

**BANGOR BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT 197 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, BANGOR, PA**

**MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 - 6:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO FLAG**

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

James W. Kresge  
James Augustine  
Rosemarie Capone  
Barry G. Schweitzer  
Joanna Paulson  
Marissa Donnelly

**Others Present:**

Stephen M. Reider, Borough Manager  
David J. Ceraul, Esq., Solicitor  
Mary Ellen DeFranco, Mayor

**Absent:**

Robert Goffredo, Sr.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Anthony Catino was present from 124 Pennsylvania Avenue to introduce himself and advise Council that he has applied for a grant (CHIPS Act) for research and development for a manufacturing process that he has designed for silicone semi-conductors. He is requesting that the borough submit a letter of support for his project.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. A **MOTION** to approve payment of the bills totaling \$399,652.21 was made by Donnelly, seconded by Schweitzer. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried.
2. Manager Reider stated that Jeff Pritchard is celebrating 50 years of service to Liberty and the Bangor Fire Department. A **MOTION** was made by Schweitzer, seconded by Capone to approve Manager Reider drafting a proclamation honoring Jeff Pritchard. The proclamation will be presented to Mr. Pritchard on October 28<sup>th</sup> during the event honoring him. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried.
3. Manager Reider provided Council with a proposal from Berkheimer to collect per capita taxes on behalf of Bangor Borough. Manager Reider and Council continued their discussion regarding the per capita tax. Manager Reider will provide Council with calculations without the per capita tax and recommendations on other ways the borough can recover those funds. Council President Kresge requested that Manager Reider contact Berkheimer for clarification if they could collect per capita information without contacting the borough or the tax collector.
4. Manager Reider started discussions with Council regarding the draft Abandoned and Foreclosed Property Registration Ordinance, which includes provisions from the International Property Maintenance Code. The draft includes the new IPMC language and some minor updates. Manager Reider will share the draft with Solicitor Ceraul for his review.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

1. Chief Jones stated that Officer Sabatine expressed interest in getting a K9 and Chief Jones would like to keep the K9 program moving forward. Mayor DeFranco commented that she supports the K9 program and feels the borough should request a donation from Fidelity Bank. Chief Jones thanked the Fire Department, Council, Manager Reider and the Mayor for their support during the recent fire on Broadway.

2. Mayor DeFranco thanked all the very brave volunteer firemen and firewomen who were at the Broadway fire. The mayor is requesting that the borough have a fund in place for the firefighters and residents affected by fires. Manager Reider has discussed a fund for fire equipment needs with the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief. Mayor DeFranco volunteered to set-up a table at Octoberfest to get people to sign up for Bangor's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
3. Assistant Fire Chief Albert discussed the recent Broadway fire and thanked everyone for their assistance. Council Member Schweitzer commented that without the support from volunteers, trucks, and equipment much of downtown Bangor would have burned.
4. Council Member Donnelly commented that the community businesses helped feed the fire victims and firemen. Local businesses set-up donations for the people that were affected by the fire.
5. Council Member Schweitzer acknowledged the passing of Bangor's Historian Donald Jones.
6. Council Member Capone updated Council on the upcoming Park Board events. Capone complimented the Fire Department and gives her full support.
7. Solicitor Ceraul complimented the Fire Departments on how they handled the fire on Broadway.
8. Manager Reider thanked the Fire Department, elected officials, Police Department and Mark Brown on how they handled the fire on Broadway and updated Council regarding code violations for the property on Broadway.  
Reider updated Council on his recent correspondence with Northampton County regarding Messinger Street.  
Reider commented that the East Penn Raiders will have a home football game on October 7<sup>th</sup> at the park.  
Reider updated Council on upcoming Park Board events and the Halloween parade.
9. Council President Kresge thanked the Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works, Mark Brown, Manager Reider, local businesses and everybody that came together as a community to help with the fire on Broadway.  
Kresge acknowledged the passing of Donald Jones.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A **MOTION** to go into Executive Session at 7:19 P.M. to discuss legal matters with potential action to follow was made by Donnelly, seconded by Capone. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried.

Open session was re-entered at 7:35 P.M. Legal matters were discussed. A **MOTION** was made by Donnelly, seconded by Augustine to approve the Bangor Borough Authority entering litigation against Roseto Borough and Roseto Borough Authority. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

A **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Capone, seconded by Augustine. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried. The Bangor Borough Council Meeting adjourned at 7:37 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tracy Palmer, Secretary