

BOROUGH OF DARBY
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
January 15, 2025

The Darby Borough Council met in Borough Council Chambers on the above date with the following members present: President Lucille Pratt, Vice President Darlene Hill, Tracy Holmes-Williams, Alfred Robinson, Janice Davis, Omar Thompson, Cheryl Butts & Edna Stockley. Also present was Mayor Burrell, Borough Manager Mark Possenti, Chief Joseph Gabe, Solicitor Charles Gibbs. Jennifer Parks & Borough Engineer Mulvena were absent.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Burrell swore in Full Time Patrol Officers Constance Finney & Ryan Millay.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Verona Coleman, 1005 Mulberry Street: Concerns regarding the fence behind 1020 Cedar Avenue.

Motion made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mr. Robinson for the Borough Manager & Solicitor to begin the legal process at 1020 Cedar Avenue regarding the safety of the fence. Motion carries 8-0.

ENGINEERS'S REPORT:

See Attached.

Motion to extend the Ordinary Street and Sewer Maintenance Contracts for a 3-month period made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Mrs. Williams. Motion carries 8-0.

Motion for the Borough Engineer to prepare and advertise the bids for the 2023 CDBG projects made by Mrs. Williams; 2nd by Mr. Thompson. Motion carries 8-0.

Motion for the Borough Engineer to prepare and advertise the bids for the 2024 CDBG projects made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mrs. Williams. Motion carries 8-0.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor stated Borough Offices will be closed on Monday, January 20th due to Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday. He explained there will be an expungement clinic on Monday.

Approval of December 18, 2024 – Council Meeting Minutes, Engineer's & Mayors, Reports made by Mr. Robinson; 2nd by Mrs. Williams. Motion carries 8-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Paid Bills – January 2025:** Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Ms. Hill to pay the bills for the month of January 2025. Motion carries 8-0.
- b. **Motion to authorize the Borough Manager to submit the 2025-26 Road Salt Contract Information:** Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Ms. Hill to approve. Motion carries 8-0.

- c. **Motion to approve 314 Moore Street and 1352 Wycombe Avenue for Handicap Parking:** Motion made by Ms. Butts; 2nd by Mr. Thompson to approve the handicap parking spaces. Motion carries 8-0.
- d. **Motion to appoint Betty Ann Cuff as an Alternate Member to the Zoning Hearing Board:** Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Ms. Davis to approve. Motion carries 8-0.
- i. **Motion to approve the Solicitor to prepare and advertise an Ordinance condemning the property at 1025 Ridge Avenue:** Motion made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mr. Robinson to approve. Motion carries 8-0.
- j. **Permission to advertise a Special Meeting:** Motion made by Ms. Butts; 2nd by Mrs. Williams to advertise a special meeting on February 5, 2025 at 7:00pm. Motion carries 8-0.

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS:

- a. Fire Chiefs Report: See attached.
- b. Tax Collectors Report: See attached. Motion to transfer \$30,776.08 from the Tax Fund to the Sewer Fund made by Ms. Davis; 2nd by Mr. Thompson. Motion carries 8-0.
- c. Solicitors Report: Motion made by Ms. Stockley; 2nd by Mrs. Williams to accept the proposal of \$25,000 from Kenneth and Adam Johnson for 1000 Main Street. ROLL CALL. Motion fails 6-2. Mr. Robinson, Ms. Davis, Mrs. Pratt, Ms. Hill, Mr. Thompson & Ms. Butts voted No. Motion made by Mr. Thompson; 2nd by Ms. Davis to accept the proposal of \$8,000 from G.O.G Liberation for 1000 Main Street. ROLL CALL. Motion carries 7-1. Ms. Stockley voted No.
- d. Police Chiefs Report: See attached. Motion made by Ms. Stockley; 2nd by Ms. Davis to accept the resignation of James Pisani effective 12/31/2024. Motion carries 8-0.
- e. Managers Report: Motion to authorize David Damon to prepare the plans and draw a plot plan for 1025/1027 Ridge Avenue not to exceed \$10,500 made by Ms. Hill; 2nd by Ms. Davis. Motion carries 8-0.

