

**BOROUGH OF WINDBER**  
**Borough Council Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, April 8, 2024**  
**7:00 p.m.**

The Regular meeting of Windber Borough Council was called to order by Windber Borough Council President Richard Rummel, at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The following council members were present: Mr. Bahorik, Mr. Klonicke, Mr. LaMonaca, Dr. Ledney, Mr. Moore, Mr. Pallo, and Mr. Rummel. Solicitor Green, Mayor Thomas, and Manager Allison were present.

**Approval  
Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the Minutes of March 11, 2024. Remarks: Mr. Moore said the first item says four yes and two no on the first page of the minutes and it should state in that case who said yes, and who said no. Mr. Allison asked if it was a roll call vote. Mr. Rummel said we do that for a roll call vote. Mr. Moore said look at it, it was.

Mr. Moore said on the last page of the minutes it says April's meeting was going to be at 6 p.m. He said if someone read that they would've been here at 6 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. Manager Allison said the workshop was at 6 p.m. Mr. Moore said he knows, but it said 6 p.m. for the meeting. Motion carried with changes.

**Recognition  
Visitors**

Lou Kiss said he has concerns about the graveyard that is close to his house. He said it is an old graveyard and his neighbors are using it as a parking lot. He does not feel that is right. He does not want to cause any commotion for his neighbors, but they should not be parking their trailers on it. He said the borough cuts the grass there.

**Lou  
Kiss**

Mr. Kiss asked if we are going to do any paving in this town? Mr. Rummel said he would like to; we have not discussed where or when yet. Mr. Kiss said the last time those two side parts of the road were paved by his house was in 1979. If you take the sweeper over it all you will get is dirt and ashes. Both roads on Hillside are about 150 feet long.

Mr. Kiss said every year he comes here and complains about the jake brakes on 56. He spoke to Senator Langerholc about it, and he barely looked into it because it is not up to the legislature, it is up to PennDot. How do you fight PennDot, Mr. Kiss asked. They do not take advice from the people who live in the area at all. Mr. Kiss told Chief Frear he would like to see Route 56 go to 45 mph.

Mr. Rummel asked if the jake-brakes occur in the morning? Mr. Kiss said it is pretty much all day now. There was a hidden highway sign there that was put up a couple of years ago, and it is no longer there, and the post is bent over about 30 degrees.

Mr. Rummel told Mr. Kiss we will look into the graveyard and the paving in due time. Manager Allison said we are kind of holding on paving until we complete the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Project because we are going to put a connector road down there to alleviate safety concerns

once they close the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Bridge. Twenty Fourth Street will get the new bridge and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street will close. Once we get past that, we will be open to more paving projects. Mr. Kiss asked if they were still going to widen the road on 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. Manager Allison said we will not need to if we put a connector road in there.

**Tim  
Layton**

Tim Layton the President of Windber Fire Department said he wanted to stop down and catch everyone up on what is going on with Windber Fire Department. First thing he needs to do is end the rumors that Windber Fire Department is bankrupt. We are not bankrupt. We are like every other small fire department across the county and state; we have money and we continue to fund all the necessary projects and equipment we have for the Windber Fire Department.

Mr. Layton said their biggest issue like every other volunteer organization across the state of Pennsylvania, is manpower. It is a huge problem, and because of that problem we are happy to say we are starting to combine with the Scalp Level Fire Department. They have been placed on all of our first two calls in the borough, so we can make sure our constituents get the service they expect and deserve.

We know word gets out quick. Mr. Layton said we are in discussions with Scalp about a merger. We have had two meetings with them so far. We have shared our financials. Scalp is pleased with our financial state, and we are pleased with their financial state. Money at this point is not an issue, if and when the merger actually happens. It is one of those things we continue to work on because we not only think it is the best thing for both fire departments, but we think it is the best thing for the community.

Just to give you a little perspective; Scalp Level runs about 200 to 250 calls a year out of their fire department and Windber last year ran 609. We are on record this year already to beat that number. We run over 1,700 EMS calls in a year.

