public Comment on Agenda**
2. **Approval of Reports (as available)**
 - a. **Minutes**
 - b. **Treasurer's Report.**
 - c. **Tax Collector's Reports and motion to pay the Tax collector.**
 - d. **Mayor/Police Report.**
 - e. **Code Officer's Report.**
 - f. **Permit Report.**
3. **Review and authorization to pay bills.**
4. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. **A reminder that Girard Hose is holding their block party on Friday August 18th and Saturday August 19th, 2023.**
 - b. **We need a motion to adopt Ordinance 08-09-2023, which Regulates Cuttings, Openings and Excavations within the Streets, Public Highways and Public Rights of Way of the Borough of Girardville; Providing for the Filling and Restoration of the Disturbed Area; Providing for the Fees to be Paid; Prescribing the Penalties for Violation thereof; and Replacing and Repealing Ordinance #2011-1 and any other Ordinances or Parts thereof Inconsistent Herewith.**
 - c. **Resolution# 7-12-2023 was adopted at last month's Council Meeting had been approved a funding request to Schuylkill County's CDBG in the amount of \$70,000.00 for the Community Center Handicap Barrier Removal ADA Project**
 - d. **The Community Project Funding with the Senator Casey Grant for the Borough of Girardville Municipal Building Renovations Project with an appropriation in the amount of \$317,000 has made it into the final bill text. The US Senate Appropriations Committee released the twelve subcommittee bills on July 21st, 2023. The bills will have to be passed in the Senate and then will enter a period of review with appropriations bills from the House of Representatives. Once both the Senate and House agree to legislative text, they will be sent to the President for his signature and enactment into law.**
 - e. **Our Solicitor, Arlen Day is looking into Jake Brakes being prohibited in town.**
5. **New Business:**
 - a. **We need a motion for our Municipality to participate in the update of the County Hazard Mitigation Plan. It is a strategy plan to help municipalities in**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: August 9th, 2023

Schuylkill County to recover more quickly from disasters. Together, we will lessen the financial impact of disaster on individuals and all levels of government.

- b. We need a motion to hold a town-wide yard sale. Jean Ann Parfitt and Mayor Judith Mehlbaum are requesting to host this event on Saturday August 26th, 2023 from 8am until 2pm. We also need permission that if anybody wishes to continue their sale past 2pm, that they be allowed. For Residents wishing to get their name on the map, please sign up at Borough Hall anywhere between Thursday August 10th and Wednesday August 23rd, 2023 from 7am until 3pm. The maps can be picked up on Friday August 25th, 2023 from 7am until 3pm.
- c. The Vision Government Solutions, Inc. wanted to give us a heads up that their Reassessment Team will be entering into Girardville Borough in the next 2-4 weeks. They have attached a list of their employees and their vehicles in case we receive any phone calls regarding strange vehicles within the Borough.

Correspondence

- a. letters, flyers and magazines

- 1) Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor.
- 2) Open floor to public comment.
- 3) Motion to adjourn.
- 4) Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. **Date:** September 13, 2023 **Time:** 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt. Then Charles Marquardt asked everybody to remain standing in honor of 9/11. A moment of Silence.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

Members Absent: Edward Burns

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA: NONE

A guest got up and introduced herself as Chrystal Nelson from Ashland. I live in Ashland and I am literally going to every Borough Meeting in our area. I know for the Boroughs that finances are a big thing. There are also people in our communities who are struggling, too. Some of the subjects in the area that have been brought to my attention in the communities of Girardville, Lavelle and Ashland. I have that right in the letter that I gave to you. The fireworks are wanted back in Ashland, that's a big thing.

Most towns need sidewalk repairs or replacements. This is a big hazard in each community. Splash pads and sprinkler parks for the kids. We are currently doing a restoration of a mural in Ashland, by the Post Office. All materials are donated, and volunteers help as well. We are also painting a second wall by the Post Office. We have volunteers lined up to restore the wall and get it ready for painting. We are also working with the art department at North Schuylkill. They are making the layout plan. They are volunteering their time and materials.

Police Departments are having problems covering this area. This is a wide selection of subjects that are problems for our area.

Garbage and Recycling seems to be a big problem as well as, traffic speeds implicating the need for speed cameras, mostly coal trucks. A welcome center for events, sports, activities and voting in the communities. Community voting-neighborhood, events/projects/changes, etc. Investing in our small business and creating new jobs in our communities. I have more detailed information to follow after the agenda.

We, the people, are wanting to work with our Boroughs and Townships, and wanting Boroughs and Townships to work together. We are currently in the process of creating a non-profit and applying for a 501-C3 that will umbrella the community's people and needs. We are asking for your support in helping us to coordinate and give support for the projects above for your people. Our goal is to increase longer-life, quality, population, quality of communities rebuild a stronger and independent community and rebuild our communities on the foundation of God. Your support with working with each borough or township is important to help us accomplish our approaching goals as one unit and share with each other the improvements that each town needs. Also sharing celebrations with one another. We can accomplish more if we all work together verse separately. Please confirm your support to helping your people and working together with the above matters. Thank You.

I have more detailed information to share with you after your agenda.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: Motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Pay the Tax Collector was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Mayor/Police Report: A motion to accept the Mayor/Police Department was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Motion to accept the Code Officer's Report was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Alex Gregis: Who is your Code officer?

Charles Marquardt: Bill Killian.

Alex Gregis: Has he been down here?

Charles Marquardt: Yes, he was just down here. We are having discussions right now about our Code Officer.

Alex Gregis: If he doesn't show up to do his job, he should be fired.

Permit Officer's Report: NONE

"People talking low"

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Reminder that the Schuylkill County's Fall Cleanup is Thursday September 14th & Friday September 15th from 9am until 5pm, and Saturday 16th from 9am until 1pm. It is being hosted by Girardville Borough and will be behind the A Street School.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Reminder that beginning the week of October 23rd ashes will be picked up on Mondays and Fridays. We need a motion for that. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- b. Abigail Smith has resigned her position of GAMA Clerk as of September 1st. We need a motion to accept her resignation. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Now we need a motion to advertise and hire somebody for this position as GAMA Clerk. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Charles Marquardt: Next: We received a list of 210 bidders for the County's Upset Sale. We didn't have any objection to them.

We received a list of properties for Girardville's Private Sale. Did we object to any of these?

Solicitor Arlen Day: Do you want me to explain?

Charles Marquardt: Yes

Solicitor Arlen Day: There is a property, we prepared a letter for and the Borough and sent it to the County regarding the \$12,500.00 or more. We did not adopt this as an Ordinance or a Resolution, so the best we can do is prepare a letter to the County. However, you have to pay me to object. Then there is the objection, file for a hearing and to appear in court and have me go to court for two hearings. All together, one gentleman paid me \$3,500.00 to appear at two hearings. So, if we are going to argue against one, you have to establish that it's worth more or that someone else is willing to bid more. Then we have to get an appraisal, if they can't rely on one or the other. So, the question is, does the Borough want to spend that much money to object to that private sale.

Annetta Whitecavage: so the Borough wrote the letter to the County for \$12,500.00, did the County honor that letter?

Solicitor Arlen Day: Well, sending a letter is one thing, but they decide, whether we object or not.

Annetta Whitecavage: Are you sure they read it?

Solicitor Arlen Day: Am I sure they read it? I don't know. We can certainly send them a copy by taking it to them. You know, I have gone to objections just to see what was done without an appraisal, but you are still paying me to do something that is not our decision. But, we can certainly send a letter to the County and saying, by the way, this person bid this much and we adopted it. We voted upon the letter, but did we put it in a Resolution or Ordinance, No.

Annetta Whitecavage: Why not? Can't you put it in a Resolution or Ordinance so that it will go through.

Solicitor Arlen Day: I think that we just adopted it and sent the letter to the County because it is not our decision. If we do a Resolution, that we will not except any bids of \$12,000.00 or lower. The risk I see is that we have to object to every bid that is less than \$12,500.00. The other issue there is, no matter what we adopt, the County decides, not us.

Annetta Whitecavage: I do think it is ridiculous that they are bidding \$2,000.00 on a house that is worth over thirty, or forty and they just let it rot. They are not doing anything with those homes. And, they are all from New York, New Jersey, so we are going to be back in another predicament a few years down the road they are houses that are going to have to be demolished. This is what I am looking at.

Solicitor Arlen Day: Yes, the problem you are talking about, isn't anybody in this room or at the County. What you are talking about is that the Legislator won't change the laws so that people have to fix this stuff up or it ruins the property. You can cite them, you can do this, you can do that. The law should say that if you don't fix it up within 365 days, you don't get to sell it to somebody else. It your one time chance, if you don't fix it up before you sell it, it's forfeit.