Motion to accept the Fire Chief, Tax Collector, Police Chief and Managers Reports made by Ms. Butts; 2nd by Ms. Davis. Motion carries 8-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Butts; 2nd by Ms. Hill. Motion carries 8-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Possenti
 Manager/Secretary
 Borough of Darby

MEMORANDUM

CIVIL COLLABORATIVE CONCEPTS, LLC

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

DATE: 8 January 2025
TO: Darby Borough Council
FROM: Eileen W. Mulvena, P.E.
RE: Engineer's Report Thru January 7, 2025

Current Month Activity:

Ordinary Street and Sewer Maintenance

Ordinary Street and Sewer Maintenance contracts expired at the end of the year (although there is the opportunity to extend for 3 months).

Motion: extend the contracts for a 3-month period

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

COVID 19 ARPA Capital Projects Fund Multipurpose Community Facilities Program – the grant awards were announced and the Borough was not successful in receiving a grant. Three awards were made in Delaware County and one was the Darby Library.

Delaware County Blight Remediation –. A grant application was prepared and submitted for the demolition of 225 N. 10th St and for the stabilization of the properties on either side. These funds will supplement the remaining funds from the Borough's state Blight Remediation grant. We have advised the County we wish this application be considered by County Council for funding.

CFA 2022 Local Share Grant (Statewide): Eagle Contracting completed this project on N. 2nd St. and the final payment has been made.

2022 PA Small Water and Sewer Grant – The Borough received the executed contract under this grant in the amount of \$498,116 which enables sanitary sewer work to be done on 14th St and 12th St. It also funds a portion of N. 2nd St.

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. We received notice of a \$2,000 grant award. I will work with Mark to use the grant proceeds and the \$2,000 Borough match most effectively.

2023 Local Shares Statewide Grant: The Borough received an award to accomplish sanitary sewer improvements on N. 3rd St. in the amount of \$350,000.

2024 Local Shares Statewide Grant: Applications were submitted for Improvements to the Community Center and the Infrastructure Improvements on Brandford Ave. on November 28, 2024.

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: The Borough received this grant for a value up to \$250,000 for the construction of a playground for children 5-12 years of age on the lots known as 28/30 S. 5th St.

2023 Community Project Fund Grant: Mark and I had a kick-off meeting for this grant on Monday, September 16 for the replacement of the sanitary sewer main and street laterals on Fern St. between 4th Street and Damon's Lane. The grant is for \$657,026.

2022 CDBG: Contract preparation is in progress for the infrastructure improvements on 14th St.

2023 CDBG: The Borough has received the Notices to Proceed for the following: Priority project was Sanitary Sewer Improvements to 12th St; Alternate project was storm sewer improvements on New Walnut St.

Motion: Authorize the Engineer to prepare and advertise bids.

2024 CDBG: The pre-bid meeting with Delaware County OHCD was held on August 12, 2024 for the two projects awarded to the Borough: priority application addressing the reconstruction and resurfacing of N. 2nd St. following the sewer replacement project and the alternate project addressing the development of the lot at Ridge and MacDade as a passive and light recreation area.

Motion: Authorize the Engineer to prepare and advertise bids.

2025 CDBG: Grant applications were submitted on January 3, 2025 for two projects: priority: improvements to Powell Park and alternate: infrastructure improvements on Berbro St.

Blight Remediation Grant:

The CFA Board approved the Borough's request to use the remaining grant funds for the demolition of 225 N. Tenth St. and the stabilization of the adjacent properties. This project is moving forward since the new owner did not submit the required paperwork to rehabilitate the property.

MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System): The annual report was submitted on 9/28/24.

Stormwater Tip:

The water quality of the Delaware River has significantly improved over the years, with many considering its cleanup to be one of the world's top water quality success stories, largely due to efforts from federal and state governments, as well as the Clean Water Act, allowing the river to support a diverse wildlife population and recreational activities today;.