Mr. Layton said with the way the talks are going so far and if we can keep all the outside forces away from what is going on, we are cautiously optimistic the merger will take place and it is just a matter of time.

Mr. Layton said Windber Fire Department is going to be celebrating their 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a fire department come July. We were hoping to have a big celebration, we kind of got behind the eight ball a little bit but are still hoping to have some kind of geared down celebration. We just were not able to go out and get the kind of support we needed from the community and get everything lined up in the same amount of time to have a grandiose event. We still want to do something to recognize the fact we have been here for 125 years serving the people of Windber.

Mr. Layton thanked the borough council for their continued support. They know council annually supports them, and it's been in their budget for years now and they know that. He said he would be remiss if he did not say to council that eventually because of how the finances work for a small volunteer company that we would not be coming to you at some point. Legislatively the borough is allowed to supply three mills to their fire department and two to EMS. At some point we will have to talk about finances. Currently we are supported by Windber Borough and a little support from Paint Township and grants. If you are familiar with the grant process you always hold your breath to see if you get it.

You can only sell so many perogies, gun tickets, and tips, on Facebook to make things happen. Whether or not the merger happens we know as an organization we will have to come to you about upping your support. We are gracious and appreciative of everything you have done so far.

Mr. Layton asked if anyone had any questions. Mr. LaMonaca asked Mr. Layton how many paid people they have right now and what are their positions? Mr. Layton said they have three paid firefighters that are paid from a grant called SAFER, which is a state grant.

Bob Statler, Assistant Chief for Windber said the grant is a federal grant and supports the firefighters for a three-year period and then they decide what to do after. There are other paid staff, which is the EMS staff, they staff the ambulances 24 hours a day. Mr. Rummel asked if the fire department and EMS are separate. Mr. Statler said yes.

Mr. Moore asked how many paid EMS people do you have. Mr. Statler said there are eight full-time and about half a dozen part-timers. The schedule they work currently is the reason they work eight full-time, four full-time paramedics and four full-time EMTs. They work 24 hours on and 72 hours off. It turns out to be more hours than a normal job. There is also a billing secretary who is full-time. Our secretary does billing for the ambulance service. She deals with Medicaid, Medicare and all the insurance companies. We do all our own billing in house. Manager Allison said she has to know coding then. Mr. Statler said yes, and she goes for yearly updates also.

Mr. Moore asked how many people have to go out in the firetruck. Mr. Statler said being volunteers we have no guarantee. Mr. Moore said he thought it was four. Mr. Statler said, ideally yes, but four people in a fire truck is a luxury not just in Windber Borough, but in a lot of places. Mr. Moore said he heard you had four here, but you had five paid. Mr. Statler said no, only three paid. Technically, the way they are paid is that one firefighter works Monday through Friday daylight and the other two are split, they work Sunday to Thursday and Tuesday. They overlap. There are three paid firefighters, and the rest are volunteers. The paid firefighters have other duties such as maintaining the vehicles.

Mr. Moore asked what happens when that three-year grant is up. Mr. Statler said we got the grant unexpectedly, but we got it and at this point we are going to figure out how to keep it to continue. Mr. Layton said with this grant we can get an extension. Mr. Moore said sometimes these grants stipulate that after the grant is over you must continue paying them. Mr. Statler said this one does not have that stipulation. Mr. Moore asked if the grant was for the fire department or EMS. Mr. Statler said fire department. Mr. Layton said EMS is funded by billing and that is why we have a billing secretary. If it is a Medicaid call, they pay like \$250/\$300. He said they just got a check the other day and it was for \$10. He said for transportation the federal government pays 14 cents a loaded mile and that is after ex-number of miles. So, if we take someone from Johnstown to Altoona or Pittsburgh we get paid after 20 miles. We end up getting paid 14 cents a mile and nothing for the trip back. On the EMS side we are doing the best we can with the money we make, but it is not good.

Mr. Statler said the reimbursement across the state is a big issue, even for the bigger counties. The insurance reimbursements are getting worse not better. The state recently, for Medicaid patients, just upped the pay \$150 to \$250 for basic life support and \$300 for advanced life support. How we bill is based off of what we do patient care wise.

