

**MINUTES
NORTH EAST BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Monthly Meeting
January 6, 2025**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Amber Belson, President
Ryan McGregor, Vice President
Todd Luke, President Pro Tem
Nancy Anderson
Heather Jones
Bill Beardsley

OTHERS PRESENT: Bobbi Jo Morey, Mayor
Patrick Gehrlein, Borough Manager
Dan Miller, Solicitor, via phone
Rebecca Bliss, Administrative Assistant
Sean Lam, Police Chief
Julio Pazmino, Waste Water Supervisor
Tyler Simmer, Water Supervisor
Wayne Yokom, Streets Supervisor
Jennifer Seigworth
David Hirtzel
Ray Schaff
Paul Crowe
Jacob Jones

The regular monthly meeting of North East Borough Council will be held Monday, January 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER:

Borough Council President A. Belson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INVOCATION:

B. Beardsley offered the invocation.

MINUTES:

B. Beardsley motioned to approve the December 2, 2024, minutes as presented. T. Luke seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Nancy Anderson | <u>Yes</u> | Todd Luke | <u>Yes</u> |
| Amber Belson | <u>Yes</u> | Heather Jones | <u>Yes</u> |
| Ryan McGregor | <u>Yes</u> | Bill Beardsley | <u>Yes</u> |

H. Jones motioned to approve the December 16, 2024, minutes as presented. B. Beardsley seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Nancy Anderson | <u>Yes</u> | Todd Luke | <u>Yes</u> |
| Amber Belson | <u>Yes</u> | Heather Jones | <u>Yes</u> |
| Ryan McGregor | <u>Yes</u> | Bill Beardsley | <u>Yes</u> |

EXPENSE REPORT:

T. Luke motioned to approve the Expense Approval Report as presented. R. McGregor seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Nancy Anderson | <u>Yes</u> | Todd Luke | <u>Yes</u> |
| Amber Belson | <u>Yes</u> | Heather Jones | <u>Yes</u> |
| Ryan McGregor | <u>Yes</u> | Bill Beardsley | <u>Yes</u> |

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

There were no Citizens to be Heard.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICERS:

A. Belson stated that there has been some recent confusion about the future of the Senior Center and wanted to offer clarification. She stated that the current lease with GECAC has expired, and while the Borough is interested in expanding the use of the building as a community center, they are not going to be evicting the seniors in the process. She stated that discussions will be on-going regarding the use of a shared space for community use, and that a letter of lease termination needs to be sent to GECAC to begin the official process. H. Jones motioned to send a letter of lease termination to GECAC. T. Luke seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Nancy Anderson | <u>Yes</u> | Todd Luke | <u>Yes</u> |
| Amber Belson | <u>Yes</u> | Heather Jones | <u>Yes</u> |
| Ryan McGregor | <u>Yes</u> | Bill Beardsley | <u>Yes</u> |

REPORTS FROM APPOINTED OFFICERS:

P. Gehrlein gave a recap of the recent DEP-issued boil advisory that occurred December 20-26, 2024. He stated that the precautionary boil advisory was implemented by the PA DEP following their inspection of the water filtration plant, during which they found several small tears on the cover of the finish water reservoir which could cause "potential contamination." He stated that repairs were made to the cover on December 23, 2024, a new cover has been purchased, the water was drained from the reservoir, and seventy (70) water samples during that time frame were all clear, showing no signs of contamination. He thanked the community for their understanding and the water department for their hard work over the holiday.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

There were no Reports from Standing Committees.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

There were no Reports from Special Committees.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 01062025-1: Main Street Matters Application 1

P. Gehrlein stated that Resolution 01062025-1: Main Street Matters Application 1 is a duplication of a previously approved resolution with additional information regarding the comprehensive downtown business planning grant under the Blueprint for Progress Initiative. B. Beardsley motioned to approve Resolution 01062025-1: Main Street Matters Application 1 as presented. H. Jones seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Nancy Anderson | <u>Yes</u> | Todd Luke | <u>Yes</u> |
| Amber Belson | <u>Yes</u> | Heather Jones | <u>Yes</u> |
| Ryan McGregor | <u>Yes</u> | Bill Beardsley | <u>Yes</u> |

Resolution 01062025-2: Main Street Matters Application 2

P. Gehrlein stated that Resolution 01062025-2: Main Street Matters Application 2 is a duplication of a previously approved resolution with additional information regarding the commercial building façade grants under the Renew North East Initiative. B. Beardsley motioned to approve Resolution 01062025-2: Main Street Matters Application 2 as presented. T. Luke seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Nancy Anderson | <u>Yes</u> | Todd Luke | <u>Yes</u> |
| Amber Belson | <u>Yes</u> | Heather Jones | <u>Yes</u> |
| Ryan McGregor | <u>Yes</u> | Bill Beardsley | <u>Yes</u> |

Advanced Life Support (ALS) Provider Discussion/ Resolution 01062025-3: Borough Designation of ALS Provider

H. Jones stated that the “nearest available” designation is not an option and that the Borough must name a specific ALS provider. She stated that naming East Erie County Emergency EMS as the ALS Provider will not cost the Borough anything unless they request a seat on their board of directors. R. Schaff stated that Crescent Hose covers the cost for ALS services. H. Jones stated that the North East Township will also need to approve East Erie County Emergency EMS as the ALS provider, as North East is one community. H. Jones motioned to approve Resolution 01062025-3: Borough Designation of ALS Provider: East Erie County Emergency EMS as presented. T. Luke seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Nancy Anderson | <u>Yes</u> | Todd Luke | <u>Yes</u> |
| Amber Belson | <u>Yes</u> | Heather Jones | <u>Yes</u> |
| Ryan McGregor | <u>Yes</u> | Bill Beardsley | <u>Yes</u> |

Second Monthly Meeting – January 20, 2025, if needed

P. Gehrlein stated that there will not be a second monthly meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Police Chief Report
- Departmental Report
- Commissions and Authorities

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Belson stated that there will be a College Pond Trails and Recreation Master Plan Public Meeting on January 14, 2025, at 2pm and 6pm at Mellon Heritage Foundation to provide community members an opportunity to learn about the project, ask questions, and voice their opinions.

N. Anderson stated her appreciation for T. Simmer and the Water Department, stating that she never had any doubts about the quality of the water they were providing to residents and their commitment to the job.

N. Anderson also thanked W. Yokom and the Streets Department for going above and beyond in the garbage collection, as she often sees the employees picking up trash from the berm that has blown around.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:26 p.m. H. Jones motioned to adjourn. B. Beardsley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Rebecca Bliss (January 7, 2025)

Patrick Gehrlein, Borough Manager