

**Muncy Borough Council Meeting**  
**January 18, 2024**

The meeting of the Muncy Borough Council was called to order in the Library/Media Center of Muncy High School at 6:00pm by President Scott Delany. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**Roll Call:** *Council Members Present* – Brooke Bishop, Steve Shank, Ryan Scruggs, Thad Martin, Scott Delany, Richard Sutton (phone), Absent: Bill Scott

*Borough Employees present:* Boro secretary K. Hakes, Police Chief James Dorman, Officer Dave Williams, and Prop. Maintenance Joe Lyons  
Mayor Jon Ort & Solicitor Chris Kenyon also present.

**Public Present:** Marco Colbert, Cathy Henry, George Henry, Cindy Appleman, Chip Gottshall, Chris Scruggs, Craig Scruggs, Tara Ashby, Maggie Baker, Logan Laidacker, Molly Laidacker, Selinda Kennedy, Kim Walker, Jeffrey Tyler Thompson, Lew Johnson, Linda Stein, Buzz Baker, Lisa Lyons, Tim King

All actions ratified at January 2, 2024 meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> motion R. Sutton, 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Scruggs Motion carried 6-0

**Public participation:** Kim Walker spoke on behalf of being a business and property owner in the borough. Thanked members for serving on the council. Mr. Walker asked for more transparency from council. He would like to see more information on grants, and for council to act professional and not have personal agendas. Brooke Bishop would like to add to some points Mr. Walker brought up. She supplied a list of grants for the public to see. In addition to that, Brooke also spoke how she felt about promoting within the office and thinks Katie would be able to take on the responsibility and continue to grow. Brooke also apologized for walking out at the Jan 2 meeting.

R. Sutton made a comment about Penn Strategies in reference to the grants. Anyone who wants to come in and review information on grants can in fact do so.

Linda Stein said “Grants will either make or break Muncy Borough”. Linda said we are going to need a proper fiscal accounting frame work to handle the significant amounts of money that will be coming in and going out. Invoices are already being received. What line item will be used to pay them? The other aspect Linda brought up had to do with the budget and treasurer. She suggested as council amends the budget, a part time treasurer line item is shown.

Jim Bishop expressed many small boroughs around us do not have a borough manager and another part time treasurer/communicator would be sufficient.

Tara Ashby asked the solicitor if the mayor had the authority to remove the line item “borough manager” from the budget. Solicitor said it was the responsibility of the council to do so. Mayor Ort said there is not going to be a tax increase so things would need to be cut, including a borough manager. George Henry spoke up about how important a job description is. It should be up to the employee and council to decide what the borough office needs. Council needs to come to a consensus and agree.

Tara Ashby also asked where the money would come from upfront if we received all the grants that were applied for. Mayor Ort said we could get funding through Penn Vest. Ort also expressed his concern on why a council member was at a building that is “falling down” with former borough manager, Charley Hall.

Sutton explained he was at the building with Hall because he had some questions about the building in regards to the grant that was applied for to replace that building.

Tyler Thompson, Resident and business owner of Young Industries, plead with council to figure out what is priority and to go about it correctly.

A few other residents continued to speak about the need for new borough/maintenance building and a borough manager.

**January 2, 2024 Minutes** approved 1. R. Scruggs 2<sup>nd</sup> T. Martin Motion carried 6-0

**Old Business:**

1. A finance committee was held on January 18, 2024. S. Shank made a motion to stick with a no tax increase budget. B. Bishop 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion was made for a budget that does not include a borough manager. A discussion was had between council members and Solicitor Chris Kenyon intervened. Chris Kenyon cautioned council on voting on a budget that isn't sitting in front of all the members of council at that time. Steve Shank retracted his motion. Another finance meeting will be held Wednesday January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Ryan Scruggs motioned to table it until the January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Richard Sutton 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.
2. Richard Sutton made a motion to table the borough manager until after the meeting Wednesday night. Thad Martin 2<sup>nd</sup> it. All were in favor 6-0 Chris Kenyon recommended borough manager be discussed in an executive session after the meeting.

**New Business:**

1. Richard Sutton made a motion to delete the Sidewalk grant for South Market Street. He doesn't feel the community will be happy with only doing sidewalks on South Market and not the rest of the borough that has bad sidewalks. Council is not sure whether the grant has actually been accepted yet. Resident George Henry asked if there was a plan in place to replace other sidewalks? Another resident, Cindy Appleman, asked if Muncy Borough has a strategic plan in general? Grants need to be mapped out and prioritized. Thad Martin showed concerns on whether the utility side of new sidewalks was included, for example UGI, sewer, etc. A lot of unknowns. Scott Delany 2<sup>nd</sup> Suttons motion. The grant stayed in place. Remaining council members voted to keep the grant.
2. S. Shank motioned to accept Jeffrey Sholtis' resignation. B. Bishop 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried 5-1. Sutton voting no.
3. T. Martin motioned to accept Rebekkah Clarks resignation. R. Scruggs 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried 6-0
4. Extend officer probation – S. Shank motioned to table. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thad. Motion carried.

**Individual Council Members/Mayor** – Steve Shank showed his appreciation to the public for being present at the meetings. Scott Delany is still working on committees list.

**Public Participation** – None

No further business.

Thad made a motion to go into executive session. Steve 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

8:22pm

Council did not reconvene

Respectfully Submitted,



Katie Hakes