

KITANNING BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

April 7, 2025

Council Chambers

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENT: Andy Peters, Chris Schiano, Phil Brautigam, Gerald Shuster, Amanda Slagle, Bill Baum, Jordan Shuber, and Wilbur Stitt.

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Joe Riskosky, Earl Kline, Fire Marshall, and Public Works Director Jim Mechling.

Jane Small spoke regarding the benches in Riverfront Park, she would like to donate paint and repaint all of the benches dark green to match other items in the park.

Eddie Walker spoke regarding the parking lot beside Walker Motors, he is interested in buying the lot. He said that he would be more than happy to offer fair market value. Jordan explained that if the Council decides to sell the property, they would have to follow Borough Code and meet the advertising requirements.

Dicky Myers expressed interest in purchasing 2 dump trucks from the Borough.

- **A motion was made to sell the equipment that is sellable and to salvage the equipment that is not sellable per Jim Mechlins recommendation.**

Motion: Wilbur Stitt

Second: Phil Brautigam

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Josh Callender let the Council know that the advertisement has been sent to the Borough Administrator for the Riverfront Park Bank Stabilization Project for an April 30, 2025, bid opening.

Amanda Slagle covered the Consultant's report regarding the progress with the grants.

- **A motion was made to approve the Resolution as written for the DCNR Comprehensive Recreation Plan and to use the plan for future planning purposes.**

Motion: Amanda Slagle

Second: Phil Brautigam

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Amanda Slagle also talked about the Steetscape Phase 2 Project and let the Council know that there will be a Field Scoping View Meeting on April 22 at 10:30 a.m. The meeting will be held with representatives from the Borough Council, the Downtown Kittanning Revitalization Committee, and PennDot.

Council discussed the Whelan Park Phase 3 project, tabling for further discussion regarding the revised scope of work.

- **A motion was made to have Andy Peters, President, sign for Whelan Park Phase 3, replacing the former Grant Consultant.**

Motion: Amanda Slagle

Second: Wilbur Stitt

Opposed: None

A Committee is needed for the Façade Grant to review applications as stated in the Façade guidelines. Per the consultant report, Andrew Laddusaw has offered DKI as a review committee. The Council feels it is best if a few Council Member are also on the committee, Andy Peters requested an email to be sent out to Council to see who is interested. Amanda Slagle mentioned that she attends the DKI meeting and will be involved in the Façade Committee.

Regarding the CDBG Grant Funds, the Council will need to make decisions on potential projects eligible for the grant. It was discussed that Community Park is a potential project for planning and surveying. The road to Community Park will be funded with the LSA Grant.

The Council entered an Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. and returned to the Regular Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

- **A motion was made to approve the April 7, 2025, Meeting Agenda.**

Motion: Chris Schiano

Second: Bill Baum

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to approve March 3, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes.**

Motion: Jerry Shuster

Second: Wilbur Stitt

Opposed: None

- **A motion was made for the Borough Administrator to put out requests for Insurance Quotes.**

Motion: Amanda Slagle

Second: Jerry Shuster

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to hire Kenneth Nelson and Allan Smith for the 2 full-time street labor positions.**

Motion: Jerry Shuster

Second: Wilbur Stitt

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to have the 2025 Spring Clean Up on May 19, 20, 22, and 23, 2025.**

Motion: Amanda Slagle

Second: Jerry Shuster

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Per Jim Mechling, street sweeping will begin the night of April 15, 2025, and the grass clipping pick up will begin April 16, 2025.

Mary Ann Valasek has organized the park clean up for April 26, 2025, everyone is welcome to go to that.

Amanda Slagle discussed the DKI bike rack proposal, they are asking for Council's approval to place a rack at both ends of Riverfront Park, the received grant money for local artists to make the bike racks

Chris Schiano let the Council know that the Municipal Authority would hold a meeting on Monday, April 14, 2025. They will be discussing reorganization.

Council discussed the request from Dyan Rachuba to place a memorial bench for her mother in Riverfront Park, per Phil Brautigam, Council made a motion a little over a year ago to not allow memorial benches in the park.

A tree removal request from YU Xiu Chan at 206-208 N. Jefferson St. was approved by Council.

- **A motion was made to allow Hose, Hook, and Ladder Co. 1 to have a flea market in Riverfront Park one Saturday every month of July 2025 through October 2025.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam

Second: Chris Schiano

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

A motion by Phil Brautigam and 2nd by Amanda Slagle to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Betsy Hooks, Borough Administrator / Secretary and Treasurer