Annetta Whitecavage: For example, up by me the people are from New York that bought it and they come to visit it a couple times and that is it. Now it is falling down. The neighbor has mold everywhere from it and can't do anything about it and what does he do? We are stuck. The roof is going to fall in and then we are going to have more problems and then the town will have to pay for the demolition.

Solicitor Arlen Day: We could vote tonight for the Borough to send a letter stating that we cannot accept any bids under \$12,500.00. At most, it is something that will be read at a meeting. We are not going to pay to go there and get an appraisal. I don't recommend it but, we can do that.

Charles Marquardt: So we need a motion to send a letter to the County.

Solicitor Arlen Day: To remind the County that we object to any bids less than \$12,500.00.

Josephine Heffner: They told me that it would not apply to upset sales or judicial sales;

Solicitor Arlen Day: Who told you that? The County?

Josephine Heffner: Yes.

Solicitor Arlen Day: Well, that would make sense. Well, there you go. That ends that. The County replied that it does not pertain to upset sales or judicial sales.

"People talking over one another".

Mary Beth Dougherty: Instead of writing a letter stating what your minimum price is, why don't you get the Community to sign a petition asking for a timeframe to be implicated.

Solicitor Arlen Day: I would be willing to bet that there have been hundreds of thousands of letters sent. In every community, it is a problem and the idea is that they know. I can't

tell you why they don't change it. But I can tell you that every municipality that we represent, has the same problem.

Mary Beth Dougherty: I can tell you that there is a law that it must be brought up to code within 365 days. They changed it from eighteen months to twelve. There have been some discussions about forfeiture but, then again that there is a whole other argument on the other side about personal property rights. You would not believe the number of calls that we get. Code can do something after X amounts of citations. You would not believe the number of people that call screaming at us about you don't have any rights to tell me what to do with my property. So, do I think that you are ever going to see something like forfeiture. I just don't see that. I just don't see it happening for those reasons. You know, you have lots of reasons.

Solicitor Arlen Day: The seller is the only one who signs a deed.

Mary Beth Dougherty: And that is a level of secrecy. They should have to provide contact information. The deed could have more than one parcel number. For example, there were 30 some properties for sale, 29 in Mahanoy City and there were a couple in Girardville on one deed. All on one deed, yes. So there is a whole variety of things.

Solicitor Arlen Day: The problem is that there is that loophole, 364 days I transfer the property to somebody else.

Mary Beth Dougherty: What was the list that you said about the 200 properties? **"Talking Low"**. They also have to send a list of Bidders out to the municipalities. You can go through them and see if there is anybody not reputable. I guess most of them on the list are from New York?

Solicitor Arlen Day: And Florida. It is Florida and every time there are like six different names. Same Address.

Annetta Whitecavage: What if a property is not worth \$12,500.00? Can there be an exception on that case?

Solicitor Arlen Day: Well, if we are going to do that, I am sure that there is a very small home somewhere that is probably ready to fall down and worth \$800.00, but if you tell them that it is \$12,500.00 you will be chasing someone away.

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: If they only paid \$800.00, they will let it fall down, But if you tell them \$12,500.00 they may fix it up.

Solicitor Arlen Day: You are absolutely right. There is no band aid that is going to fix it.

David Willis: Can't you do background checks or something?

Solicitor Arlen Day: What I do is,

"People talking over each other".

Solicitor Arlen Day: Let me finish, we are not allowing the sale, that's the County that is selling it. We get to object. To say, yes or no.

"People talking low and over each other"

David Willis: You know that one that says a Landlord or Property Manager must live within so many miles of their property. How comes we have the power to do that, but we can't do something about this?

Judith Mehlbaum: That is rental properties.

David Willis: What about on the Judicial Sale they are buying it to use as a rental property? That's my question.

Judith Mehlbaum: Because it is a Judicial Sale. We have say over a private sale, but not a Judicial Sale.

62

David Willis: Well, what I mean are the people buying on a Judicial Sale held to the same standard of accountability? The ones using them as rental properties? That is my question.

Solicitor Arlen Day: I do not know what you mean about accountability?

Annetta Whitecavage: They would still be required to have a manager.

“People talking over one another”.

Solicitor Arlen Day: I can send a letter. Yes, I can send a letter.

“People talking over one another”.

Charles Marquardt: Another thing is that we received a notification about our liquid fuel allocation. Next year it its going to be \$40,280.04. So that has gone up some.

Currently Burkhardt is replacing the furnace in Borough Hall. So, hopefully by Friday, it is up and running. They took the old one out and are putting the new one in. Then they are also putting a hot water heater in. So then we don’t have to run the heater as much in the summer for the hot water, or even in the winter for hot water.

- c. We need a motion to approve that Entech will prepare all paperwork for the Borough to apply for the 2023 Local Share Grant for the South William’s Street Stormwater Project at a cost of \$4,000.00. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey.

Vote: All. Motion Carried.

Charles Marquardt: Hopefully we get it. That project needs a bid, then we can proceed to get the Grant.

Alex Gregis: I am having problems with mud being caused by the coal trucks. With the rain it is flushing the mud down under my foundation. There is no drain there , not a curb either. So, when we get a heavy rain, it is running down to my grass.

Charles Marquardt: Well, you would have to let Butler Township know. The are replacing or fixing that bridge down there. I will talk to the engineer from the firm of the company replacing the bridge.

Next, there is the **Schuylkill County Mitigation Plan**. Their Partner Meeting is coming up. Our guys are going to it.

Next, we received a letter from the landfill association. Plans are currently underway to close the **North Schuylkill Landfill in Turkey Run**. There are 13 municipalities that are chartered, and we are one of them. Then there are four that are non-charter members. Our landfill representatives will attend their meeting to see what is happening.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR:

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Charles Marquardt: We are currently working with Dan Heiser to get the basketball court sealed. We have the red, white and blue paint. So I guess the white would be the perimeter and the inner circles are going to be red and blue. Kenny, one of our Borough Workers wants to get that done. There are brand new rims and nets, too. So they will be put up in spring for their tournament. We will probably putting up backboards, too.

STREET COMMITTEE:

Charles Marquardt: Next thing is, that we are still waiting on Aqua to check with us to see if a permit can be issued for that street up there. They are going to replace the waterlines and we are still waiting for them to get in touch with us.

OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Robbie Krick: I have a question about the jake brakes. Has the Borough gone any further or is it a dead issue.

Charles Marquardt: It's not a dead issue, it's just the cost that is involved. So, we are just trying to figure out what's involved.

Robbie Krick: Did anybody look at the paper on-line? It's only three pages. I think an engineer has to do and the rest of it the police can do. There is only a few questions that they ask.

Mark Rainis: They go with a four percent grade and our street is just about that. We are right on the borderline. Most of the town is flat.

Robbie Krick: You can stop them from using them on East Mahanoy Avenue. Just say, do not use your jake brakes on East Mahanoy Avenue.

Charles Marquardt: You can pick block sections of town. You just have to put the signage up saying that they are restricted.

"People talking over one another".

Solicitor Arlen Day: First requirement is that you get a study done. I can tell you that the Cressona wanted to change the speed limit on two streets. After they found out the cost of the study, they decided not to bother with it. So, I will find out from them what the quote was.

Robbie Krick: The application that I read, and there are other ones out there, the one on Penn Dot had very simple questions and the police would answer most of them.

Judith Mehlbaum: Is there a cost for submitting that application?

Robbie Krick: You should have an engineer sign off on it. You don't even need the engineer fill it out, you could maybe just have him sign off on it.

Solicitor Arlen Day: I thought that Penn Dot had to do the study?

Robbie Krick: It didn't sound that way in the paperwork that I looked at.

"People talking over one another".

Solicitor Arlen Day: Well, I will look into it. See the problem with Cressona was when they took the vote, it wasn't approved because of the cost of it.

Charles Marquardt: The case with our lower speed limit still was not resolved. I don't know what happened there. Our police did look into getting the scales at both ends of the street.

OIC Jeremy Talanka: Yes we did.

"People talking over one another".

Mayor Judith Mehlbaum: I had to park out back because of the coal trucks, I couldn't see out the windows anymore. I have watched them from my window and most of the ones I see have

been tarped. There were huge chunks of dirt the other day when they came through here. There are 300 trucks a day on the Main Street.

"People talking over one another".

Charles Marquardt: I will see about getting the sweeper back in here, again.

"People talking over one another".

Mary Beth Dougherty: Why don't you just contact Reading Anthracite?

Charles Marquardt: I did talk to the guy who had them come in the last time, about having them come in once a month.

"People talking over one another".

Charles Marquardt: Does anybody have anything else?