If we bill on an average of \$1,110 to \$1,200 a call, we are only getting maybe \$300 or \$400. Most insurance never covers the bill.

Mr. Moore asked how much the next truck will cost that they will get. Mr. Statler said \$900,000. Mr. Moore said he thought it was a million and a half. Mr. Statler said no. He said the one they are currently paying for out of the money you give us for the equipment fund was purchased in 2017 and cost just over \$500,000. Over the past couple of years, the increase for a fire truck is a big problem. That fire truck now would cost \$850,000. Mr. Moore asked if they replace them every two to three years. Mr. Statler said no. Mr. Moore asked, “wasn’t the last time you got an engine three years ago? Mr. Statler said no, it was in 2017.” Mr. Moore said he is getting misinformation here. Mr. Statler said that is why they are here.

Mr. Statler said the ladder truck is a 2012 which was purchased off a federal grant for \$680,000. That truck, to replace if we had to, but we do not need to, would be a million five. Mr. Statler said the price is based off what the equipment does. The tanker we just ordered is an oversized engine that holds 2,400 gallons of water and it has a lot of different capabilities. We spec’d that out two years ago and it is expected to come next March.

Mr. Layton said the current tanker is a “92” and we pray over it every day, that it will last until the new one comes. Mr. Moore asked how many trucks they have. Mr. Statler said there are three big fire trucks, a ladder truck, rescue truck, and a tanker. We just finished a squad which is an F350 with a utility bed on it. Then we have three ambulances on the EMS side.

Mr. Rummel asked if they will keep all the equipment if they merge with Scalp. Mr. Statler said it has been discussed between some of us but down the road what will happen is there will be some equipment that will be moved in and out. Mr. Layton said Scalp is in the same situation as they are. They have old stuff. They have a lot of used equipment and certainly you want to use it up until their life expectancy ends, but when you start replacing at that point you will be more selective.

Mr. Moore asked how Scalp gets their money. Mr. Statler said they get money from some municipalities and fundraisers like we do. They do Paint Borough, Scalp Level Borough, Benson Borough and half of Paint Township and part of Quemahoning Township. Attorney Green said he believes the municipalities must approve a merger if it occurs in the end. The stuff that happens prior to that has to be worked out.

Mr. Rummel thanked the fire department for coming.

**Shawn  
Saloney**

Mr. Saloney said he wrote something up to try and explain some of the things going on and to try and defend himself as a local business owner.

Mr. Saloney said Partners in Innovated Insulation and Home Improvement LLC would like to address the complaint presented by Jim Sierran in several of the last meetings. We were informed he has been putting on a spectacular show of defaming our company, thus we were given the opportunity to present the facts as we know them. First of all, Mr. Sierran has yet to display the fortitude to personally address any of his concerns to us.

We understand that he and Mr. Gyurik started the complaint several years ago to include garbage containers or dumpsters and the presence of trailers on our property. Complaints have more recently escalated to include safety concerns about spray foam after Mr. Sierran had taken pictures of Mr. Saloney standing on the road unloading shipments of spray foam into his garage. Please note that his concerns were never safety until this point. He believes his concerns were not being taken care of, so he tried to take it to the next level.

Mr. Saloney said the bottom line is he does not like that he runs his small business out of his home, as many small contractors do. So, he will keep searching for a reason to stop us, which is absurd.

Mr. Saloney said let's address the safety concern which is the most important factor and that is with the closed-up spray foam that we use. We also use other insulation products as well, but the only concern of safety at least in his eyes, because he does not know what we do, would be the spray foam. We currently use a Huntsman (manufacturer) High Lift HFO product. It is not the UPC Product that Mr. Sierran had shown in pictures and his big presentation. Even if it were all these products are very similar. The product is produced and stored in separate containers, 55-gallon drums. There is a barrel A side and a barrel B side, the two components that are used to make spray foam. These products do not react until they are brought together. They are inactive and no chemical reaction occurs, and they are both stable if stored and handled in the proper way.

