

The Factoryville Borough Council held their regular council meeting on February 12, 2025 at the Borough Hall. Council President, Bill Edwards, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Gary Evans
D. Charles Truitt
Bill Edwards
Colin Fricke
Gregg Yunko
Dan Engler

ALSO ATTENDING

Solicitor Paul Litwin
Becky Nelson, Assistant

ABSENT

Elena O'Connor

Before roll call was completed. A motion is needed to approve Becky Nelson as replacement for this evenings meeting in the absence of Borough Manager.

D. Engler made a motion to approve B. Nelson to serve as proxy for the Secretary/Treasurer. C. Truitt seconded the motion. All yea.

AGENDA: No additions requested

MINUTES:

G. Yunko made a motion to accept the minutes from January 8, 2025. C. Fricke seconded the motion. All yea.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Christine Dettori (DCED) and Zach Smith (Atlas) discussed applying for a DCED grant to put in a handicapped parking lot near the new section of the trail. Zach provided a packet with cost estimates for a parking lot and additional trail. There will be no fees or out-of-pocket costs to apply for this grant, which has a 50% match. In the packet, the pink area in the map has a cost and is considered a definite need. The green area requires the pink area. Clinton Township agreed to go after all the pink and green trails with the exception of a small spur. All of this will be bid as one project. PennDOT did set aside funding for this. Applications are due April 2nd. A decision will be made in the Fall, which is when the entire project will be bid out. Spring 2026 is when this project could start. Christine Dettori stated that this is considered free money. Zach's work was done as proposal time and does not add to the amount.

This does not affect the soccer fields, and C. Truitt asked if add-ons could include a band shell. Christine Dettori stated that the band shell could not be included in a trail grant.

C. Fricke made a motion to authorize Clinton Township to complete the grant application for a DCNR partnership for the trail extension at Creekside Park on behalf of Clinton Township and Factoryville Borough. D. Engler seconded the motion. All yea.

Residents Mr. Steve and Mrs. Jade Casella discussed involvement through the Borough and discussed what he is burning at his residence including boxes and bags from his work at P&G. Three different police, former code enforcement, and Council President have inspected the closed burn barrel and have found no evidence of illegal burning. Mr. Casella stated that this is harassment and is considering pressing charges against the neighbor who is repeatedly calling the police. Mrs. Casella stated that she brings their residence trash bins to her father's house to fill his trash receptacle. B. Edwards stated that pictures have been provided with black smoke. B. Edwards asked if they have ever been charged. Officer Gaughan reportedly inspected the property but did not find anything. G. Evans asked about bubble wrap, but Mrs. Casella stated that goes in the trash to her father's house.

Resident Corey Huff intervened in the burning issue by requesting that the Ordinance be given to the Casellas. Mr. Huff stated that he saw smoke coming from the burn barrel, but he did not see anything out of the ordinary.

MANAGER'S REPORT –

- a. An executive session is needed to discuss a personnel issue. A possible litigation issue was discussed as well. Council recessed at 7:03pm for executive session and reconvened at 7:11pm.

D. Engler made a motion to amend the proposed Ordinance for parking submitted by the Planning Committee to not allow a reduction of parking spaces of pre-existing lots and businesses. G. Yunko seconded the motion. All yea.

- b. Penny Hayduk is not interested in doing the flower boxes anymore, but the Women's Civic League will likely take it over. Penny Hayduk has donated the flower boxes to the Borough, but if the flower boxes are not maintained, she requests that the boxes are returned to her.
- c. The truck box for the new pickup was misquoted. It is an increase of \$800 from the original quote.

D. Engler made a motion to approve the purchase of the truck with the increase. G. Yunko seconded the motion. All yea.

- d. The cameras around town are outdated and will begin to fail regularly. Kurt offered to donate a used system and would like to know if the Borough is interested in using this equipment. Sean Jeffrey from Jeffrey IT is looking into possible upgrades, and the grant writer is searching for grants to fund this surveillance equipment.

G. Yunko made a motion to accept the Manager's Report. C. Truitt seconded the motion. All yea.

BILLS – S. Cantner is seeking approval for the bills listed. Unusual expenses included a reimbursement to S. Cantner for \$249.03 for her deductible, \$6,588 to Clinton Township for the Fire/EMS workers compensation insurance, \$5,809.86 to Clinton Township for reimbursement

quickly as possible. His primary concerns were the contents inside the house, the pool in the backyard, and that a squatter was staying at the place.

ZONING – L. Lawrence was in attendance of the meeting and provided council with a copy of the parking ordinance to be approved next meeting. A motion was made to make a change to the ordinance and is stated above in the manager’s report.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – Solicitor Litwin had nothing to report.

EVENTS – B. Nelson reported that Christmas Market planning is already well underway. B. Nelson attended the first meeting and provided guidelines. The board is requesting that Council approve the board for a one-year term. Members are as follows: Parking Committee: Beth O’Malley, Entertainment Committee: Erika Winklebleck, Decorating Committee: Paulette Johnson, Vendor Committee: Patti McGonagle, Volunteer Committee: Mieke Hunting, Finance Committee: Leslie Litwin, and Advertising Committee: Michelle Ross. B. Nelson will work to create bylaws to be approved by Council.

C. Fricke made a motion to appoint the above-named committee members for a one-year term to the Christmas Market Planning Board. D. Engler seconded the motion. All yea.

G. Yunko made a motion to approve the committee reports. C. Fricke seconded the motion. All yea.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS – C. Fricke asked about installing an additional streetlight as it is very dark from Reynolds to Jackson St. on Riverside Drive. B. Edwards will drive around with C. Fricke to determine if there are any other dark locations. B. Edwards will then speak with Northeast Signal to discuss the cost of new installations.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS – Nothing.

C. Fricke made a motion to adjourn the Factoryville Borough Council Meeting. C. Truitt seconded the motion. All yea.

The regular meeting of the Factoryville Borough Council adjourned at 7:34 pm. The next regular meeting will be held March 12, 2025 at 6:30pm in the Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Nelson
Borough Assistant