Annetta Whitecavage: I do.

"People talking over one another".

Annetta Whitecavage: It's about elder abuse training. It is for police force and 1st responders. Anyone is welcome. There are two classes on September 27th, one in the am and the other one in the pm. To register, just contact me.

Guest Speaker, Chrystal Nelson: I have one more thing, at the Pioneer Tunnel in Ashland, they are hosting Halloween on October 29th. I think it is from 2pm until 5pm.

ADJOURN

Charles Marquardt: We need a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**

**Next Meeting will be held on:
October 11th, 2023 at 7:30 pm.**

Respectively Submitted:

**Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: September 13th, 2023

ROLL CALL

1. **Open Floor for Public Comment on Agenda**
2. **Approval of Reports (as available)**
 - a. **Minutes**
 - b. **Treasurer's Report.**
 - c. **Tax Collector's Reports and motion to pay the Tax collector.**
 - d. **Mayor/Police Report.**
 - e. **Code Officer's Report.**
 - f. **Permit Report.**
3. **Review and authorization to pay bills.**
4. **Unfinished Business:**
 1. **The Schuylkill County 2023 Fall Cleanup will be hosted by the Borough at the A Street School on Thursday September 14th (9am-5pm), Friday September 15th (9am-5pm) and Saturday September 16th (9am-1pm). No Electronics will be collected this year. Tires, Appliances and Bulky Items will be accepted. There are fliers available in the lobby on the table, which include the prices and the items being collected.**
5. **New Business:**
 1. **Starting with the week of October 23, 2023, we will begin picking ashes up on Mondays.**
 2. **Abigail Smith has resigned from her position as the GAMA Clerk and we need a motion to accept her resignation and we need a motion to advertise for this position and to hire for the clerk position.**
 3. **We need a motion to approve that Entech Engineering will prepare all paperwork for the Borough to apply for the 2023 Local Share Grant for the South William's Street Stormwater Project.**
 - 4.. **The furnace is to be installed on Wednesday September 13, 2023.**

Correspondence

- a. **letters, flyers and magazines**
- 1) **Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor.**
 - 2) **Open floor to public comment.**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH**MEETING AGENDA: September 13th, 2023**

- 3) **Motion to adjourn.**
- 4) **Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 11th, 2023 at 7:30 pm.**

October 11, 2023 - Meeting Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance Lead by Charles Morquardt

Roll Call: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Edward Burns, Mayor Judith Melbaum, Charles Morquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, & Josephine Helfner

1. Open Floor For Public Comment On Agenda:

None

2. Approval of Reports:

a. Minutes: Motion made by Mark Rainis, Seconded by Edward Burns, all in favor, motion carried.

b. Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Edward Burns, Seconded by Brian Dempsey, all in favor, motion carried.

c. Tax Collector's Report: Motion made by Edward Burns, Seconded by Mark Rainis, all in favor, motion carried.

d. Mayor / Police Report: Read by Jerem. - Motion made by Edward Burns, Seconded by Brian Dempsey, all in favor, motion carried.

e. Code Officer's Report:

f. Permit Report: Inspector Motion made by Edward Burns, Seconded by Mark Rainis, all in favor, motion carried.

g. Quarterly Fire Chief's Report: Motion made by Edward Burns, Seconded by Brian Dempsey, all in favor, motion carried.

3. Review and authorization to pay bills; Motion made by Edward Burns, Seconded by Mark Rainis, all in favor motion carried.

7. Unfinished Business:

charlie- 1. Update Furnce is completely installed and up & running
2. Jake Brake Update Solicitor Arlen Dow said we can apply to Penn Dot. We need to establish a 4% grade and set an Accident History,

3. Fall Cleanup was a Success

4. Accepting Application for GAMA Clerk

5. New Business

1. Good Time Club asking permission to host their annual Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 29, 2023 at 2 PM, Motion made by Mark Rainis, Seconded by Edward Burns, all in favor, motion carried

2. A motion to hold Trick or Treat night Tuesday, October 31, 2023. ~~From 6 PM to 8 PM~~ From 6 PM to 8 PM, Motion made by Mark Rainis, Seconded by Brian Dempsey, all in favor, motion carried

3. Motion to adopt Resolution 10-11-23-1 Arlen spoke about the Resolution to be adopted. Motion made by Edward Burns, Seconded by Mark Rainis, all in favor, motion carried

2. Watershed asking to hold a Public Meeting on October 23, 2023 at 7^{PM} at the Borough Hall's Council Room.
~~Meeting~~ is cancelled

5. Drug Take Back → All prescriptions in your house you can bring to the Borough Hall and put them in the Silver Drug Box and the Sheriff's Department will come and empty the box.

6. Cross Lot Annexation to put a garage on. Then want to make the properties one parcel.

Correspondence:

a. letters, flyers, and magazines

1) Reports of Committee, Council Members and Solicitor
Street Ordinance: Digging - authorize to make an Amendment to curb to curb - motion made by Edward Burns, Seconded by Mark Rainis

2) Add a hydrant at the top of Richard Street Motion made by Brian Demsey, Seconded by Mark Rainis, all in favor, motion carried.

Starting Gum, Paving A street & Vine Street

L&A - Wall & Sidewalk

CDBG

Police Committee - Jeremy Dos Breaux

Eng. Comm. - 2nd Session - 2023

2. Open floor to public comments

None

3. Motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Edward Burns, Seconded by Brian Dempsey, all in favor motion carried

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 8th, 2023 at 7:30pm

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: October 11th, 2023

ROLL CALL

- 1. Open Floor for Public Comment on Agenda**
- 2. Approval of Reports (as available)**
 - a. Minutes**
 - b. Treasurer's Report.**
 - c. Tax Collector's Reports and motion to pay the Tax collector.**
 - d. Mayor/Police Report.**
 - e. Code Officer's Report.**
 - f. Permit Report.**
 - g. Quarterly Fire Chief's Report**
- 3. Review and authorization to pay bills.**
- 4. Unfinished Business:**
 - 1. The furnace has been installed and is up and running.**
 - 2. Jake Brake Update.**
 - 3. The fall Cleanup was a success.**
 - 4. Accepting Applications for a GAMA Clerk. Applications can be picked up at the Borough Office.**
- 5. New Business:**
 - 1. The Good Time Club is requesting permission to host their annual Halloween Parade on Sunday October 29, 2023 at 2:00 pm (Rain or Shine). The Parade starts at West Main and Julia Street and finishes at the Girard Hose #1.**
 - 2. We need a motion to hold Trick or Treat on Halloween, Tuesday October 31, 2023 from 6pm until 8pm.**
 - 3. We need a motion to adopt Resolution 10-11-23-1, which is regarding the circumstances in which the Borough of Girardville objects to and disapproves of tax sales of properties within the Borough of Girardville.**
 - 4. The Watershed is holding a Public Meeting on October 23, 2023 at 7:00 pm, and they are asking permission to hold it here at the Borough Hall's Council Room.**
 - 5. The Drug Take-Back Box will be emptied on October 28, 2023. Any Drop-Offs should be before 10am on the 28th.**
 - 6. We need a motion to approve the Thomas E. and Letitia M. Cress lot Annexation Plan of Lands.**

MEETING AGENDA: October 11th, 2023

Correspondence

a. letters, flyers and magazines

- 1) Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor.**
- 2) Open floor to public comment.**
- 3) Motion to adjourn.**
- 4) Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 8th, 2023 at 7:30 pm.**

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. Date: November 8, 2023 Time: 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Edward Burns, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA: NONE

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: Motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Pay the Tax Collector was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Mayor/Police Report: Mayor Judith Mehlbaum started by saying that there was a drug bust at around 3:30 pm. He is in custody in the police station waiting to be arraigned. He was busted with 87.5 grams of methamphetamines, approximately 3.5 grams of cocaine, approximately 1 gram of fentanyl and approximately 87.5 grams of marijuana. He was also caught with 3 digital scales, 3 cell phones, and clear plastic zip lock bags that are commonly used to package and distribute controlled substances. A motion to accept the Mayor/Police Department Report was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Motion to accept the Code Officer's Report was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Permit Officer's Report: NONE

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUISINESS:

