

KITANNING BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

March 3, 2025

Council Chambers

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

Pledge of Allegiance

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

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

Mr. Shepard spoke on behalf of his son Jacob Shepard, regarding a right of way in Community Park. He was advised to fill out an application for the Zoning Board.

- **A motion was made to proceed with the Water Way Alley Storm Drain Project as noted in previous minutes.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Jerry Shuster Opposed: None
Motion carried.

- **A motion was made for Jennifer Bellas to file for an extension on the Allegheny River Floodwall Maintenance.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Amanda Opposed: None
Motion carried.

The Council entered an Executive Session at 6:41 p.m. and returned to the Regular Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

- **A motion was made to accept the verbal resignation of John Shaner.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Jerry Shuster Opposed: None
Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to appoint Wilbur Stitt to the Municipal Authority Board.**

Motion: Jerry Shuster Second: Chris Schiano Opposed: None
Motion carried.

Wilbur Stitt accepted the position.

- **A motion was made for Special Council Attorney, Brian Ferrington, to task him with taking action regarding a Municipal Authority Employee issue. Attorney Brian Ferrington is asked to write a disciplinary letter to the employee stating that he will be on a 6-month probationary period pending job performance and improvements.**

Motion: Chris Schiano Second: Phil Brautigam Opposed: None

Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to hire Scott Kirkwood for the Part-time Code Enforcement position with a starting wage at \$18.00 per hour.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Wilbur Stitt Opposed: None

Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to approve the March 3, 2025, Meeting Agenda.**

Motion: Bill Baum Second: Wilbur Stitt Opposed: None

Motion carried.

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

Motion: Jerry Shuster Second: Bill Baum Opposed: None

- **A motion was made for the Borough Administrator to send thank you letters to all of the Fire Companies that assisted with the fatal fire in Kittanning Borough.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Amanda Slagle Opposed: None

Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to accept the Special Council Agreement with Attorney Brian Ferrington to serve as Special Council.**

Motion: Jerry Shuster Second: Wilbur Stitt Opposed: None

Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to accept the proposal for auditing services from Maher Duessel.**

Motion: Amanda Slagle Second: Chris Schiano Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Special Council Attorney Dennis Sprya provided an update to Solicitor, Jordan Shuber, on the Diaz bankruptcy, they feel it is unlikely that the Borough will receive anything with the proceedings.

Amanda Slagle let the Council know that there will be in the future, discussions regarding the computer updates that are needed, Phil Brautigam is going to investigate this and give the Council some direction on how to proceed.

- **A motion was made for the Borough Administrator to advertise for two full-time positions on the Street crew.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Chris Schiano Opposed: None
Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to accept the quotes from 2Krew for Video Surveillance and Panic Alarm.**

Motion: Phil Brautigam Second: Amanda Slagle Opposed: None
Motion carried.

Les Ruffaner let the Council know that the Park and Recreation Plan is finalized and is in the Borough Office for review.

A list of equipment was provided to Council to scrap or sale, Jim Mechling will get ideas on how much the Borough will receive.

- **A motion was made to scrap the old equipment which includes a Police Car, Meter Truck, Paving Machine, Salt Spreader, two dump trucks, and an old garbage truck.**

Motion: Wilbur Stitt Second: Chris Schiano Opposed: None
Motion carried.

- **A motion was made to approve a handicap parking application at 131 Kelly Street, Kittanning, PA.**

Motion: Chris Schiano Second: Les Ruffaner Opposed: None
Motion carried.

A request from Dyan Rachuba to place a park bench in the Riverfront Park was tentatively approved pending location, material, and the size of the memorial bench.

- **A motion was made to allow retired Police Officers to buy back their service pistols for \$250.00 each.**

Motion: Les Ruffaner Second: Chris Schiano Opposed: None

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