

Oklahoma Borough Meeting
March 10th, 2025 – 7:00 pm
Oklahoma Borough Building

Meeting called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance by President Joe Cali.

Roll call taken: Present: President Joe Cali, Vice President Adam Lockhart, Councilman Chuck Blair, Councilman Chris Glavan, Councilman John Knittel, Mayor Amy Blair, Solicitor Tim Miller, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Brenda Troup, Jessica Brett from L.S.S.E and Secretary Alecia Sherbondy.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

1. Application for consideration of subdivision and consolidation of 1456 Hancock Avenue and vacant lot.
2. The consideration to adopt Resolution 1 of 2025 to establish a fee schedule regarding Ordinance 2 of 2024, known as the Oklahoma Borough Street Opening Ordinance.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to accept the above two agenda amendments. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VISITORS: Todd Sherbondy, Cedric Stopansky, John Walsh, Thomas Libengood, Joyce Spillers and Renee Lubik – observe

MINUTES: Motion made by Mr. Knittel to adopt the minutes from the February Council Meeting. Second by Mr. Glavan. Motion carried.

SOLICITORS REPORT: An updated letter was sent to 2Krew regarding the damaged sewer lateral.

The solicitor has not received a response after multiple attempts to contact the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. Mr. Miller believes the council has done everything that needs to be done for the adoption and enforcement of the UCC.

The Supreme Court will make a decision by the end of the month regarding agenda amendments. Mr. Miller hopes to provide clarification at the April meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to approve the solicitor's report. Second by Mr. Blair. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: A monthly report was provided to Council and the Mayor.

LSSE received the LSA Grant for park paving. LSSE will begin the design.

The standing water near the park entrance was tested on February 18th, 2025. Results appear to show mine drainage and grey water. Manganese, aluminum and iron testing will be done by LSSE.

LSSE has surveys scheduled for the 2025 sanitary sewer repairs to begin the week of March 10th, 2025. Once the survey is complete, LSSE will begin to work on specs and plans.

LSSE will provide an Opinion of Probable Cost to the borough to separate the sanitary sewer improvements for the park from the 2025 sanitary sewer repairs. LSSE recommends authorization to prepare specifications and plans for the sanitary sewer park improvements.

An Opinion of Probable Cost for improvement items within the park for potential use in grant application was provided.

LSSE has begun the review of the Sanitary Sewer Lateral Standards and will provide recommended changes.

Motion made by Mr. Glavan to approve the engineer's report. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The O.V.F.D. will be hosting a Fish Fry from Ash Wednesday through Good Friday. Additional information will be posted on the borough website.

The deadline for the REAL ID is May 7th. There is an information pamphlet on the counter if interested.

The Property Tax Rent Rebate Program is available online with a deadline of June 30th. Representative Cooper is willing to provide assistance if needed.

Information on several upcoming events being held by State Representative, Jill Cooper, was provided.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the mayor's report. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

ZONING/ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Copies of the report were provided to Council and Mayor.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the zoning/code enforcement report. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The borough's annual audit has been completed. Copies were given to the Finance Committee and President of Council.

The Secretary would like to have DKS Pest Control spray the borough office and pavilion for insects.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to approve the Secretary's report. Second by Mr. Glavan. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The bank reconciliation for the period ending 2/28/2025 is as follows:

General Fund - \$192,193.12

Sewer Fund - \$364,093.13

Liquid Fuels - \$19,023.79

Special Road Fund - \$230,516.85

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the Treasurer's report. Second by Mr. Blair. Motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT: The amount of taxes deposited in the month of February:

Wage - \$15,755.76

Motion made by Mr. Glavan to approve the Tax Collector's report. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

READING OF THE BILLS: Copies of the check registers were provided to the Council and the Mayor.

Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to approve the bills. Second by Mr. Glavan. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: The 2025 Liquid Fuels Allocation was received in the amount of \$20,595.33.

