

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

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 13, 2023 - 6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO FLAG

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

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

Absent:

Robert Goffredo, Sr.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. A **MOTION** to approve the minutes dated October 16, 2023, was made by Donnelly, seconded by Capone. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried.
2. A **MOTION** to accept with regrets the resignation of Amy Herkalo from the Zoning Hearing Board was made by Capone, seconded by Augustine. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried.
3. Manager Reider discussed the updated versions of the preliminary 2024 budgets with Council and answered questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Jeff Hardick from Messinger Street inquired about the sanitation rate for next year. Manager Reider stated that there is a 37% increase.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

1. Chief Jones requested adding the advertisement for a new police officer on the agenda for the next Council Meeting. Chief Jones updated Council on a very serious domestic/assault incident that the department was involved in.
2. Mayor DeFranco stated that on Veteran's Day there was a celebration at the Bangor Memorial Park. Roseto Legion was there with their Honor Guard and the Chaplain. Only ten people attended because it was not advertised. The mayor feels the borough is failing its Veterans. Denise Scott was present from Park Avenue and commented that in the past the VFW, Elks and American Legion oversaw the Memorial Day and Veteran's Day Celebrations. Unfortunately, these organizations do not have the members or the money. Denise suggested that Borough Council take over these celebrations.
3. Council Member Schweitzer updated Council on the recent COG meeting. Jim Potter (Portland Fire Chief) attended the meeting looking to start an ambulance service for the Slate Belt.
4. Council Member Capone stated that the next Park Board meeting will be held in January. Capone mentioned that The Mission of Love Food Bank distributed food to 239 families.
5. Solicitor Ceraul commented that his son has joined his law practice.

6. Manager Reider reported that the renovations at the police department have been completed and he will close out the 2020 LSA Grant at the end of this year.
Reider gave Council a grant update and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
7. Council President Kresge recognized Council Member Schweitzer for his service as a veteran and spoke about his own service as a veteran. Kresge also reported that the Bangor VFW no longer exists, but that he will help lead an effort for the Borough to take over responsibilities for Memorial Day and Veteran's Day ceremonies in the future. Kresge also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless America

ADJOURNMENT:

A **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Donnelly, seconded by Augustine. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried. The Bangor Borough Council Meeting adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tracy Palmer, Secretary