- a. The Good Time Club is requesting permission to host their annual Santa Claus Parade on Thanksgiving Night, November 23, 2023 at 5pm. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- b. We need a motion to put up the Christmas Lights up on Saturday Morning, November 18, 2023 and the Banners will come down. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- c. We need a motion to adopt Resolution 11-2-23, which is a request that North Schuylkill School Board will reconsider itself as a participating member of the Schuylkill County Land Bank and rejoin the Schuylkill County Land Bank as a participating member. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- d. The Watershed is holding a public meeting on November 13, 2023 at 7pm and they are asking permission to hold it here at the Borough Hall's Council Room. It is an important meeting, an engineer will be there to discuss what is going on. Public is urged to come. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- e. There are three new Handicap Sign applications.
 1. Emma Whipple – 367 Preston Avenue. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
 2. James Purcell – 236 West Main Street. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
 3. Katheryn Kuchinsky – 127 A Street. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- f. Joe Catizone is asking permission to pet two no parking signs at the A Street School that will say "No Parking on the 1st Thursday of the month from 5am until 1pm (for food

pantry)". A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

- g. A new fire hydrant was installed at the corner of Richard Street and Lower Railroad Avenue. The hydrant will be billed to us on our Monthly Aqua invoice for the water hydrants.
- h. We need a motion to give permission to our Solicitor, Arlen Day to draw up the paperwork so we can apply for a \$40,000 Tax Anticipation Note in January 2024. The 2023 TAN was paid off. A motion was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- i. There is a grant seminar in Pottsville conducted by State Representative tomorrow, Thursday November 9, 2023 from 1pm until 3 pm. A representative will be there from DCED and one from Senator Casey's office. Mayor Judith Mehlbaum and Mark Rainis will be attending.
- j. North Schuylkill School District is having a meeting to discuss tax sale properties. They believe that their price to purchase needs to be increased. The meeting is on Monday November 20, 2023 at 5:30 pm. Edward Burns and Joseph Kessler will be attending.
- k. Funding opportunities for two Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants are posted. One for the flood Mitigation Assistance and the other for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities.
- l. We need a motion to advertise the 2024 Proposed Budget. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- m. A motion to display the 2024 tax rate was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR: NONE

OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kevin Haley: We are here to complain about the neighbor's house on both sides of our house. They still haven't done any repairs. And code hasn't done anything about it.

Margaret Haley: I send a certified complaint letter every month. The house on one side has a wall on the inside where our walls connect, pulling apart and our house is going with it. On the other side, the house needs a new roof and we have been getting water damage from the roof leaking. Code has done nothing about it. I want to know when they are going to be cited.

Frank Zangari: It is not a code problem, It a BUI problem. They should have been cited by them for not getting a permit.

Mary Beth Dougherty: I have seen their house and code should be doing their job and do something about it.

Margaret Haley: I have pictures on my phone that I want to show Council. I will show you as soon as this meeting is finished.

ADJOURN

Charles Marquardt: We need a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**

**Next Meeting will be held on:
December 13th, 2023 at 7:30 pm.**

Respectively Submitted:

**Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: November 8th, 2023

ROLL CALL

1. **Open Floor for Public Comment on Agenda**
2. **Approval of Reports (as available)**
 - a. **Minutes**
 - b. **Treasurer's Report.**
 - c. **Tax Collector's Reports and motion to pay the Tax collector.**
 - d. **Mayor/Police Report.**
 - e. **Code Officer's Report.**
 - f. **Permit Report.**
3. **Review and authorization to pay bills.**
4. **Unfinished Business: NONE**
5. **New Business:**
 1. **The Good Time Club is requesting permission to host their annual Santa Clause Parade on Thanksgiving Night, November 23rd 2023 at 5pm.**
 2. **We need a motion to give permission to the Good Time Club to put up the Christmas Lights on Saturday Morning, November 18th 2023 and the Banners will come down.**
 3. **We need a motion to adopt Resolution 11-2-23, which is a request that North Schuylkill School Board will reconsider it's decision to remove itself as a participating member of the Schuylkill County Land Bank, and re-join the Schuylkill County Land Bank as a participating member.**
 4. **The Watershed is holding a Public Meeting on November 13, 2023 at 7:00 pm, and they are asking permission to hold it here at the Borough Hall's Council Room. It is an important meeting, an engineer will be there to discuss what is going on. Public is urged to attend.**
 5. **There are three new Handicap Sign Applications.**
 1. **Emma Whipple – 367 Preston Avenue**
 2. **James Purcell – 236 West Main Street**
 3. **Kathryn Kuchinsky – 127 "A" Street**
6. **Joe Catizone is asking for permission to put two no parking signs at the "A" Street School that will say, "No Parking on the 1st Thursday of the month from 5am until 1pm (for Food Pantry)".**
7. **A new fire hydrant was installed at the corner of Richard Street and Lower Railroad Avenue. The hydrant can be billed to us on our Monthly Aqua Invoice for the Water Hydrants.**

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH**MEETING AGENDA: November 8th, 2023**

8. We need a motion to give permission to our Solicitor, Arlen Day to draw up the paperwork to so that we can apply for a Line of Credit in January 2024. The 2023 LOC has been paid off for months.
9. There is a grant seminar in Pottsville conducted by State Representative Tim Twardzik tomorrow, Thursday November 9th, 2023 from 1pm until 3pm. A representative from DCED and one from Senator Casey's office. Mayor Judith Mehlbaum and Mark Rainis will be attending.
10. North Schuylkill School District is having a meeting to discuss tax sale properties. They believe their price to purchase needs to be increased. It is on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 5:30 pm. Edward Burns and Joseph Kessler will be attending.
11. Funding opportunities for two Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants are posted. One for the Flood Mitigation Assistance and the other for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities.

Correspondence**a. letters, flyers and magazines**

- 1) Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor.
- 2) Open floor to public comment.
- 3) Motion to adjourn.
- 4) Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 13th, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE

201 North 4th Street

Phone: (570) 276-1635 Fax: (570) 276-1640 email: borohall@ptd.net

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

Place: Municipal Bldg. Date: December 13, 2023 Time: 7:30 pm

OPEN MEETING:

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, Joseph Kessler, Mark Rainis, Edward Burns, Mayor Judith Mehlbaum, Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day, Josephine Heffner.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:

Rob Krick: Question on the Budget: Are there any increases on compensation on any Borough Employees, raises or increases?

Charles Marquardt: Not at this time.

Rob Krick: Second Question: How much money has been budgeted for the School Building?

Charles Marquardt: You mean the bills?

Rob Krick: Huh?

Charles Marquardt: As far as the bills Down there?

Rob Krick: Yeah.

Josephine Heffner: \$6,000.00

Rob Krick: Huh

Josephine Heffner: \$6,000.00

Rob Krick: \$6,000.00 is budgeted?

Josephine Heffner: Yes

Rob Krick: Thank You.

Josephine Heffner: You're welcome.

Charles Marquardt: They are doing some more repairs down there. They just put some lights in the hallways another access because of it being another emergency exit to get out. So, they took that upon themselves to do that, the Basketball Association. It looks really bright in there. They did a nice job.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept Minutes of the previous meeting made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's Report: Motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report and Pay the Tax Collector was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Mayor/Police Report: Mayor Judith Mehlbaum read the report by saying there was a check upon a New Meagan's offender in Girardville. Weapons, Guns, Evidence and Paperwork is near completion for the unclaimed weapons and guns we have in the evidence locker. The UCR Reports have began from outstanding months before I was here from previous Administration, and they are being taken care of. There were approximately 50 coats for kids. There is an investigation with the Attorney General's Office to ongoing community of dangerous drugs. Paperwork has been completed to collaborate the speed equipment. All the old drugs from old cases we had, have been destroyed and property room clearance for the end of the year is near completion. A motion to accept the Mayor/Police Department Report was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Report was read by President Charles Marquardt. Do we have a motion, Edward Burns interrupted and said "before you go there Charlie, Frank, I wanted to mention something to you, we talked about Schultz's down there and somebody living in Charlie Bann's Garage. There is nothing on file, so I guess that they have to be cited. Frank said, "Oh". Edward said," before I forget, I just wanted to mention it. Go ahead Charlie, I'm sorry'. Charles asked "do we have a motion to accept the code officer's report?" Motion to accept the Code Officer's Report was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

Permit Officer's Report: NONE

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS: A motion was made by Edward burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey.. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A motion to approve the 2024 Proposed Budget is. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.** Charles Marquardt asked Joseph Kessler did he want to elaborate on the 2024 Budget. Joseph Kessler said the 2024 Total Budget has \$405,080.00 in revenue and \$390,025.00 in Expenditures. No increase in taxes, they will stay at 22.7 mils.

