

**BOROUGH OF DARBY
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
December 20, 2023**

The Darby Borough Council met in Borough Council Chambers on the above date with the following members present: President Rudolph Taylor, III, Vice President Tracy Williams, Ms. Hill, Ms. Davis, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Pratt. Also present was Borough Manager Mark Possenti, Police Chief Joseph Gabe, Borough Solicitor Charles Gibbs & Borough Engineer Eileen Mulvena. Mayor Darren Burrell, Mrs. Rozeta Johnston and Mrs. Jennifer Parks were absent.

President Taylor called the meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m. followed by Roll Call.

Pledge of Allegiance

Paul K. Johnson from the gaming department in Delaware County presented the Darby Borough Police Department with a check in the amount of \$2,500.00.

Judge Grimes swore in new Corporals Anthony Salvatore, Joseph O'Donnell, III, Thomas Takacs and Derrick Raymond.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Leatha Hawkins – Walker, 1315 Edgehill Road: Discussed with Council the free services she offers providing life insurance.

Deborah James, 604 Pine Street: Thanked the Council President and Vice-President for helping her with a situation on MacDade Blvd. Stated that speeding on MacDade Blvd. needs to be addressed.

Elaine Beckford, 624 Cedar: Asked if the Police Department can address the parking of Commercial Vehicles at 7th and Cedar.

NRO's

Nickole Roberts, 861 Main Street to have a Community Meet up business for podcasts, small gatherings, meetings, studio and photography. It will be Sunday thru Saturday 12:00pm to 12:00am. Motion made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mr. Thompson to approve. Motion carries 7-0.

Christine Noisette, 1017 Tyler Avenue to do wholesale on Amazon from Monday thru Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm. Motion to approve made by Mrs. Pratt; 2nd by Ms. Hill. Motion carries 7-0.

ENGINEERS'S REPORT:

Council recessed the Borough Meeting to open the CDBG Public Hearing. CDBG Discussion. CDBG Hearing was Closed.

Council Meeting was reconvened.

Motion to approve Resolution 23-17 for Council President to sign the Sidewalk Maintenance Agreement with PennDOT made by Ms. Hill; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt. Motion carries 7-0.

Motion to approve funding for the reconstruction of the cul de sac and milling and resurfacing of the remaining portion of the roadway and construction of curb cut ramps of N. 2nd Street and the other project to make the corner of Ridge and MacDade a passive park for the CDBG Application made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Ms. Hill. Motion carries 7-0.

See Attached.

Approval of November 15, 2023 – Council Meeting Minutes, Engineers, Library, Ordinance/Zoning, Finance, Municipal Services, Public Safety, Community Relations and the Recreation Center Reports and Minutes:

Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Williams to approve the minutes & report. Motion carries 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Paid Bills – December 2023:** Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Williams to pay the bills for the month of December 2023. Motion carries 7-0.
- b. **Approval of Handicap Parking Spaces:** Motion to approve 326 Moore Street, 1108 Lawrence Avenue and 317 South 7th Street made by Ms. Hill; 2nd by Mrs. Williams. Motion carries 7-0.
- c. **Motion to override Mayor's veto for Ordinance #807 (Events Permit):** Motion to override Mayor's veto made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt. ROLL CALL Motion carries 7-0.
- d. **Motion to approve Ordinance #809 (Council & Mayor Stipend Increase):** Motion to approve Ordinance #809 made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt. Motion carries 7-0.
- e. **Motion to approve Resolution 23-16 (Tax Collector Salary Increase):** Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt to approve Resolution 23-16. Motion carries 7-0.
- f. **Approval of Public Works Contract 2024-2026:** Motion to approve the Public Works contract made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mrs. Williams. Motion carries 7-0.
- g. **Permission to Advertise Re-Organization Meeting:** Motion to advertise made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt. Motion carries 7-0.
- h. **Permission to Advertise the 2024 Public Meeting Schedule:** Motion to advertise made by Ms. Hill; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt. Motion carries 7-0.
- i. **Approval of the 2024 Final Budget:** Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Williams to approve the 2024 Budget. Motion carries 7-0.
- j. **Ordinance #808 (2024 Tax Levy):** Motion made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mrs. Williams to approve Ordinance #808. Motion carries 7-0.

- k. Motion made Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mr. Pratt to hire Cornealler Burton as a crossing guard. Motion carries 7-0.
- l. Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt to hire Alhaji Marah as a crossing guard. Motion carries 7-0.
- m. Motion made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mrs. Williams to hire Gerald Stevenson as a turnkey. Motion carries 7-0.
- n. Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt to approve the contract agreement with the Delaware County FOP Lodge 27 until 2029. Motion carries 7-0.

