

**Borough of Windber Council Meeting**  
**Minutes of August 28, 2023**  
**7 p.m.**

The regular meeting of Windber Borough Council was called to order by Council Vice President, Joe Pallo at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The following council members were present: Pete LaMonaca, Dr. Doug Ledney, Joe Pallo, Mark Portante, and Rich Rummel. John Holden, and Ron Mash, were absent. Ron Allison, Borough Manager, and Mayor, Mike Thomas, were present. Attorney Joseph Green was present. Mr. Portante arrived at 7:10 p.m.

**Recognition** Abby Hoffman from 22<sup>nd</sup> Street said in relation to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Bridge Project she wanted to  
**Visitors** ask about Victory Lane being closed during football games. She thinks it should be. It is a huge safety hazard not being closed. However, if our bridge is closed, we have no way out if that road is closed.

Ms. Hoffman said she had been told previously that it would no longer be closed but it was closed on Friday for the football game. On the agenda it says we are discussing approving the closure for the remaining football games this year.

Mr. Pallo said the Bridge Project will not take place until 2026, at which time we will discuss that then. Manager Allison said right now the bridge remains open as is. There has been no discussion of replacing or putting a new bridge there. We have traveled every avenue that we can and it's just unfavorable to us.

Ms. Hoffman said she had been having conversations and been shut down by PennDot. They will not even talk to her at this point. Manager Allison said when the time comes for the project to begin, we may not be able to close it for the football games.

Mayor Thomas said he feels her pain because he has talked to every politician in the area from state to federal and has not heard anything and they do not call back. Ms. Hoffman said she visits Rigby's office quite often. Mayor Thomas said he is limited to what he can do. He said the historical thing is a federal issue. Ms. Hoffman said the bridge has very little structural integrity let alone historical integrity. The council agreed. Ms. Hoffman said they do not want to talk to her at all because she has no power at all.

**Approval** A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Dr. Ledney to approve payroll for  
**Payroll** August 11 and 25, 2023. Two absent, Mr. Holden, and Mr. Mash.

**Approval** A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Rummel to accept the  
**Resignation** resignation of Jeffrey Brock a part-time police officer for Windber Borough and SRO Officer for the WASD. Two absent: Mr. Holden and Mr. Mash, motion carried.

**Ratify** A motion was made by Dr. Ledney and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to ratify the phone vote  
**Phone Vote** done on August 18, 2023, to close Victory Road for the football game on August 25, 2023.

The phone vote was as follows: Mr. Holden, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Mash, no answer; Mr. Portante, yes; Mr. Rummel, yes; and Mr. LaMonaca, yes. Motion was in favor to ratify the phone vote and two were absent, Mr. Holden and Mr. Mash.

**Approval  
Close road  
Football  
Games**

A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Rummel to approve to close Victory Lane/24<sup>th</sup> Street for football games on August 25<sup>th</sup>, September 15<sup>th</sup>, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, October 6<sup>th</sup>, and October 20<sup>th</sup> of this year 2023. Two absent; Mr. Holden and Mr. Mash. Motion carried.

**SRO  
Agreement**

A motion was made by Dr. Ledney and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve the 2023-2024 SRO Agreement with Windber Area School District. Two absent; Mr. Holden and Mr. Mash. Motion carried.

**Retain  
Services**

A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Rummel to retain services of Alex Brown, Attorney at Law as Defense Representation of Windber Borough and Windber Borough Police Department. Roll call vote: Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Rummel, yes; Mr. Holden, absent; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Mash, absent; Mr. Pallo, yes; and Mr. Portante, yes. Motion carried.

The council convened to an executive session at 7:08 p.m. for police & personnel matters.

The council reconvened from executive session at 7:50 p.m.

**Next  
Meeting**

The next meeting date will be September 11, 2023, at 7 p.m.

**Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Robin S. Gates  
Administrative Assistant