NEW BUISINESS:

- a. A motion to accept Ordinance 12-13-2023-1. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- b. A motion to accept Resolution 12-13-23-1. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- c. We need a motion to adopt Resolution 12-13-2023-2. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- d. A motion to adopt Resolution 12-13-2023-3. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- e. A motion to adopt Resolution 12-13-2023-4A (7 West Ogden Street). A motion was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- f. A motion to adopt Resolution 12-13-2023-4B (9 West Ogden Street). A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- g. A motion to adopt Resolution 12-13-2023-5. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- h. A motion to adopt Resolution 12-13-2023-6. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All, Motion Carried.**
- i. A motion to approve the Annual Fire Chief's Agreement from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. Remuneration of \$500.00 per year, payable at the end of the year. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- j. A motion to approve the 2024 work session and meeting dates. A motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- k. A motion to approve the 2024 Pay Periods and Paycheck Dates. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Edward Burns. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**
- l. A motion to approve the 2024 Food Harvest Dates was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.** Charles announced in February, the food harvest will be Thursday, February 15, 2024, because of the President's Day Holiday. Am I correct Annetta? Annetta replied, "I sent the list to Jo and we will post it every month on the front door, it is on the third Monday of every month.

m. Charles asked Arlen: “Should we go into Executive Session Now? Arlen, “Finish with everything else and we will go into Executive Session. Charles said to Arlen’ “Just jump over it? Arlen replied, “Yes”. Charlie announced that for m., we are going to go into Executive Session for that, but we are going to finish the rest first.

n. We received Candidates for Girardville and Butler Township and we are going to hold them until the Reorganization Meeting and the Regular Council Meeting in January, then make a decision on the Candidates. We need a motion to table this until January. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

o. A Motion to approve the Reorganization Meeting will be held on January 2, 2024 at 7:30 pm, followed by the Regular Monthly Council Meeting for January 2024. A motion was made by Mark Rainis and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

p. Need a motion to advertise the 2024 Monthly Work Sessions and Council Meetings and the Reorganization Meeting. A motion was made Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

We are going to need a motion to adopt an Ordinance for the next meeting for the franchise with Service Electric and advertise as required. A motion was made by Joseph Kessler and seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote: All. Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letters, fliers and magazines.**

REPORTS ON COMMITTEES, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SOLICITOR: NONE

OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Frank Zangari: About the garage Edward mentioned about the Preston Avenue Property. We received information that the property was paid in full so, we will have to look into that before we cite somebody, for the record.

Rob Krick: I just have a question, “What did the Anticipation Note cost for filing fees through the Bank and Legal Fees.

Arlen Day: There is a \$150.00 fee from the bank plus the interest and to be honest with you, I don’t know what my hours were for preparing the TAN. It is in our bill this month. Honestly, I don’t know.

Rob Krick: Okay.

Arlen Day: I can let you know at the next meeting.

Rob Krick: Okay.

Charles Marquardt: Anybody have anything else at this time? At this time we are going to go into **Executive Session now** and we will return very shortly.

Council returned from Executive Session after eight minutes.

Charles announced: "I will open the meeting back up and turn it over to our Solicitor Arlen Day for #m.

Solicitor Arlen Day: There was a lawsuit after against Chief Williams and Council. The insurance appointed a law company. They suggested that we settle, It has been going on for a while now. The settlement is significantly than what was discussed long ago, but it is not costing the nothing out of pocket for the Borough. Certainly it affects their Insurance Rates.. But what I was told is that they couldn't find an expert to say that his actions were appropriate. It doesn't mean that they couldn't have taken it to trial and possibly have won. Given the amount of \$130,000.00, the insurance company thought they should settle. I confirmed with them that the Borough is not paying any of that \$130,000.00 because it has the money in reserves from the money they paid to the Insurance Company. So the recommendation is to prove that. We'll need a motion for that. Motion was made by Edward Burns and seconded by Joseph Kessler. **Vote: All. Motion Carried**

Charles Marquardt: If nobody has anything else, we will adjourn now. I would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ADJOURN

Charles Marquardt: We need a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Brian Dempsey and seconded by Mark Rainis. **Vote: All. Motion carried.**

Next Meeting will be held on:

January 2,2024 following the Reorganization Meeting which will be held at 7:30 pm.

Respectively Submitted:

**Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer**

Girardville Borough Reorganization and Monthly Council Meeting for General Purposes

AGENDA: January 02nd, 2024

1. Administer the oath of office to all newly elected Borough Mayor/officials.
2. Call to Order The Honorable Judith Mehlbaum, Mayor
3. Pledge/Roll call
4. Open floor for nominations.
 - a. Nomination opened for Council President
 - b. Nominations opened for Vice-President
 - c. Nomination for Secretary/Treasurer
 - d. Nomination for Borough Solicitor
 - e. Nomination for Chairman of the Vacancy Board
 - f. Nomination for Bank Depository for (Mid Penn Bank)
 - g. Nominations for Code Enforcement Officer
 - h. Nomination for Permit Officer
 - i. Nomination for Engineer (usually Entech)
 - j. Nomination for Sewer Enforcement Officer (Larson Design Group Usually)
 - k. Nomination for Environmental Certifying officer-usually Council President
 - l. Nomination for outside permit enforcement (Building Inspections Underwriters, Inc)
 - m. Nomination for the Tax Collection Committee
 - n. Nomination for Right to Know Officer
5. Organization of Committees
6. Permission to pay all bills as submitted and due.
7. A motion to close the Reorganization Meeting.
8. **Open floor for Public Comment on the Agenda for Regular Council Meeting Only.**
9. Approval of Reports (as available)
 - a. Minutes
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - c. Permit Officer's report (if available)
 - d. Code Enforcement officer's report (if available)

e. Tax Collector report (if available)

10. Review and authorization to pay bills.

11. Unfinished Business : NONE

12. New Business

- a. Resolution 01-02-2024-1- Appoint Mid Penn Bank as Depository
- b. Resolution-01-02- 2024-2 - Signers for Bank
- c. Resolution 01-02-2024-3 - Service Electric Franchise
- d. GAMA Positions

13. Correspondence- Letters, Flyers and Magazines

14. Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor

15. Open floor to public comment.

16. Motion to adjourn

17. **Next Meeting: February 14th, 2024**

BOROUGH OF GIRARDVILLE
201 NORTH FOURTH STREET
GIRARDVILLE, PA 17935
PHONE: (570) 276-1635 FAX (570) 276-1640 e-mail: borohall@ptd.net
"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Regular Meeting

PLACE: Municipal Bldg. DATE: December 19, 2024 TIME: 7:30 PM

OPEN MEETING

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by President of Council Charles Marquardt.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Brian Dempsey, David Willis, Tammy Zangari, Mayor Michael Zangari, President Charles Marquardt, Solicitor Arlen Day and Josephine Heffner.

Members Absent: Joseph Kessler

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:

Nothing

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Minutes: Motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting made by Tammy Zangari, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's report: Motion to accept the report made by Tammy Zangari, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

Tax Collector's report: Motion to accept the report and pay the Tax Collector made by Brian Dempsey, Seconded by Tammy Zangari.
Vote. All. Motion Carried.

Mayor's report: Mayor Michael Zangari — Said the State Police were down yesterday. I'm working with the Crime Division. They collected all the evidence out of our evidence locker from Girardville. It was all transported back to PSP barracks in Frackville, where they are logging it into their system. We will get a receipt from PSP on every piece of evidence that was removed from this building. We have not yet received that, they are still processing it. So at this point the Police Station is no longer a Police Station. It will be devoted to the Code Officer. If you had anything taken from the Girardville Police Department that was yours, you can contact PSP in Frackville and speak to them. Please do not call Borough Hall, Myself, or any member of

Council. There's nothing we can do for you at this point. In that aspect, there's a process PSP has. If you had a firearm removed from you, to obtain it back. So everything will go through them when it comes to anything like that.

Motion to accept the report as read made by Brian Dempsey, Seconded by David Willis. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

Code Enforcement report: We received a letter of Resignation from Bill Killian effective December 31st, 2024. **Charlie** — Said first we need a motion to accept the report as submitted. Motion to accept the report as submitted made by Tammy Zangari, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

Charlie — Said second we need a motion to accept Bill Killian's Resignation effective December 31st, 2024. Motion made by David Willis, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

Permit Officer's report:

None — No UCC Permits issued for the month.

Charlie — Bills.

Mayor — Before Charlie reads it out. You folks that have a copy, there's a Green's Communication for a radio removed from the police car bill for \$120. The Borough paid that, but that bill needs to be sent to Girard Hose Company and the Borough will get reimbursed for that. Right now it looks like a bill. We will get reimbursed hopefully by next month.

BILLS:

Motion to approve the bill list as submitted and read was made by Tammy Zangari, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Charlie — We have the GAMA Board Position. We received one letter. Michael said, Charlie we did. **Mayor Michael**, You appointed her last month. **Charlie** — We did?

Tammy — hmm

Mayor Michael — hmm

Arlen — Why don't you talk about it?

Mayor Michael — You were suppose to about how she's a sitting position.