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS:

- a. Fire Chiefs Report: See attached.
- b. Tax Collectors Report: See attached. Motion to transfer \$23,359.08 from the Tax Fund to the Sewer Fund made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt. Motion carries 7-0.
- c. Solicitors Report: Motion made by Ms. Hill; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt to authorize the Borough Manager to negotiate a settlement for 1000 Main Street with a private owner. Motion carries 7-0.
- d. Police Chiefs Report: Chief Gabe gave the monthly crime report.
- e. Managers Report: No Report

Motion to accept the Fire Chief, Tax Collector, Police Chief and Managers Reports made by Ms. Hill; 2nd by Mrs. Williams. Motion carries 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Hill; 2nd by Mrs. Pratt. Motion carries 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Possenti
Manager/Secretary
Borough of Darby

MEMORANDUM

CIVIL COLLABORATIVE CONCEPTS, LLC

2205 Parkview Drive
Haverford, PA 19041
(610) 496-0042

DATE: 13 December 2023
TO: Darby Borough Council
FROM: Eileen W. Mulvena, P.E.
RE: Engineer's Report Thru December 13, 2023

Current Month Activity:

Ordinary Street and Sewer Maintenance

Gargiule has completed the final restoration of 6th/Cedar following the sanitary sewer system repairs.

Liquid Fuels

An ordinance must be passed by Borough Council that has the Borough adopt Londonderry Lane, Coventry Avenue, Shetland Road, and Glen Cove Road. If the Borough adopts these streets, then they can receive additional liquid fuels funds for the mileage of these streets.

Grants

PennDOT Pedestrian Improvements on Main St. at 5th and 6th: Council's payment to CSX and execution of agreement between CSX and the Borough has completed the outstanding issues. Please forward the agreement and payment to CSX if these have not been sent. **PennDOT requires a Resolution appointing the Council President as having the authority to execute the sidewalk maintenance agreement.**

PECO Open Space grant: a grant application was submitted on November 10, 2023 for passive recreation furniture in the open space area on the north side of 7th St.

2023 Local Shares Statewide Grant: An application was submitted on November 30, 2023 grant funding to accomplish sanitary sewer improvements on N. 3rd St. up to the maximum grant funding amount of \$1,000,000.

Delco Greenways Grant Round 1: A meeting was held with the County to discuss next steps. We are working to review the requirements for this grant to determine the Borough's next actions. This is for the acquisition of multiple properties abutting Cobbs Creek.

Delco Greenways Grant Round 3: The Borough is handling the acquisition of the properties known as 28/30 S. 5th St.

Delco Greenways Grant Round 4: A grant application for the construction of a playground for children 5-12 years of age on the lots known as 28/30 S. 5th St. was submitted to the County on September 29, 2023.

2023 Community Project Fund Grant: A grant application was submitted on March 20 to US Representative Mary Gay Scanlon's office and it covered the replacement of the sanitary sewer main and street laterals on Fern St. between 4th Street and Damon's Lane.

CFA Local Share Grant (Statewide): Eagle Contracting is working on N. 2nd St. to replace the sanitary sewer main and street laterals. It is noted the street condition is very poor at the lower end at the terminus of the roadway. It is likely the subgrade has been affected by the many years of groundwater saturation due from rain events. This roadway will require some reconstruction following this improvement project. I am recommending the Borough request CDBG funding for the road reconstruction and milling and resurfacing of the rest of N. 2nd St, as well as the construction of 20 curb cut ramps. I recommend we request that any remaining grant funds from the CFA LSA grant also be used to supplement the cost for the street related work. We can revisit this in the spring following the completion of the sewer work.

2021 CDBG/2018 PA Small Water and Sewer Grant: The contractor work on 13th St. has been completed. Once a copy of canceled checks is submitted to the state, the projects will be closed.

2022 CDBG: The Borough attended the project kickoff meeting hosted by the County on July 20, 2022. Note that the funding received leaves approximately a 50% shortfall; the Borough has applied for a PA Small Water & Sewer grant to cover the balance of funds needed.

2023 CDBG: The Borough has received notice that both applications for the 2023 CDBG program were approved for funding by County Council. The Priority project was Sanitary Sewer Improvements to 12th St; the alternate project was storm sewer improvements on New Walnut St.

2024 CDBG: Two projects are able to be submitted. A recommendation is to request grant funding for the reconstruction of the cul de sac, 875SY, of N. 2nd St. and the milling and resurfacing of the remaining portion of the roadway, 4200SY, and the construction of 20 PENNDOT-compliant curb cut ramps. The grant request will be \$229,375. The Borough's portion whether using LF and/or the remainder of the 2022 LSA grant funds is estimated at approximately \$100,000.

2022 PA Small Water and Sewer Grant – This application was submitted on 12/21/22. This application requested the additional funds needed for 14th St, funding for N. 2nd St sanitary sewer replacement, and partial funding of 12th Street sanitary sewer improvements.