Mr. Saloney said they perform no work on their property unless he is working on his own personal house or a house in the neighborhood. At the job site the spray foam is activated after it travels through the proportioner, which is located in the trailer, then it travels separately through a set of hoses that are heated and finally at the spray gun where those two products combine about 7/8 of an inch from the nozzle of the spray gun is where those two products meet and that is their first reaction to each other. The product hits the wall and there is a second reaction and so on and so forth.

Mr. Saloney said at no time does this product mix on our property and even if it did there is no danger there. Spray foam flammability is a one as compared to heating fuel that many of our residents have in their homes is a rating of three. The gasoline which residents store on their property is also a three. None of these chemicals are concerning if they are handled properly. The same logic applies to spray foam. The burning spray foam trailer that Mr. Sierran had a picture of was likely caused by negligence or an ignition of some sort due to a mechanical failure.

Mr. Saloney said we all have seen pictures of burning fuel tanks but yet many people store fuel in their basements to heat their homes, the logic is the same. We never consider putting any of our neighbors at risk causing damage to our own homes or families.

Mr. Saloney said in our discussion with Ron Allison the Borough Manager, we addressed the complaint about increased traffic, which is unfounded. We have two employees we do not do any business at our home. There is no store front there. All we do is show up in the morning and go to work and come home. If his truck goes down the road 10 times a day, it's because he lives there. He is in and out all day long. Follow the math we have two employees this does not even make sense to him.

Mr. Saloney said they also addressed the trailers parked on his property. Each of those has a specific function and only one of those trailers is a spray foam trailer. All these trailers are registered and insured and are parked on our own property, not on the street. Occasionally, he may have one parked in front of his garage like there is one there now. It is not actually street parked, it is on his property off the street.

Mr. Saloney said in order to see our equipment you would have to walk by or drive by. Mr. Sierran lives several houses down and rather than drive by our property he has two other streets down at his end of town that he can enter and exit through. There is no need for him to come up Village Street to exit his property. Village Street is the worst of the three streets down there to exit because there is a blind spot there. The other two streets are great, so there is no need for him to drive up in his direction and nose in his business.

Mr. Saloney said to alleviate the safety concern and simplify the resolution of the complaint they have chosen to buy a piece of property outside of Windber Borough to make this go away. He hated to do it, but they looked at several other properties here in Windber and felt if they purchased one of those properties this problem would just follow us. So, they decided to go somewhere to a borough that is happy to have us. He is not talking about borough council, but one neighbor. If they tried to keep it here in Windber Borough, it would just cause more problems for the council and himself.

Mr. Saloney said he doesn't want to cause anyone to feel unsafe in our neighborhood. He has no plans of moving his trailers or garbage container. He plans on running his business the same way, day in and day out, just like they do now without causing any harm to any of the neighbors. In fact, they have done work for some of our neighbors and a lot of good favors for a good portion of our neighbors. He does not know Mr. Sierran. He has never met him though he has driven past his house a million times since living there and he waved at him several times with nothing back, so he was done. He has never done anything to the guy, but it is what it is.

Mr. Saloney said it is unfortunate that the borough must waste their time on complaints that are so trivial when you have more important things to do. It is a shame. He thanked the council for the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Saloney said he is not going to do anything different other than move his chemicals to an off-site location. The building is not quite ready yet, so it will take a little bit of time. He said he does have a guy that does recycle their empty containers and he does not have it worked out yet if he will go to the new site because if not, that may cause a problem for him. If the guy comes to his home, he can walk right out and meet him. If he goes to the location that will cause Mr. Saloney a trip and time because it is 20 minutes away. There may be times there will be empty containers sitting out in front of his house, but they will be empty.

Mr. Saloney said he can only do so much to appease the nasty neighbor, but he is not moving out of the borough. He is running his business right where it is and that's the way it will be.

Mr. Rummel thanked Mr. Saloney for coming and addressing them. Mr. Saloney said he appreciates them because everything that was addressed to him was done professionally, and Manager Allison was a big help. After the last meeting, he had heard from several people in

the borough that he was being bashed and he came back in and talked to Manager Allison. He said if anyone has questions for them, please ask.

