

MINUTES

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 3, 2023
7:00PM Council Meeting**

THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1. Call to Order by presiding officer
Moment of silence, Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call (if quorum is not present, the meeting shall thereupon be Adjourned to a specific date by the majority vote of those present)
3. Review and approval of agenda.
4. Election of Officers
5. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Agenda Items
6. Approval of the preceding meeting minutes if correct and rectifying mistakes if any exist.
7. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
8. Old Business
9. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
10. New Business
11. Added Items
12. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items
13. Adjournment

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDING OFFICER: Council President Teresa Troiani

ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)

<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS & MAYOR</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
TROIANI	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>			
LEARN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Chief of Police	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
JARRETT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Solicitor	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
LEWIS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Engineer	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
MOCCIA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	DPW Foreman	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
TALANCA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Reporter(s)	<u>Susan Schwartz (PE)</u>	
WOZNIAK	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Fire Chief	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
MAYOR BURKE	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>			
DAMIEN SCOBLINK, MANAGER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>			

COUNCIL MET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2022, TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONEL

ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Talanca

ITEM 4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

1. Nominations for Council President

Discussion: Councilperson Jarrett nominated Councilperson Learn to serve as Council President

2. Consider and take action to elect Mr. Nelson Learn as Berwick Borough Council President.

Discussion: It was noted that, since 2018, an effort has been made to change Council President annually, to keep one person from being in the seat too long.

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Talanca Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, Councilperson Learn named Council President.

3. Nominations for Council Vice President

Discussion: Councilperson Jarrett nominated Councilperson Talanca to serve as Council Vice President

4. Consider and take action to elect Mr. Pete Talanca as Berwick Borough Council Vice President

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Learn Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, Councilperson Talanca named Council Vice President

***Councilperson Learn assumed the Council President seat at this point of the meeting.8**

ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items

- Richard Bardo - Borough Manager read previously submitted statement, noting his opinion on the removal of Eagle Hose Company from the Berwick Fire Department.

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETINGS

- Regular Council Meeting of December 19, 2022.

Discussion - None

Motion: Ms. Troiani Second: Mr. Moccia

All in favor, minutes approved.

ITEM 7. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. Around the Table - None

ITEM 8. OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 9. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

None

ITEM 10. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and take action to approve payment of first \$750,000 of 2023 general fund payroll and health insurance bills to be paid utilizing CLFRF funds.

Discussion: Multiple Councilpersons around the table noted that this seems like a good move for taxpayers.

Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Ms. Troiani Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to accept proposal from Eagle Truck Equipment, Inc., in the amount of \$91,377, for upfitting of recycling truck.

Discussion: Borough Manager noted that this would be for a second recycling truck, to be paid in part by state recycling grant.

Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Mr. Lewis Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

3. Consider and take action to accept recommendation of the Berwick Fire Department Fire Board to remove Eagle Hose Company No. 2 from the Berwick Fire Department, including removal of all financial support, and prohibit it from participating in any fire department activities within the Borough of Berwick, effective immediately.

Discussion: From the attending public, Mr. Andrew Shecktor noted that any Councilpersons who were also members of the Fire Department should recuse themselves, due to financial gains of

other stations, should Eagle Hose Company be removed. Multiple Councilpersons noted the inaccuracy of this argument.

Motion: Mr. Lewis Second: Mr. Jarrett Approved,
Denied, Tabled

Motion approved via 6-1 vote in favor. Voting in favor were Councilpersons Learn, Talanca, Jarrett, Lewis, Moccia, and Troiani. Voting in opposition was Councilperson Wozniak.

ITEM 11. ADDED ITEMS

None

ITEM 12. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items

- Fire Chief Gene Boone - Made statement on the state of the Berwick Fire Department.
- Steven Evans - Noted he felt there were inaccurate parts of Fire Chief Boone's portrayal of events.
- Fred Gause - Noted he felt that loss of Eagle Hose Company was harsh for the community.

ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Mr. Lewis

Meeting Adjourned