Blight Remediation Grant: The demolition and site restorations have been completed for 304 Marks Ave. and 621 Main St. We have requested the remaining funds be permitted for the remediation of 129/131/133 Whitely Terrace. This request is being considered at the Commonwealth Financing Authority's March Board meeting. Additional funds in the amount of \$100,000 are required in order to complete this effort. Property owners should be asked if they have homeowner's insurance. Otherwise, we need to identify a funding source. If these properties are not remediated, they will cause the remaining homes in this attached dwelling block to begin deteriorating.

MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System): The annual report was submitted by 9/30/22.

Stormwater Tip: **Why are real Christmas trees better than artificial ones?**

First off, artificial trees are made from plastic and metal. Intensive carbon emissions are given off during the production of artificial trees. Real trees have no carbon emissions. And what's more, once all the festivities are done, these trees can be recycled and given a second life. Most states have organizations that use these donated Christmas trees for conservation and habitat projects in their local communities. Meanwhile, artificial trees are usually not recyclable and often end up filling our landfills.

November Chief's Report

Dear Mr. Mayor and Borough Council members,

During the month of November, the company responded to 86 calls for service. There were 3 house fires in Darby in November.

11/8 – 200 Block of Marks Ave, fire located in the living room. Under control in 15 minutes

11/10 – 200 Block of N. MacDade Blvd, fire located in the 2 floor apartment. Under control in 40 minutes

11/23 – Unit Block of Mill St, fire located in the door frame of the garage and a vehicle out front. Under control in 15 minutes.

*****FUTURE EVENTS*****

Santa will be escorted around Darby on 12/16 starting at 6:30pm. Please listen for the sirens to see the big guy!

Be Safe and Stay Healthy!

Vincent Lanni

Fire Chief

Darby Fire Co. #1

December 20, 2023

Tax Collector's Report:

1- Real Estate Tax Collected for the month of November 2023:
\$48,084.97

2- Fire Tax Collected for the month of November 2023:
\$1,227.07

3- Library Tax Collected for the month of November 2023:
\$614.94

Total Collected in Taxes for the Month of November 2023: \$49,926.98

1- Sewer Fees Collected for the month of November 2023:
\$23,359.08

2- Trash Fees Collected for the month of November 2023:
\$18,683.50

Total Collected in Fees for the Month of November 2023: \$42,042.58

MOTION NEEDED:

Motion to transfer \$23,359.08 from the Tax Fund to the Sewer Fund. OT, LP 7-0

Tax Collector's Monthly Report to Taxing Districts

For the month of

November 2023

Darby Borough

A: COLLECTIONS	REAL ESTATE		INTERIM		PER CAPITA		OTHER	
1. Balance Collectable- Beginning of Month	<i>Real Estate</i>	859,886.71	<i>Fine</i>	21,942.53	<i>Literary</i>	10,995.55		
2A: Additions: During the Month *								
2B: Deductions: Credits During the Month (Line 17)								
3: Total Collectable		859,886.71		21,942.53		10,995.55		
4: Less Face Collections for the Month		43,713.57		1,115.50		558.97		
5: Less Deletions from the List *								
6: Less: Exonerations *								
7: Less: Liens/ Non-Lienable Installments *								
8: Balance Collectable - End of Month		816,173.14		20,827.03		10,436.58		
B: RECONCILIATION OF CASH COLLECTED								
9: Face Amount of Collections - must agree with line 4		43,713.57		1,115.50		558.97		
10: Plus: Penalties		4,371.40		111.57		55.97		
11: Less: Discounts								
12: Total Cash Collected per Column		48,084.97		1,227.07		614.94		
13: Total Cash Collected - (12A+12B+12C+12D)								49,926.98

* Attach any supporting Documentation Required by your Taxing District

Tax Collector's Monthly Report to Taxing Districts

For the month of

November 2023

Darby Borough

A: COLLECTIONS	REAL ESTATE	INTERIM	PER CAPITA	OTHER
	<i>Sever</i>	<i>Trade</i>		
1. Balance Collectable- Beginning of Month	528,389.02	306,915.00		
2A: Additions: During the Month *				
2B: Deductions: Credits During the Month (Line 17)				
3: Total Collectable	528,389.02	306,915.00		
4: Less Face Collections for the Month	21,235.51	16,985.00		
5: Less Deletions from the List *				
6: Less: Exonerations *				
7: Less: Liens/ Non-Lienable Installments *				
8: Balance Collectable - End of Month	507,153.51	289,930.00		
B: RECONCILIATION OF CASH COLLECTED				
9: Face Amount of Collections - must agree with line 4	21,235.51	16,985.00		
10: Plus: Penalties	2,123.57	1,698.50		
11: Less: Discounts				
12: Total Cash Collected per Column	23,359.08	18,683.50		
13: Total Cash Collected - (12A+12B+12C+12D)				42,042.58

* Attach any supporting Documentation Required by your Taxing District