Key points about the Delaware River's water quality improvement:

- **Past pollution:**
The Delaware River was heavily polluted in the mid-20th century.
- **Clean Water Act impact:**
The implementation of the Clean Water Act played a major role in improving the river's health.
- **Improved ecosystem:**
Today, the Delaware River supports a variety of fish species and other aquatic life, including those that return to spawn in their natal waters.
- **Ongoing monitoring:**
Organizations like the Delaware River Basin Commission continue to monitor and work towards further water quality improvements.

December Chief's Report

Dear Mr. Mayor and Borough Council members,

During the month of December, the fire company responded to 75 calls for service. There was (1) working fire in Darby Borough.

On December 30th, around 1700hrs, Co 4 was dispatched to the 200 block of Golf Rd. in Darby for a reported house on fire. Engine 4 arrived to find a fire in the front bedroom of the home. Engine 4 quickly extinguished the fire after it was located. Co 4 would operate for 1 hour before returning home. Chief 4 held the Darby Command. (1) resident was evaluated by EMS.

The Fire Company closed 2024 with yet another busy year totaling:

882 Calls for Service

45 Working fire responses

2 accidents with confirmed entrapment

As a reminder, the colder weather is upon us, carbon monoxide safety is very important this time of year, so ensure you have detectors and new batteries! Also, DO NOT use your kitchen stove as a heat source to warm your home, this is a very common cause of residential fires!

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

On January 27th, the Fire Company turns 250 years old! We are proud to protect Darby, its residents, visitors and surrounding towns!

Tax Collector's Monthly Report to Taxing Districts

For the month of December 2024

Darby Borough

REAL ESTATE INTERIM PER CAPITA OTHER

A: COLLECTIONS	REAL ESTATE	INTERIM	PER CAPITA	OTHER
1: Balance Collectable- Beginning of Month	786,451.57	40,401.72	16,160.77	
2A: Additions: During the Month *	440.19	22.61	9.04	
2B: Deductions: Credits During the Month (Line 17)				
3: Total Collectable	786,891.76	40,424.33	16,169.81	
4: Less Face Collections for the Month	55,336.71	2,842.72	1,137.06	
5: Less Deletions from the List *				
6: Less: Exonerations *				
7: Less: Liens/ Non-Lienable Installments *				
8: Balance Collectable - End of Month	731,555.05	37,581.61	15,032.75	
B: RECONCILIATION OF CASH COLLECTED				
9: Face Amount of Collections - must agree with line 4	55,336.71	2,842.72	1,137.06	
10: Plus: Penalties	-5,533.75	-284.34	-113.72	
11: Less: Discounts				
12: Total Cash Collected per Column	60,870.46	3,127.06	1,250.78	
13: Total Cash Collected - (12A+12B+12C+12D)				65,248.30

