

The **Agenda Meeting** of Charleroi Borough Council was held on September 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Roll Call showed the following Members of Council present: Kristin Hopkins-Calcek, Larry Celaschi, Jerry Jericho, Paul Pivovarnik, Joseph Smith and Robert Whiten Jr.

Tom Santoro was absent

Also, present were: Mayor Gregg Doerfler, Solicitor Dennis Paluso and Borough Admin/Secretary Roberta Doerfler.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dennis Paluso turned in his resignation as solicitor of the Borough, stating that he accepted the General Manager position at the Authority of the Borough of Charleroi.

Jody Cheplic spoke to council members about the number of increased accidents in town. She suggested that more signs need to be put up for people going the wrong way in traffic.

Council Members went through the discussion items and set the agenda for next week's meeting.

Larry Celaschi made a motion to amend the agenda to add hiring a solicitor to replace Dennis Paluso and Jerry Jericho seconded.

Roll Call Vote showed Robert Whiten Jr., Joseph Smith, Paul Pivovarnik, Jerry Jericho and Larry Celaschi voting "yes" and Kristin Hopkins-Calcek voting "no" Motion Carried

Because there was going to be a vote, Kristin Hopkins-Calcek called Tom Santoro to have him on an electronic device to vote.

Larry Celaschi nominated Tom Agrafiotis as solicitor with Joseph Smith agreeing.

Roll Call Vote showed Robert Whiten Jr., Tom Santoro, Jerry Jericho and Kristin Hopkins-Calcek voting "no" and Joseph Smith, Paul Pivovarnik and Larry Celaschi voting "yes" Nomination Failed

Jerry Jericho nominated Steve Toprani with Kristin Hopkins-Calcek agreeing.

Roll Call Vote showed Robert Whiten Jr., Tom Santoro, Jerry Jericho and Kristin Hopkins-Calcek voting "yes" and Joseph Smith, Paul Pivovarnik and Larry Celaschi voting "no" Nomination Carried

Steven Toprani is the new solicitor for the Borough of Charleroi

Paul Pivovarnik made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Jerry Jericho

Roll Call Vote Was Unanimous Motion Carried

The **Regular Meeting** of Charleroi Borough Council was held on September 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call showed the following Members of Council present: Kristin Hopkins-Calcek, Larry Celaschi, Jerry Jericho, Paul Pivovarnik, Thomas Santoro, Joseph Smith and Robert Whiten Jr.

Also, present were: Mayor Gregg Doerfler, Borough Admin/Sec Roberta Doerfler, Solicitor Steven Toprani and Borough Manager Joseph Manning

Motion by Jerry Jericho. and seconded by Paul Pivovarnik to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from August 14, 2024

Roll Call Vote Was Unanimous Motion Carried

Aaron from Remington Vernick Engineering gave the monthly report

Motion by Jerry Jericho and seconded by Robert Whiten Jr to amend the agenda to add the Charleroi Borough contribution to the 2025 Police Budget

Roll Call Vote Was Unanimous

Motion Carried

PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Sean MacDonald spoke to council about the condition of the street signs and hoping that they can be replaced

Nancy Ellis gave an update on the Veterans Day Parade scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Bob Jurkowitz of 708 Lookout Ave has concerns of his neighbors putting their garbage out early and attracting rodents

Fred Schwalb of North Charleroi Council and board member of the Charleroi Regional Police came to offer insight on the police budget. He stated that North Charleroi voted to increase their contribution to the Regional Police by \$17,000 and that the new raises for the police will take effect October 1, 2024

**Finance:** Councilman Pivovarnik stated that all Borough invoices are being paid and that the finance committee will be meeting the week of the 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the 2025 budget

**Public Works:** Thomas Santoro mentioned that he didn't have a copy of the street department report

**Parks and Recreation:** No report

**Code, Fire EMS and Animal Control:** Bob Whiten read the code enforcement and the EMS report. He didn't have a copy of the animal control report, but did mention that people in other communities have had a few complaints about animal control, so he wants to keep an eye on them. Matt Prentice read the fire department report.

**Personnel:** No report at this time

**Police:** No report

**Community Planning:** Larry Celaschi said that with the closing of the Quality Pasta plant and the recent announcement of Corelle Brands plant closing and moving, there will be over 400 jobs lost and a tax revenue loss. He has been in contact with legislators trying to get the closing of Corelle Brands stopped. Kristin Hopkins-Calcek introduced Steven Toprani as our new solicitor for the Borough.

**Mayor:** His report consisted of send happy birthday wishes to the secretary

AGENDA:

1. Motion by Paul Pivovarnik and seconded by Joseph Smith to approve the August/September 2024 list of expenses and payments in the amount of \$170,342.56

Roll Call Vote Was Unanimous

Motion Carried

2. Motion by Paul Pivovarnik and seconded by Thomas Santoro to approve the 2025 MMO for the Pension Plan

Roll Call Vote Was Unanimous

Motion Carried

3. Motion by Jerry Jericho and seconded by Joseph Smith to approve the paid accessible parking application for 612 Fifth Street

Roll Call Vote Was Unanimous

Motion Carried

4. Motion by Jerry Jericho and seconded by Thomas Santoro to authorize to advertise the building permit requirement ordinance

Roll Call Vote Was Unanimous

Motion Carried

- 5. Motion by Jerry Jericho and seconded by Thomas Santoro to award the paving project with the Remington & Vernick Engineering recommendation of the Base Bid, plus the alternate bid number 2 in the amount of \$141,641.75

Roll Call Vote Was Unanimous

Motion Carried

- 6. Motion by Jerry Jericho and seconded by Larry Celaschi to approve the Charleroi Borough contribution to the Regional Police 2025 budget in the amount of \$913,388.63. With this increase the current police contract will be extended by 2 years.

Because this item was added to the agenda, the public was allowed to have discussions.

Bob Whiten stated that the fire department needs to get something too.

Mr. Yohe also stated that the fire department should also get an increase of some type.

Sean MacDonald stated that we need to keep both the police and fire department and that we should increase their amounts.

Jonathan Martin questioned how are we paying for this increase? Kristin Hopkins-Calcek stated that we will analyze the budget to find the increase and Paul Pivovarnik stated that we budget for an increase every year regardless and that we have invested money from the sewer line sale from the Authority of the Borough of Charleroi, we can use what is earned from that.

Roll Call Vote Was Unanimous

Motion Carried

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The next Charleroi Borough Council Agenda meeting is August 7, 2024 at 6PM.
- The next Charleroi Borough Council Business meeting is August 14, 2024 at 6PM.

Motion by Thomas Santoro and seconded by Jerry Jericho to adjourn the meeting.


All in Favor

Motion Carried




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Kristin Hopkins-Calcek, President




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Roberta Doerfler, Borough Admin/Secretary