Arlen — Right

Charlie — Okay, she's a sitting position. It's an appointed position. It doesn't have to be advertised.

Mayor Michael — There were questions about it last month, because Julie was appointed and the position wasn't advertised.

Charlie — So now we're ready tonight and she took the position and it didn't have to be advertised.

Mayor Michael — Thanks Charlie.

Charlie — You're welcome Michael.

(Council and Solicitor laughing)

Charlie — Next there's a Solicitor Position. We did interviews. Charlie said, Michael I don't know do you want to read this for us?

Michael — Sure, The proposal for tonight is from Shane Hobbs. The rate is \$2500 retainer fee, which would cover all of our meetings. Attendance for approximately 2 hours and all 12 Regular Meetings, and he will be available by phone for all our Work Sessions. The hourly rate is \$100 an hour. The \$2500 starts at the beginning of the calendar year.

Charlie — We need a motion to appoint Shane Hobbs as the new Solicitor for 2025. Motion made by David Willis, Seconded by Tammy Zangari.

Arlen — Said and, and to approve me?

Charlie — OH yes, yes and our current Solicitor is going to continue to work with him on any unfinished stuff that has to be done. Until everything is cleared up and they both are working together now on issues. Motion on the floor. Brian Dempsey made the motion, Seconded by Tammy Zangari. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

Budget

Charlie — Said Tammy, Do you want to read the budget? **Tammy** — Asked Arlen, Do you want me to just read out the numbers? Arlen said pardon me, Tammy said, Do you just want me to read out the numbers? Arlen said yeah, go ahead. **Tammy** — The Annual Budget report is, Total Revenues is \$423,080.00 and Total Expenditures is \$423,780.00. **Arlen** — Said you need a vote. **Charlie** — Yeah, we need a motion and we need to do it by a roll call vote. **Arlen** — You need a motion and a second. **Charlie** — Yeah, I know. **Arlen** — Said I didn't mean to rush you (Council and Solicitor laughing). **Tammy** — Said we're open for that. **Charlie** — Said we're not open for that (Council and Solicitor laughing). **Charlie** — We need a motion on what Tammy read out for the Proposed Budget. Motion made by Brian Dempsey, Seconded by David Willis. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.** **Charlie** — Said now we have to do a roll call vote on the Budget. Charlie said Brian, then he said go ahead Jo call them out. Jo said roll call? Charlie said yes. **Jo** — Joseph Kessler absent, Brian Dempsey—Yes, David Willis—Yes, Tammy Zangari—Yes, Mayor Michael Zangari. President Charles Marquardt—Yes, Solicitor Arlen said, you don't have to call me. Jo said okay. Charlie said, The Budget for 2025 will be as read.

NEW BUSINESS:

Charlie — Next under New Business is

1. Ordinance Number 12-19-2024-1 New Tax Rate for 2025. **Arlen** said, it's increasing the taxrate from 22.7 Mills to 25.7 Mills. It results in an increase of \$2.50 per \$100. Which equates to \$225.70 per 1000 of assessed property values. **Charlie** — Okay, we need a motion to accept the New Tax Rate at 25.7 Mills. Motion made by David Willis, Seconded by Brian Dempsey.

Vote. All. Motion Carried. **Charlie** — We need a roll call again. **Jo** — Said okay. Brian Dempsey —Yes, Joseph Kessler— absent, David Willis—Yes, Tammy Zangari —Yes, Mayor Michael Zangari, Charles Marquardt —Yes, Solicitor Arlen Day. **Arlen** — Said you're not to call me. **Jo** — Said okay. Charlie asked Arlen, Should I go down to the Resolutions? Arlen said huh? No, go ahead and just do them in order. We'll do the other ones down the end there.

2. **Charlie** — Next we have the list of Meetings and Work Sessions for 2025. They are going to stay the same. The Council Meetings will be held the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM, and the Work Sessions will be the Sunday before at 6 PM. We need a motion for the

Council Meetings and Work Sessions for 2025. Motion made by Tammy Zangari. Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

3. Charlie — Next we have to approve the list of Pay Dates for 2025, which they will stay the same every 2 weeks. We need a motion for that. Motion made by Tammy Zangari, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.** (Arlen is asking Charlie and Jo something about Resolutions five and six. Can't hear what he's saying. Jo said yes to Arlen).

4. Charlie — Next on the agenda, we have to approve the list of Helping Harvest dates for 2025. Charlie started reading the dates. Michael interrupted and said Charlie, can't you just post the dates? Arlen said yes, just post it. Charlie said I'll just post the dates out there on the bulletin board.

5. Charlie — Okay, the printer is next. David, you want to take the printer? **David Willis** — Said okay. So we have been spending money because we have been running out of toner through the current printer. For as many papers we print, because we, Jo had emails sent out. We're going through a crazy amount on printing supplies. I have met with somebody from Edward's and they are who handles the libraries in the area like Ashland and everything like that and there's is. For a new machine, they will handle all labor for it. Handle all maintenance for it, and the toner. The only thing we would have to supply ourselves is the paper that we will be printing on for the new printer, and then to set up the software and as well being on call on any problems with the printer. \$240 a month, I believe that is less than what we are spending on toner right now for a machine. they will handle all labor for it. Handle all maintenance for it. And the toner, the only thing we would have to supply. Ourselves is the paper that we will be printing on for the new preprinter. And then to set up the software and I'm call on any problems with the sad printer \$240 a month. I believe that is less than what we are spending on toner right now for a device that is capable of doing what we needed to do. That quote is subject to change at any point if we would need more paper or I'm sorry if we need more copies printed around the holidays is a good example, for hanging Christmas Decorations or anything on the polls. Printing more than we would the rest of the year off that quote. With that being said, we are working on getting emails for ourselves, so that should bring our printing down, which would bring the cost down. But I'm looking at soliciting that we go through with this lease. So that we're not spending as much on toner and that we don't have to. We make 80,000 copies a year. I was shocked when they printed the report out. 80,000 copies is (Tammy is saying something. Can't hear what she's saying) ludacris. I could not believe it and we need to step into the digital age. Like I said, once we step into the digital age and get the email and everything forwarded to us that quote will go down from the \$240, but the \$240 is what we are doing right now. I would like a motion to order it. **Charlie** — Motion on the floor. Motion made by Brian Dempsey, Seconded by Tammy Zangari. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.** **Charlie** — So that will be for Edward's Business System and the cost would be \$240 a month.

6. Charlie — Next on the agenda, we had discussions on these Games of Chances and it is going to be tabled right now. We are still investigating that's insisting of the skilled games and

business and stuff like that. Other Municipalities do have these Ordinances. So we are looking at other ordinances to see if we can comply with them and possibly do something too.

David Willis — Charlie, every Borough in our area are getting \$200 or \$300 per machine and that would help us financially and entirely as a Borough. There are some places in this town that has up to 10 machines. That's a significant chunk of change that we can be using to fund this town and take some of the financial burden off our constituents.

Arlen — Just on that note. Currently, there is a Borough that's about to adopt rates for jukeboxes, which would include any kind of music machine \$50 per device per year, mechanical amusement devices and dart boards and things like that. A \$100 per device per calendar year, but the actual skill games where you're in there, but not really gambling, but they don't consider it gambling. You're in there trying to make money. They would be a \$1000 per device per year. I know a \$1000 per year. Lier might sound like a lot, but if you knew how much money those machines were making it's a rigidence. So that's just one nearby Borough that plans to do that, so

Mayor Michael — It should be known that non-profit entities would be exempt from those permit costs.

John Smolock — from the audience said such as.

David — The Legion

Mayor Michael — Yes.

Charlie — Okay we'll have more of a discussion on that at the following meeting.

7. Charlie — Next on the agenda is the St. Patrick's Day Parade, which we have to meet with the Parade Committee and go over some details and stuff and see exactly where we are going with this. We don't know any, We have a bunch of Council people here who have issues and concerns. We need to work these things out and see what's going to happen. So by next meeting we should have a Work Session with the Parade Committee. Go over and see what's going to happen and we'll get back at the next meeting with an answer on it.**David** — It's important to be known to the public that we don't have police here in town anymore. There are jurisdiction issues and the Sheriff's Office won't be available that day to give us coverage for a parade or the block party over on Beech Street.

BettyAnn Bernoski — It's a concern.

Charlie — Okay next are Resolutions.

8. Charlie — First we have a Resolution 12-19-2024-1 Fire Chief Agreement.

Arlen — This is Annual Agreement for Girardville Fire chief runs from December 31st to be renewed annually. \$500 to be paid at the end of the year

Charlie — We need a motion for Resolution 12-19-2024-1, 2025 Fire Chief's Agreement. Motion made by David Willis, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

9. Charlie — Next is Resolution 12-19-2024-2 Appoint Auditor

Arlen — 12-19-2024-2 is the fiscal year to appoint the auditor and appointment again is will be the same as last year L. Sam Deegan.