* Attach any supporting Documentation Required by your Taxing District

Tax Collector's Monthly Report to Taxing Districts

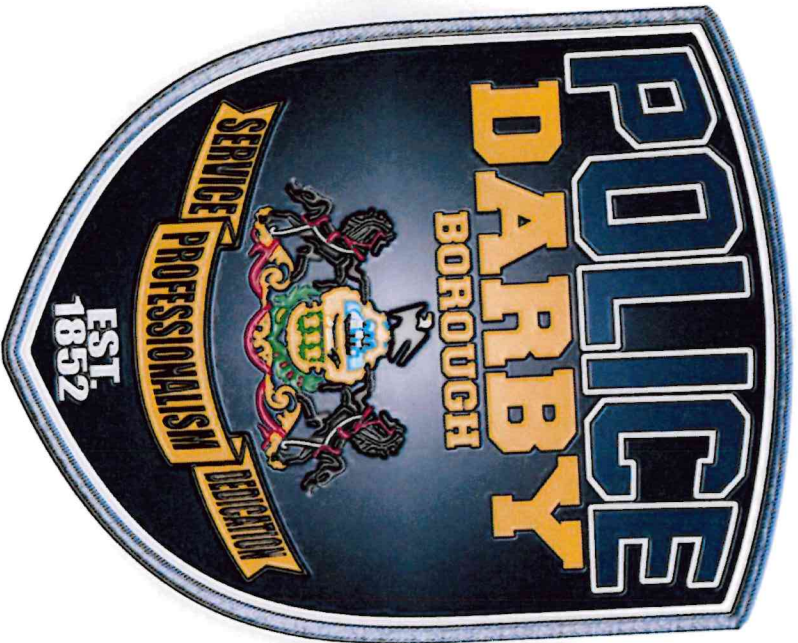
For the month of

December 2024

Darby Borough

A: COLLECTIONS	REAL ESTATE		INTERIM	PER CAPITA	OTHER
	<i>SEWER</i>	<i>TRASH</i>	OTHER	OTHER	
1: Balance Collectable- Beginning of Month	469,847.75	289,535.00			
2A: Additions: During the Month *	-313.88				
2B: Deductions: Credits During the Month (Line 17)					
3: Total Collectable	469,533.87	289,535.00			
4: Less Face Collections for the Month	27,978.24	23,700.00			
5: Less Deletions from the List *					
6: Less: Exonerations *					
7: Less: Liens/ Non-Lienable Installments *					
8: Balance Collectable - End of Month	441,555.63	265,835.00			
B: RECONCILIATION OF CASH COLLECTED					
9: Face Amount of Collections - must agree with line 4	27,978.24	23,700.00			
10: Plus: Penalties	-2,797.84	-2,370.00			
11: Less: Discounts					
12: Total Cash Collected per Column	30,776.08	26,070.00			
13: Total Cash Collected - (12A+12B+12C+12D)					56,846.08

* Attach any supporting Documentation Required by your Taxing District



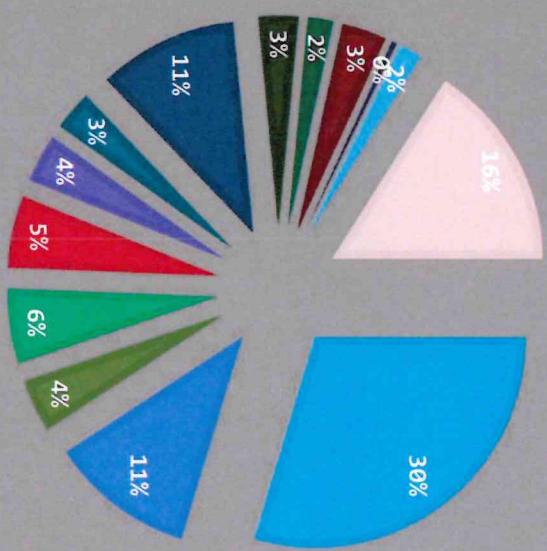
December 2024 Calls for Service

December 2024 & YTD Statistics

- December 2024 calls for service: 1,348
- 2024 total calls for service totals: 15,455

Top calls for service

- Area/Building Check (400)
- Medical Emergency (150)
- Traffic & Parking Problems (55)
- Suspicious Person/Circumstance(s) (77)
- Disturbances-Domestic (74)
- Disturbances/Fights/Disputes (50)
- Mental Health (41)



- Area/Building check
- Suspicious Conditions
- Mental Health
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Alarms
- Medical Emergency
- Domestic Disturbance
- Police Information
- Accidents
- Other calls
- Traffic & Parking
- Disturbance/Fights
- Crossing Guard Duties
- 911 Hang Up

- Public Service/Police Information (144)
- Crossing Guard Info/ Duties (41)
- Abandoned Vehicle (26)
- Motor Vehicle Accidents (46)
- 911 Hang up (5)
- Alarms (24)
- All other calls (215)

Top calls for service account for 84.05 % of December 2024 calls.