**Ron Balon** Ron Balon said he called someone here about trash in an alley behind the house and it is still there. It was over a month ago and it is ongoing. The address is 702 Somerset Avenue. He has pictures and he has been doing it for years.

Mr. Balon said there is also a house at 711 Graham Avenue that is falling down and has rats. He does not know if someone can go in there and check on how many rats are in there. Mr. Rummel noted his concerns and thanked him for the information given to them.

## **Correspondence**

1. Minutes of the Municipal Authority Meeting of March 11, 2024.
2. PSAB Update.
3. Conemaugh Valley Conservancy Newsletter.

**Approval Bills** A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Bahorik to approve the bills from March 2024. Question: Mr. Moore asked if the borough is responsible for the Firemen Workers Compensation shown on page two? Mrs. Gates said the borough is, along with Paint Township and Ogle Township.

Mr. Rummel asked Manager Allison if there was an update from PA Municipal concerning the stop work order on the radio tower. Manager Allison said they sent the property owner a violation notice, because they have not heeded any of the warnings sent to them. It is also on the invoice we received today.

Mr. Statler from the fire department commented on the workman's compensation question. He said that is strictly for the volunteers, not for the paid staff or EMS staff. Mr. Moore asked why they are covered and not the others? Mr. Statler said that is because of the fact they were paid at the time, the way the legislation reads is that the boroughs are responsible for compensation for only the volunteers unless you have a fully paid department of course.

Motion carried to approve the bills.

**Approval Payroll** A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Bahorik to approve payroll for March 22 and April 5, 2024. Question: Mr. Rummel asked if John Price was still working at the park? Manager Allison said he came in and gave him two weeks' notice today. Mr. Moore asked if John was the groundskeeper and if they were going to hire someone else to fill his spot. Manager Allison said he hasn't even had time to think about that yet, because he just came in today and gave notice, but he will be reevaluating that. Motion carried.

**Discussion/  
Hiring EMA** This item will be discussed as personnel in executive session.

**Cash Bal./  
Treasurer  
Report** Mrs. Gates said that everyone has a copy of the 2023 Audit. Everything went well and we have no findings. She is currently working on a five-year pension plan audit.

## Council Liaison Reports

**LaMonaca/  
WMA** Mr. LaMonaca said the Windber Municipal Authority is working on the future Wine Fest. Mr. Rummel asked Mr. LaMonaca if anything was mentioned about the security system at the Community Building. Mr. LaMonaca said not yet but he has a meeting with them tomorrow. Mr. LaMonaca said he recalls there was something about teenagers doing damage.

Mr. Moore asked Chief Frear if they found out who they were and if they were doing anything with them or their parents. Chief Frear asked; what damage to what? Mr. Moore said damage to the doors and vandalism of the Community Building. Chief Frear said we have received no reports of vandalism to the Community Building, nor has anyone contacted us concerning that. We did have a theft that occurred a few days ago.

**Mayor's  
Report** On March 23, 2024, Mayor Thomas attended and welcomed Jason and Cindi Truscot to Windber. They are the owners of the Rustic Blend Café, located on the corner of 18<sup>th</sup> Street and Graham Avenue. He thanked them for having faith and confidence in Windber Borough and wished them the best of luck in the future.

That same day they visited with the children and W.A.V.E. volunteers at the annual Easter Egg Hunt held in Miner's Park.

March 24, 2024, Mayor Thomas attended the Gun Bash sponsored by the Windber Fire Department. The event was well attended. It is important, especially now, that the fire department is supported, during these times when most fire departments are struggling to receive support from those they serve.

Mayor Thomas said they received word that the Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County has advertised for bids for the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Sidewalk Project. This project was included in the storm sewer update completed years ago, but due to the increase in costs caused by the pandemic the money allocated ran out, and the project was put on hold. We applied for funds through the county, and we received the money needed to finish the job.

On March 26, 2024, Mayor Thomas participated in and completed a PSAB webinar, "The Limits to Zoning" and he had also completed another PSAB Webinar "EOC Operations for Elected Officials."