Charlie — We need a motion to appoint L. Sam Deegan are auditor. Motion made by Tammy Zangari, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

10. Charlie — Next Resolution 12-19-24-3 Appoint Financial Institution.

Arlen — This is Resolution appointing Mid Penn Bank as the depository for the Borough for the year 2025. Tammy Zangari said I'll make a motion, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All.**

Motion Carried. Charlie — Now, before I go any further on the bank checking accounts and stuff like that, Councilman Kessler had asked to be removed from it and we need a motion here to appoint Tammy Zangari on the checking for the Borough. **Arlen**, it would be signatory.

Charlie — I'm sorry to be signatory on that. David Willis made the motion, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

11. Charlie — Next is Resolution 12-19-2024-4 Appoint Engineering Firm.

Arlen — This is a Resolution appointing Entech Engineering as the Engineering Firm for Girardville Borough for the year 2025.

Charlie — We need a motion to appoint Entech Engineering. Motion made by David Willis, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

12. Charlie — Next is Resolution 12-19-2024-5 Demolition 324 and 326 West Ogden Street.

Arlen — This is a Resolution for Demolition of 324 and 326 West Ogden Street done through the County, and the cost is \$67,700.

Charlie — We need a motion to approve the Resolution for the Demolition of 324 and 326 West Ogden street. Wait, someone from the audience has a question.

Virginia McMonegal — When is that stated to be done?

Charlie — It's not stated yet. It's still going through with the commissioners and all.

Virginia McMonegal — Okay, I guess we'd talk to Mike Soucheck and we noticed that the door was open next to us. That vacant home, he said the County was in there. But the door is still open and that's not good. The inside door is opened and it needs to be closed.

Charlie — We own that now.

Virginia McMonegal — I didn't want to go up and shut it, Charlie.

Charlie — We will go and secure the building tomorrow (Friday, December 20th, 2024).

Virginia and Mouse McMonegal — Okay, Thank you.

Mouse McMonegal — 324 that still has the power on and the roofs in. **Virginia** — Fell in. **Mouse** — Fell in.

Charlie — The power is still hooked up at 324? **Mouse and Virginia** — Yeah. **Mayor Michael** — I will put a call in tomorrow (Friday, December 20th 2024) as well. **Mouse** — yeah, okay. **Charlie** — Okay **Charlie** — How about 326 is the power off in there? **Mouse and Virginia** — That's pulled, yeah. **Charlie** — Okay. **Mouse** — Now I have one more thing. I have a wall. **David** — Mouse can I bug you to stand at the podium and announce your name so the recorder catches your name and records it.

David — You don't have to stand at the podium. Stand next to it to get the formality. **Mouse** — No, it's Okay(people are laughing). Mouse state your address. **Mouse** — Wait till I get up here. Hi, how are you doing? What I wanted to ask you about is that I have a wall. My retaining wall is holding the back of that house up. It's crushing it and now it's all cracked up and everything from holding the back of that house up. Now, am I responsible or who is responsible for that? Because once they crush that building that's going to come out. **Arlen and Charlie** — Let's check into that for sure. **Arlen** — Yeah, check into that. **Charlie** — Let me find out for sure Mouse.

It's holding it up. **David** — Did you check with your insurance? **Mouse** — No. **David** — Just out of curiosity, **Virginia** — I'll tell you what we really don't want to bring our insurance into it. **David** — No I don't blame you. **Virginia**—2 vacant houses on each side of us, they might drop us. **David** — I totally get it. **Charlie** — Okay. Thank you Patrick. **David** — Thank you, Mouse.

13. Charlie — Next is Resolution 12-19-2024-6 Demolition of 24 East Ogden Street. **Arlen** — Did you vote on it? **Mayor** — Yeah, you already voted on it. **Arlen** — Not this one, the one before it. This is a Resolution approving the Demolition of 24 East Ogden Street by the County for a cost of \$77,500.. **Mayor** — The reason why that cost is so high is because there is no foundation between that and the occupied structure aside of it. So they have to put a foundation in. **Charlie** — That's why we want to find out if they checked that and it was in the bid. **Mouse and Virginia** — No one came on our back porch. **Charlie** — We'll find out. **Mouse** — No one came on our back porch. **Virginia** — No one came on our side. **Charlie**— Okay. **David** — Mouse could you guys send the pictures to us? **Mouse and Virginia** — Yes, sure. **David** — That would be great. **David** — If you could wait until the end of the meeting we'll give you the email address where you can ship them right , the one before it. **Arlen** — This is a Resolution approving the Demolition of 24 East Ogden Street by the County for a cost of \$77,500. **Mayor Michael** — The reason why that cost is so high is because there is no foundation between that and the occupied structure aside of it. So they have to put a foundation in. **Charlie** — That's why we want to find out if they checked that and it was in the bids. **Mouse and Virginia** — No one came on our back porch. **Charlie** — We'll find out. **Mouse** — No one came on our back porch. **Virginia** — No one came on our side. **Charlie** — Okay. **David** — Mouse could you guys send the pictures to us? **Mouse and Virginia** — Yes, sure. **David** — That would be great. If you could wait until the end of the meeting will give you the email address where you can ship them right over to the secretary. **Mouse and Virginia** — Yeah. **David** — Sounds good. **Mouse and Virginia** — Okay, yeah. **Charlie** — Okay, We need a motion for that. Motion made by **Tammy Zangari**, Seconded by, **Brian Dempsey**. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

14. Charlie — Next Resolution 12-19-2024-7 Demolition, 20 East Preston Avenue.

Arlen — This is a Resolution for the Demolition 420 East Preston Avenue by the County on a cost of \$28,500.

Charlie — We need a motion for the Demolition at 20 East Preston Avenue.

Tammy made the motion, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

Arlen — When the County does it, it doesn't mean Girardville hands them \$77,500. The County puts a lien on the property and if the property is sold, it has to be sold at Fair Market Value. It doesn't have to be sold at \$77,500 it just has to be sold at Fair Market Value. The Fair Market Value obtained from it does go back to the County.

Virginia — yeah, OK.

Charlie — We were also told that anybody interested in purchasing properties would have to get the appraisal done and pay for the appraisal. The Borough does not do that, pay for the appraisal.

Virginia — Right

Charlie — Anybody after property next to them or wherever, they would have to get the appraisal done to get the fair market value. It's roughly around \$400.

Virginia — Yeah

15. **Charlie** — Next Resolution 12-19-2024-8 Line of Credit

Arlen — This is to get the Tax Anticipation Note in the amount of \$40,000 and it's for the year 2025 and it's through Mid Penn Bank. The loan amount is \$40,000. The rate is quoted at 75% of Wall Street Journal Prime Rate. Interest only on money on mounted advanced principle due maturity and we do have the Proposal from Mid Penn Bank which is attached to the Resolution that would be accepted and we have the Tax Anticipation Note also attached as an Exhibit as well as the Certification of Taxes to be collected in 2025, which is \$423,080.

Charlie — Okay, that we need a motion to approve Resolution 12-19-2024-8 Line of Credit. Motion made by Tammy Zangari, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

Arlen — The Proposal \$40,000 at the prime rate 7.6 currently at 7.75, but it's quoting at 75% Wall Street Journal Prime. We need to approve the Proposal. Tammy made the motion, Seconded by David Willis. **Arlen** — Also a motion for the Anticipation Note itself. **Charlie** — We need a motion for the Anticipation Note. Motion made by Brian Dempsey, Seconded by Tammy Zangari. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

16. Land Bank Tammy, We will not be renewing with the Land Bank in 2025. Tammy read the letter that is going to be sent to the Land Bank. **Charlie** — North Schuylkill School isn't in it.