The Westmoreland County Borough's Association Annual Banquet invitation was received. The banquet will take place on April 25th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

STREETS/SEWERS/SOLID WASTE: None.

FINANCE: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION: The committee plans to hold off on the DCNR grant.

The grant for sewer projects must be used by the end of 2026. In addition, Mr. Blair is reviewing a small water and sewer grant opportunity for \$30,000 to \$500,000. A 15% match would be required.

PUBLIC SAFETY/STREET LIGHTS AND ORDINANCES: The meeting to review the information regarding the recodification from American Legal has been rescheduled.

HUMAN RESOURCES: None.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT: Mr. Lockhart requested input from the Solicitor and Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer regarding a tree located on private property impeding the use of the fire hydrant on Elm Street. The contractor for the Walsh family stated that the tree in question is scheduled to be removed within the next week or two.

There are two additional fire hydrants that do not use the current standard for hose connections and would require an adapter which slows the process of connection when responding to a fire call. Mr. Lockhart would like to contact the M.A.W.C. and request that these hydrants be replaced.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: There are some long pipes laying in front of where the Tin Hut was located. President Cali asked the Secretary to contact PennDot to see if the debris can be removed. If PennDot is not willing to help the maintenance employee will be asked to remove it on clean-up day.

There are two stop signs missing and one is located on the wrong side of the street.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Blair is waiting for a revised quote for lawn care. Quotes will be presented at the April meeting.

Mr. Blair spoke to the PA Department of Transportation regarding the borough's current ordinance for restricting traffic on Hancock and Orr Avenue and weight limit signs. After speaking with a representative of PennDot Mr. Blair stated that the ordinance is unenforceable. PennDot does not have a traffic study on file pertaining to the use of the weight limit signs. The Solicitor would need to research to provide further clarification on this matter.

Mr. Blair contacted the three residents that received letters from the Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer to let them know that if they choose to park their tractor trailer truck within the borough that it would be permitted.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion made by Mr. Blair to have LSSE bid sewer repairs and dye testing in the park using grant money. Second by Mr. Glavan. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to have LSSE prepare a bid package for the 2025 Paving Project which shall include paving Pine Street from Middle Street to Hancock Avenue, Hickory Street from Hancock Avenue to Thorn Street and 1500 square feet of topcoat/pole hole repair in areas on Vista Drive and Thorn Street. Second by Mr. Blair. Motion carried.

Mr. Lockhart requests that LSSE investigate the damage done by the M.A.W.C. to Sycamore Street to determine whether or not it will need to be added to the 2025 Paving Project.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to have DKS Pest Control spray the park pavilion and borough office. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Glavan to approve the application received for the subdivision and consolidation of 1456 Hancock Avenue and the vacant lot. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

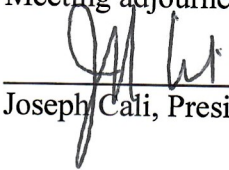
Motion made by Mr. Blair to adopt Resolution 1 of 2025 establishing fees for the Street Opening Ordinance with a \$300 filing fee per opening plus actual costs incurred by the Borough, including third party inspections. Restoration inspection at the cost of \$80 per hour. The sum of \$1000 shall be required and be held in an escrow account. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Todd Sherbondy requests that the information provided by LSSE regarding the sewer lateral replacement be incorporated with the recodification. The previous information is outdated.

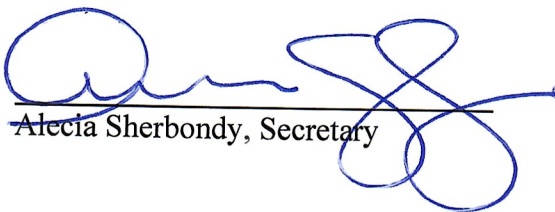
Mr. Walsh thanked the Council and Mayor for approving his application to consolidate his two properties to build a new home after he lost his previous home to a fire.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Glavan. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.



Joseph Cali, President



Alecia Sherbondy, Secretary