Thanks to the initiative of Chief Frear, a solar powered electronic speed sign has been installed on the 1900 block of Somerset Avenue. Donations were received from Randy's Bilo, Dan Kennedy, Dom Chippie, and Kuchera Industries that paid for the unit and it was installed by our Public Works Department.

The recent heavy rain last Monday through Wednesday created some flooding, but the flood control system was able to handle it. We are fortunate that Rosebud Mining donated their equipment and workers to clean out the upper end of the retention pond. This was done at a \$500,000 savings to the borough which we would not have been able to afford.

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| <b>Manager's Report</b>   | <p><b>Sewer Work – Graham/15<sup>th</sup> Street</b> – This area sanitary lines have been located, repaired, and the blockage mitigated. There have been no further issues reported since the completion.</p> <p><b>403 Village Street</b> – The owners of 403 Village Street made a point of meeting with Manager Allison. They have explained that they are aware of the complaints being made at the council meetings by Mr. Serrian. They have purchased property outside of the borough to move the insulation chemicals to in hopes of stopping the complaints. They did say they may come to the council meeting to be heard.</p> <p>PA Municipal Codes Alliance received a letter on March 28, 2024, from Jacob Law Office requesting a review and investigation by PMCA. PMCA responded that they only respond to the borough requests for investigations. Further discussion reserved for executive session.</p> <p><b>Public Works</b> – The crew is building new flower boxes for around town. We have acquired two new mowers for use on borough properties and are keeping the old mowers in service for property maintenance. The borough supplied new safety vests and shirts for daily uniform use. All trucks have been assessed and necessary repairs made. The new dump bed has been purchased and is being installed. The diesel pickup, plow and bed are out for bid. Manager Allison is currently pricing its replacement. Several purchases were made to replace and update tools.</p> <p><b>Ballroom</b> – A donation has been offered to the borough to purchase the stain for the deck at the ballroom. It is being priced for purchase and the job will be completed once weather conditions improve. The ballroom continues to sign events and gain interest. It is very busy which is great news.</p> |
| <b>Solicitor's Report</b> | <p>Attorney Green said if you look at the next to last item on the PA Municipal Codes Report, which reads: Discussed Zoning Hearing Board requirements for a variance related to a possible day care center at 2100 Graham Avenue. ZHB Variance application emailed to the property owner. Attorney Green said he spoke with Ed from PA Municipal Codes, and he asked him the question “how many kids are they thinking of putting in there” and the owner said 30 to 40. He told them we cannot grant a variance and have 40 cars parked on Graham Avenue at 6 o'clock in the morning and 4 o'clock at night.</p> <p>Attorney Green said he spoke to the Attorney for the Zoning Hearing Board, and he is under the same opinion. So, if you hear anything about it, that is what it is.</p>   |
| <b>Codes Report</b>       | <p>Mr. Rummel asked the council if they had any questions on PA Municipal Codes Reports. There were no questions at this time.</p>  |
| <b>Ballroom Report</b>    | <p>Mr. Rummel asked the council if they read the list of activities. He said he went up to the Eclipse Party they had. He said it was not a good turnout but there were people there. Mr. Moore said he noticed there is a list of all their expenses. He would like to see a detailed list of each month what events and how much money was brought in.</p>  |
| <b>PSAB Delegate</b>      | <p>A motion was made by Dr. Ledney and seconded by Mr. Pallo to approve Mayor Thomas to be voting delegate for Windber Borough at the PSAB Conference in June 2024. Motion carried.</p>   |