Arlen — North Schuylkill School isn't in it there's no reason for you to be in it. **Tammy**, Said right. **Charlie** — We need a motion to send the letter to the Land Bank. Will remain by David Willis Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

17. We have the Code Enforcement Officer position. Michael asked Charlie, did he want him to do it? Charlie said yep. **Michael** — We had multiple candidates. We did interviews the other Sunday for 6 hours. It was the recommendation of Council and Code Committee that Nicholas Haslen be put into the position of Code Enforcement Officer. He has a contract and the contract is for \$1,000 a month for 25 hours. How that breaks down is outside of that 25 hours, he's required to be at every Work Session. He's available 24/7 for emergencies, excluding holidays. Or vacations, but we'll know ahead of time. He will be set up when you call the Code Officer. It will go directly to his cell phone whatever you need. Part of his responsibilities, he has 24 hours to respond to a code complaint. This is how his job description and agreement is set up with us. He has 24 hours to respond to a code complaint, excluding holidays. He must respond back to the person who made the complaint with what's going on with the issue, If there's citations filed or if nothing's found. Whatever the case may be, if you don't submit it anonymously. Of course, if you've sent it anonymously, I'm gonna say there's no way to send it back to you. We will be working on him to bring it up a little bit so we can do things by email where the things that are a little bit more streamlined. Part of his recommendation, trial is he will obtain the permit officer's position. So we thank Jean Ann for her years, but that position will be added to his past. The agreement with us is for one calendar year. Then we can assess it from there without going into great detail. We have a pretty good description from him that we signed an agreement. If he does not fulfill his duties, then we'll be able to go back and save it. Okay, you're not doing your job. It's pretty black & white, you're right. He seems very, very eager to help us. He currently works at 7 other municipalities in school of county. One of which is fractal, which is locally. If

he's a younger guy who brings some good ideas. I won't speak for everyone but I was quite impressed with him. I think he will be a good fit. So that's our recommendation, if anyone from council has anything to add, then we need to hire him as of January 1st. **Charlie** – We need a motion to hire Nicholas Hanslen as the new code enforcement officer effectively January 1st and permanent officer effectively January 1st 2025.

Tammy Zangari made a motion, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

18. Charlie- Next is the Code Officer Aide. Michael again. We had multiple candidates interview. The one that stuck out the most with myself and the council was Janet Perez. She is a retired New York Police Officer who brings a lot of experience. She is bilingual, fluent in Spanish in different dialogues and in English. Her talents will be used for I'm sure for more than just code work. I feel she's going to be a good fit. If Council agrees, I'd like to appoint her Code Enforcement Officer Aid starting January 1st, it should be noted that if in fact we do tax on the skilled games that part of that responsibility would fall to her, which would upset the cost to that position, someone from the audience, asking a question.

Right? Our primary concern is Quality of Life citations. She'll follow the same policy that Nick will. So, if there's a complaint for Quality of Life it's the same response time all that will be uniformed. She'll work with Nick in that aspect. So we need a motion for that to appoint her for Code Enforcement Officer Aid effectively January 1st 2025. Motion made by Tammy Zangari, Seconded by David Willis. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

David — I just want to point out too, the Aid position is strictly an aid position, so we're not tying up the Code Enforcement Officer Nick Hanslen who has bigger fish to fry. There's houses falling down and everything like that. This is more for small things like overgrown grass, not that they're not a problem, but obviously they are a problem, but we should use the experienced person for the rest of the living in their hands and take on the bigger issues. Someone from the audience asked what is the salary on that? **David-** a grand a month. The person from the audience said what's that? **David** – a grand month. **Mayor** – said no David. **David-** Oh **Mayor** – The Code Enforcement Lady Position is 15 hours a week. No more than 30 a pay period and is \$15 an hour. That individual will be required to clock in and out like everyone else. Nick's is a contract. Just so the public is aware part of Nick's agreement is we have to get we're going to get a comprehensive report every month with a breakdown of those 25 hours were spent. So he has to provide us with pretty much documentation. So we're not going to deal with no reports that we don't know what's going on. That's over. They are also going to use Nick's experience to revamp on how we handle rental properties in this town. Because obvious it's an issue. So we are going to use his experience to see what we can do better and make sure inspections are taking place and everything like that.

Charlie – Okay, so it's \$15 an hour and no more than 30 hours pay period. Tammy Zangari made the motion, Seconded by David Willis. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

19. Secretary/Treasurer David can I do Secretary/Treasurer? **Charlie**– Yeah. **Arlen** – go ahead. **David**–So we met with several candidates for the secretary-treasurer position. None of our candidates had experience as municipal secretary. We do have a secretary candidate who is used to working with laws and regulations with her previous job history and we look that as a benefit. Other things can be taught, such as Quickbooks, Excel and everything like that. There's

courses all over the place and there are other options that we can explore for that, but it's my recommendation for the Council that we employ Harley Ingersoll. She's here from town for our Borough Secretary position, I think she's going to be a great fit. I think she has tons of computer experience. I think her experience in the field she worked in prior to this is going to be great for customer service. I think she'll be great for the constituents. I think it's going to be a great fit for all of us as well.

Charlie – you heard the motion by David Willis. Tammy Zangari seconded. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.** A female from the audience said David salary. **David** – Okay, so what we're going to do is Jo is going to stay here for 2 weeks. That's what the ideal plan is to train her. Jo will be receiving a 50 Cent raise at that time. During the 90 day probation period for a secretary the secretary will be receiving \$15 an hour for that probation period. That is, after that probation period. Oh I'm sorry \$15.50 after that probation period it goes up to **Michael**– It can **David** – it can go up depending on experience and how it's working out \$18. So that's the game plan. The better that Harley works with us. The more she's working. It's as simple as that with any of our jobs. Harley's actually in the room. She's right there in the yellow shirt, if you want to say hello, she's going to be a familiar face in here anyway.

Charlie – Okay, We need a motion. Tammy Zangari said I'll make the motion, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.** **Charlie** – On that note our current secretary/treasurer is retiring at the end of the month, but she's willing to stay on to assist Harley getting set up and if anything is needed she's a phone call away. **Charlie** – Said congratulations Harley. **Mayor** – 2 things tied with the secretary one is business hours at the Borough Hall will be altered slightly. The new schedule will be 7 AM to 3:30 PM with lunch from 12 PM to 12:30 PM where the office will be closed. So the public is aware and that be posted and become effective January 2nd. Also, I'm requesting from Council that we make a motion, if we need Josephine to fill in if Harley is off for a period for vacation or something that we can bring Josephine in per diem rate. That the rate she's making to fill in if she's available. That way, we can keep the office open when she's on vacation. **Charlie** – We need a motion then to hire Josephine on as a per diem as needed in the event that Harley is out of the office for vacation, sick, or whatever. **Arlen** – I want it as part of my recommendation that its more than one day that she's out. **Charlie**– Right

Tammy – Right

Charlie – More than one day.

Tammy made the motion, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

20. Street Departments Uniforms David Willis – When I came into Council. I was discussing with our Street Worker's. Our street workers have to wear reflective clothing. They're out on the street. It's just common safety practices. With that being said, they were paying for those reflected jackets out of their own pocket. They were getting a paycheck from us, and paying for their own reflective jackets that be required for them to work on the street. So part of the increase in budget is the fact that we are going to have to budget. What's \$60 a month? Jo 65. **David**–\$65 a month to make sure our workers are safe and it's just a liability issue, and there's no reason why they should be paying for that out of their own pocket. **Arlen** – you need a motion. **Charlie** – We need a motion supplying and paying for the Street Departments Uniforms. Tammy Zangari made the motion, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.**

part of his contract. So, if anybody has any issues or any questions you want to ask the Code Enforcement Officer you're more than welcome to. I'd love to see you guys here. Work Sessions are in the office and we're talking about moving them in here. That way, if anyone comes, there will be more space than we're not all cramped up in an office. That way, you guys come with pictures next round for the Code Enforcement Officer then come to the Work Session and you won't have to stand at the podium (Mouse and Virginia laughing) **Mouse** – is that what you have to do? **Charlie** – That was set in stone. You have to stand at the podium.

Charlie – Then I'll make a motion to adjourn. Tammy Zangari made the motion, Seconded by Brian Dempsey. **Vote. All. Motion Carried.** **Charlie** – Everybody have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!! Audience, you too. **Tammy Zangari** –Thank you.

Next Meeting Wednesday January 8th, 2025 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Josephine Heffner
Secretary/Treasurer

GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

MEETING AGENDA: January 8, 2025

ROLE CALL

1. Open Floor for Public Comment on Agenda
2. **Approval of Reports (as available)**
 - a. Minutes
 - b. Treasurer's Report.
 - c. Tax Collector's Reports and motion to pay the Tax Collector
 - d. Mayor's Report
 - e. Code Officer's Report
 - f. Permit Report
 - g. Fire Chief's Report
3. Review and authorization to pay bills.
4. **Unfinished Business:**
 1. Games of Chance
 2. St Patrick's Day Parade – will not be occurring.
5. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 1. New Borough Emails
 2. Ordinances
 - a. Skill Games
 - b. Non-Owner-Occupied Registration
 - c. Dumpsters
 - d. Vacant property registrations
6. Letters, Flyers and Magazines.
 - 1) Reports of Committees, Council Members and Solicitor
 - 2) Open Floor to Public Comment
 - 3) Motion to adjourn.
 - 4) Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 12th, 2025