

PORTAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL AGENDA
April 21, 2025 Monday
Regular Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Roll call and Pledge of Allegiance.

2. REPORTS

a. Borough Manager
b. Solicitor

c. Engineer
d. Police Chief

e. Public Works Director

3. CITIZENS INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

A period of not more than five (5) minutes will be allowed per visitor.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Shady Lane Mobile Home Park.

Johnstown, Pennsylvania - Cambria County's America250PA Observances

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes of the March 17, 2025 regular meeting.

MOTION: That the minutes of the regular council meeting on March 17, 2025 be approved as presented.

Moved_____ Seconded_____ Aff_____ Nay_____ Abs:_____

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurers Report:

Tax Collector-Real Estate	\$21,104.55	Local Enabling Tax	\$
Miscellaneous	\$3,659.52	Permits/Licenses/Cable	\$65.00
Fines, Forfeitures	\$812.90	Intergovernmental	\$
Charge for Services	\$	Sanitation	\$19,216.66
Total Revenue:		\$43,458.23	

MOTION: That the Treasurer's report be approved as presented.

Moved_____ Seconded_____ Aff_____ Nay_____ Abs:_____

7. REPORTS:

Portage Public Library.

MOTION: That the report from the Portage Public Library be approved as presented.

Moved_____ Seconded_____ Aff_____ Nay_____ Abs:_____

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Update on the Parks and Recreation Director position . Mr. Scarton was given the applicants' resumes to review.
- B. Update on Borough Building roof - this was covered in Attorney Emerick's March 3, 2025 report.
- C. Update on 2021 PennDot MTF grant for Phase 5 Sidewalk Replacement awarded - A revised budget was sent to Mike Bowser and waiting on an agreement from PennDot. A walkthrough was done on February 28, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.
- D. Update on the Sonman Ave Bridge 12 Year Plan-survey submitted - the Planning Commission is reviewing the project. No update.
- E. Update on 2023 CFA MTF Phase 4 lighting grant awarded. Engineering and design phase.
- F. Updated on 2023 PennDot MTF Grant for Phase 5 Sidewalk Lighting - A revised budget was sent to Mike Bowser and is waiting on an agreement from PennDot. Engineering and design phase.
- G. Update on Portage Municipal Authority regarding hydrant fees and maintenance - being handled by Attorney Emerick. Meeting was held with representatives of the Authority on March 27th @ 5:30 p.m.
- H. Update on the Waterline Project for the Portage Municipal Authority. A request was received from the PUC regarding any objections to this. The deadline for this is April 17, 2025
- I. Update on LSA Grant for license readers for the Police Department - waiting to hear on funding, which could take up to a year. Has been submitted.
- J. Update on No Left Turns proposed ordinance - Brian Shura to confirm next step.
- K. Variance request from ordinance 2-2021 from Portage Public Library regarding fence placement.
- L. Review of the Water Authority's recently passed rules and regulations regarding meter pit installation. Council received a packet at the March 17th meeting regarding this.
- M. Continue discussion regarding tractor trailers going down South Railroad Street and trying to make a left turn onto Blair Avenue, as this is causing damage to yards and other property.

II. BUILDINGS

- A. Update on 933 Sonman Avenue (Mark Greenwalt) - no update
- B. Update on 406 Caldwell Ave (Barclay/Ford) -Civil action being taken.
- C. Update on 909/911 Jefferson Avenue (Nicholson). The property owner is taking action through the Court of Appeals. Attorney Emerick is handling this.

- D. Update on 718 Prospect (Sims) - Attorney Emerick contacted the Assessment office and this property is still in Sims' name. Attorney Emerick stated that it can take up to several months before a property listing is changed. Attorney Emerick is going to contact the Recorder's office.
- E. Update on 705 Cambria Street (Ingleton) - Eric from Brickley Construction secured the loose sheeting on the roof. A lien will be placed on this property.
- F. Update on 1304 Caldwell Avenue (Plummer/STR Land) - We are waiting for the deed. The property owner stated that he will make repairs in the springtime. Mr. Koban spoke with the property owner and did not hear back from him. Council has agreed to let LMIA handle this. Mr. Koban stated that he was unable to make contact with the property owner. A complaint was filed and LMIA did an on-site inspection and contacted the property owner regarding the violations.
- G. Update on 803 Cambria Street (McCarter) - covered on LMIA's report and they are waiting for springtime for property owners to react.
- H. Update on 817/819 Jefferson Avenue (Plummer) submitted to LMIA. Waiting for springtime.
- J. Update on 730 Sherman (Plummer) submitted to LMIA. Not able to make contact with the property owner. A letter was sent with no response. The next step is to file charges at the magistrate.
- K. Update on 808 Sherman Street (Sekerak) - Turned over to LMIA, who will speak with her as soon as the weather breaks. Claims she does not have the financing available.
- L. Update on 519 Orchard Street (Owens) - Turned over to LMIA. They were to inspect the interior and exterior of this property. They will file charges with the magistrate if the repairs and cleanup have not been done.

III. BILLS TO BE PAID

Ms. Holland presented a listing of bills to be paid, which were distributed prior to the meeting.

MOTION: To approve the list of bills to be paid and additional bills to be paid, as written by Ms. Holland, in the amount of \$38,164.28. **hydrants in the amount of \$9181.00 are NOT included in this number and will NOT be paid.

Moved _____ Seconded _____ Aff ____ Nay ____ Abs: _____

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review and approval to advertise a proposed ordinance amendment for no left-hand turns.
Moved _____ Seconded _____ Aff ____ Nay ____ Abs: _____
2. Perry Scarton is requesting a donation towards the paving project at the park, to include budgeted and unbudgeted funds in the amount of \$20,000.

Moved _____ Seconded _____ Aff _____ Nay _____ Abs: _____

3. 1st Summit Bank presentation on police pension plan.
4. Project ideas to apply for Act 13 funding.
5. A discussion will be held with Mr. Shura, the Borough's engineer, regarding signage placement and restricting streets due to the damage that is being caused by trucks that are too large to fit through there, and see what our options are.

GOOD OF THE BOROUGH:

Forest Hills Ambulance Service has offered us the opportunity to take a CPR class. They have waived the fee so there is no cost, and they will come to us.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved _____ Seconded _____ Aff _____ Nay _____ Abs: _____

Adjourned at _____ PM