- PennVest Meeting** A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Klonicke to approve establishing a planning consultation meeting with PennVest, DEP, and EADS to discuss the possible implementation of a sewer project in Windber Borough. Motion carried.
- Balderas Resignation** A motion was made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to accept the resignation of David Balderas from the Windber Borough Police Department. Motion carried.
- EMS Donation** A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Pallo to approve the donation of \$23,483 to Windber EMS as budgeted. Remarks: Mr. Moore said he knows these distributions are budgeted but we had better start thinking about this sewer project that's coming up. It is going to cost us millions of dollars. He said he can't speak for anyone else but before he gives any money out from this borough he wants to see the books. He wants to see their status and what is in their accounts and everything else so he can make a judgement of what is needed. Mr. Layton handed Mrs. Gates the current month's balance sheet. Mr. Moore said he wants a profit and loss statement also.
- Mr. Rummel said coming into the meeting tonight he wanted to talk about the donations for fire and EMS. He feels a lot better because he heard rumors all over town that they were broke. He thanked Mr. Layton, and Mr. Statler for coming in and clarifying that for us. He knows it is a manpower issue. Thank you for explaining that and for coming.
- Mrs. Gates said any money used to pay for a PennVest loan would come from the Sewer Fund not the General Fund. Roll call vote: Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; Mr. Baborik, yes; Mr. Klonicke, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, no; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Six yes and one no, motion carried.
- Windber Fire Co. Donation** A motion was made by Mr. Pallo and seconded by Dr. Ledney to approve the donation of \$21,000 to the Windber Fire Company as budgeted. Roll call vote: Mr. Pallo, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Baborik, yes; Mr. Klonicke, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Moore, no; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Six yes, and one no, motion carried.
- Windber Fire Co. Truck** A motion was made by Mr. Pallo and seconded by Mr. Baborik to approve the distribution of \$45,000 to Windber Fire Department for the fire truck as budgeted. Roll call vote: Mr. Pallo, yes; Mr. Baborik, yes; Mr. Klonicke, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, no; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Six yes and one no, motion carried.
- Windber Museum** A motion was made by Mr. Pallo and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve a donation to the Windber Museum as budgeted in the amount of \$4,000. Roll call vote: Mr. Pallo, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Baborik, yes; Mr. Klonicke, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Seven yes, motion carried.
- Windber Library** A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Baborik to approve a donation to the Windber Public Library as budgeted in the amount of \$15,000. Roll call vote: Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Baborik, yes; Mr. Klonicke, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Moore, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Seven yes, motion carried.
- Block Party** A motion was made by Mr. Baborik and seconded by Mr. Pallo to approve Life Church closing the street from Graham Avenue from 13<sup>th</sup> Street to 15<sup>th</sup> Street for an annual block party May 29, 2024, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca for the council to convene to an executive session at 8:04 p.m. for personnel matters. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Pallo and seconded by Mr. Moore for the council to reconvene from an executive session at 8:34 p.m. Discussion of police personnel matters. Motion carried.

**Approval  
EMA**

Manager Allison asked the fire department; “for someone to be an EMA Chief to replace Anson what qualifications do they have to have before being appointed by the governor?” Mr. Statler said not to quote him on all this because they just changed a lot of things for an EMA, like continuing education and stuff. He is not sure what the minimum is currently. It used to be like the ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800. There were seven or eight courses at a minimum. There are levels now based off of different qualifications, hours, etc. Manager Allison asked if you could approve someone pending those requirements. Mr. Statler said he was not sure about that.

Mr. Rummel asked if Windber Fire merges, could Scalp Level have the same EMA as ours? Mr. Statler said yes, there are areas in the county that do regional EMA. He said as long as they are approved by each of the municipalities. He said there are currently vacancies in Cambria County because of the training requirements.

Mr. Rummel asked if they could get by with an interim vote? Mr. Statler said the regional thing really doesn’t have anything to do with the fire department. Manager Allison said he asked because he knew they would be closest in contact with people who are.

Manager Allison asked if they could approve this person pending the appointment process. Attorney Green said yes, and he told him to contact Senator Stefano and his chief of staff will email the governor’s chief of staff. Give him the facts.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Bahorik to approve Joel Penrod as interim EMA until he gets appointed by the Governor. Roll call vote: Mr. Moore, yes; Mr. Bahorik, yes; Dr. Ledney, yes; Mr. Klonicke, yes; Mr. LaMonaca, yes; Mr. Pallo, yes; and Mr. Rummel, yes. Seven yes, motion carried.

**Next  
Meeting**

Next council meeting will be May 13, 2024, at 7 p.m.

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned by Council President, Richard Rummel at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Robin S. Gates  
Administrative Assistant