

**MOUNTVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
November 13, 2023**

A meeting of the Mountville Borough Council was held on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 1900 hrs. in the Mountville Borough Hall at 21 E. Main Street, Mountville, PA 17554.

The following Council members were present:

- Matt Auker, Theresa Baker, Christine Eshleman, Jonah Eastep, Lenny Heisey, Phil Kresge, Rick Spiegel, and Mayor Steve Mitchell.
- Also, present were West Hempfield Township Police Chief Lisa Layden, Mountville Fire Co #1 Chief Dean Gantz, Jr., and Borough Manager Derrick Millhouse.

The meeting was called to order at 1900 hrs. by Council President P. Kresge who then gave an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Kresge addressed the visitors in the room. He advised them of the public comment sections of the meeting, and if anyone wished to be heard during those times, they could stand, state their name, and address, and then address the Council.

Agenda Additions

- None.

Public Comment

- Claudia Shank, an attorney representing F.O.S. Properties, commented that she is present to make sure the closure of the Spring Street rail crossing would not affect the operation of Field of Screams.

Recognition of Visitors

- Norfolk Southern – Alex Ricci from Norfolk Southern was present in case Council had any further questions about the closure of the Spring Street rail crossing. He also notified Council they would now receive \$30,000.00 in incentives if the crossing is closed, which is an increase from the \$17,500.00 previously reported. Alex provided an explanation of how and where the physical barrier would be placed and addressed the concerns of Ms. Shank regarding the parking lot entrance to F.O.S.

Meeting Minutes and Financial Reports

- *R. Spiegel moved to accept the minutes of the October 23, 2023, meeting as distributed.* C. Eshleman seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.
- *C. Eshleman moved to accept the financial reports and fund distributions as presented.* R. Spiegel seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.

Public Safety – Police/Fire

Chairperson – R. Spiegel

- Chairperson Spiegel recognized WHTPD Chief L. Layden who reviewed the report for the previous month.

- Chairperson Spiegel recognized Mountville Fire Co #1 Chief D. Gantz who presented the monthly report that was distributed to Council earlier.
 - The fund drive has raised just over \$38,600.00 so far.
 - There are repairs needed for the generator. This generator is also used for EMA purposes for the Borough. Chief Gantz is requesting assistance with the repair invoice.
 - *R. Speigel moved to split the repair costs with the fire department at an approximate cost of \$1,000.00.* C. Eshleman seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.

Public Safety – Planning/Zoning

Chairperson – L. Heisey

- Chairperson Heisey reported that 2 permits were issued for this reporting period:

○ #2348	31 College Ave.	Exterior deck roof	\$ 364.90
○ #2349	28 Froelich Ave.	Exterior deck roof	\$ 407.50

Public Safety – Health/Sanitation

Chairperson – T. Baker

- No report.

General Government - Personnel

Chairperson – P. Kresge

- We still need to find a replacement for our representative to the UCC appeals board for the LIMC. D. Millhouse is currently in contact with a potential appointee.
- We received 38 resumes for the Administrative Assistant position. The Personnel Committee met and agreed to interview nine candidates for the position. Of the nine, only four candidates agreed to an interview. The interviews are scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2023. A recommendation will be made at the December meeting.

General Government - Budget

Chairperson – C. Eshleman

- The final draft of the 2024 Budget was distributed to Council for discussion. The budget was advertised as required.
 - *C. Eshleman moved to accept the 2024 budget as presented. J. Eastep seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.*

General Government – Public Outreach

Chairperson – P. Kresge

- No Report.

General Government – Building Committee

Chairperson – P. Kresge

- No report.

Public Works – Streets

Chairperson – Matthew T. Auker

- The Main and Manor project for signal lights.
 - Close to completion. The concrete work is still under construction.
- Huntington Drive/Providence Place and Lemon Street repaving projects:
 - The new curbing is complete. The area still needs backfilled, which should be completed any day.
- Spring Street – Ordinance #306 to close the Spring Street railroad crossing
 - *M. Auker moved to approve Mountville Borough Ordinance #306, Closing the Spring Street Railroad Crossing.* C. Eshleman seconded the motion. Council voted 5 votes in favor (Auker, Baker, Eshleman, Kresge, Speigle) and 2 votes against (Eastep and Heisey) the ordinance, and the motion carried.
- Street Sweeping
 - Street sweeping will occur in Summit Hills only on December 4, 2023. This is a trial cleaning to make sure the company we plan to hire do sweeping in the future is cleaning to the satisfaction of Council.

Public Works - Parks and Recreation

Chairperson – Jonah M. Eastep

- No report.

Engineer's Report –

- No report.

Manager's Report –

- LASA Dinner meeting is at the end of the month. Remember to RSVP on or before the 15th.

Mayor's Report –

- The Mayor reported that former the crossing guards, fire company and manager Millhouse assisted with Halloween and everything went well. Many residents commented positively on the presence.

Unfinished Business

- None.

New Business

- TextMyGov
 - There was money allocated in the 2024 budget to implement this program in 2024. We need to sign the agreement to get started on the service, so we can have it operational in early 2024.
 - *C. Eshleman moved to purchase a two-year agreement with TextMyGov at a total cost of \$4,500.00 over the two-year period.* R. Speigel seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.
- Auditor
 - There were two local firms solicited to become the next Borough Auditor. The Manager met with the two firms and gathered proposals from each. Both proposals were nearly identical, and the Manager would be comfortable working with either firm. The firms and proposals are as follows:
 - Bertz/Hess – Lancaster - \$12,500.00 for 2023
 - White/Rudy - Elizabethtown - \$ 9,500.00 for 2023

- C. Eshleman moved to hire White/Rudy to perform the Mountville Borough 2023 audit at a cost of \$9,500.00. M. Auken seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.

Public Comment

- None.

Miscellaneous

- The Council acknowledged approval for a time extension from Dayspring Christian Academy.
- R. Speigel moved to cancel the November 27, 2023, Borough Council meeting. M. Auken seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2118 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,



Derrick J. Millhouse
Manager/Treasurer

Gallery:

David Nagel-Nunez
Gary Lawrence – Norfolk Southern
Alexander Ricci – Norfolk Southern
Claudia Shank
Karl Smith
Kasey Tritch – Lancaster News
Abigail Williams