



The Borough of Elverson
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February 4, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Elverson Borough Council was held on February 4, 2025, and called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President, Merle Stoltzfus who led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dennis Kurtz who led in Prayer.

ATTENDANCE:

Council Members, Merle Stoltzfus, Thomas Feeley, Dennis Kurtz, Laura Pennza, Mayor Esther Prosser and Secretary/Treasurer, Lorrie Stolz
Absent: Julie Duffy, Mike Trojecki, and John Scalia.

Also in attendance: Mark Stabolepszy, SSM Group, Greg Phillips, YDASP, Lisa Palser, Parks, Rec. and Trails, Sharon de Garay, Joseph de Garay, Tim McEwen, Kim VanLew, Jim TerBush, George TerBush, Greg Labe, Elizabeth Ballantyne, Greg Siwik, and Ron Grant.

MINUTES:

Motion made by Dennis Kurtz and seconded by Laura Pennza to accept the January 7, 2025. Council meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried by all.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Motion made by Dennis Kurtz and seconded by Laura Pennza to accept the Treasurers Report and pay bills as presented. Motion carried by all.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Merle Stoltzfus discussed the Chester County Household Hazardous Waste program. Merle stated the County has not posted when the events will be held yet, they should be posted sometime in March. Merle stated the event dates will be shared in the Newsletter and Lorrie Stolz, Borough Secretary, will share the event dates on the Borough website when they are available.

MAYORS REPORT:

Esther Prosser discussed the Neighborhood Watch Block Captain meeting that was held last week. Esther stated this past year was a good year for Elverson, vandalism was at a minimum.

Esther mentioned the yard sale will be scheduled for Saturday, May 17th from 8am – 1pm this year; Esther is hoping the weather will cooperate for this event.

Esther asked Lorrie Stolz what the outcome is with the downed stop sign at Rt S. 82 and Main St. Lorrie stated she has called PennDOT and left several messages requesting the stop sign be repaired. Lorrie will contact PennDOT again.

PARKS, REC, AND TRAILS:

Lisa Palser advised Council the grant for the skatepark has been awarded. Lisa asked Council which design they would like to move forward with; Merle suggested discussing it at a public meeting and giving residents the opportunity to choose which design they like.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Merle Stoltzfus stated he had a meeting with Laura Pennza, Esther Prosser, and Lorrie Stolz to discuss the newsletter and ways to get important information out to the community. Merle turned the discussion over to Laura Pennza. Laura stated currently the Borough issues a newsletter every other month, recently it has been discussed to reduce it to twice a year, once in the Spring and once in the Fall. Laura also stated the option of utilizing the Savvy Citizen app where pertinent information could be posted such as trash delay, Elverson Day, the Elverson Parade, etc. Merle Stoltzfus stated he likes having a form of communication like Savvy Citizen to get the information to the residents quickly. Laura Pennza will continue to work with Lorrie Stolz and Esther Prosser on this.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

Tom Feeley stated we are waiting for the quote for carpeting at Borough Hall. Tom would like to order new wheels for the chairs in the Borough offices, and two (2) dehumidifiers.

Tom stated that unfortunately the Boy Scout Troop that meets at Borough Hall is dissolving due to lack of members. Tom stated there is a new group, Trail Life USA, that now meets at Borough Hall.

STATE POLICE:

Merle Stoltzfus reviewed the State Police report; there were no concerns.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Motion made by Tom Feeley and seconded by Dennis Kurtz to adopt Resolution No. 2025-02, to assign the 2025 Emergency Management Service Providers for the Borough of Elverson. Motion carried by all.

EMS:

Merle Stoltzfus discussed the EMS report.

ENGINEERING:

Mark Stabolepsky stated Blue Rock has some things to finish; he will continue to work on that to get that to close out. Mark stated the Municipal Authority's Engineer is working on the Act 537 Plan Update, once Mark gets it back, he hopes to have his part done in a month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Merle Stoltzfus discussed that Greg Phillips, Borough Solicitor and two (2) Council Members went to the public hearing at Caernarvon Township in December. Merle stated at that public hearing Greg asked for Party status and was denied. Merle encouraged all the residents to attend the public hearings going forward when they reconvene. Merle advised everyone in attendance that Borough Secretary, Lorrie Stolz forwards all letters and emails that come to the Borough to the Council members.

Ron Grant, 99 Hertzler Dr., Elverson, stated he is not on board with this proposal. He believes there is a lot of potential harm to the three (3) schools in the area along with any nearby wells. He thanked Council for the opportunity to speak at tonight's meeting.

Elizabeth Ballantyne, 220 S. Pine St. Elverson, stated she is concerned about the environmental impact and the traffic situation this facility will create. She feels this is a bad idea. Elizabeth stated she is concerned that this will affect her property value.

Kim VanLew, 130 Moyer Rd., Morgantown, stated she is very much against this for all the reasons already stated. She feels that if they want to make this area thrive this is not the way to do it.

George TerBush, 111 Derby Dr., Elverson, stated he is not in favor of this facility.

Jim TerBush, 111 Derby Dr., Elverson, stated he is totally against this project. He thanked Council for writing a letter to Caernarvon Township. Jim stated this will be the largest facility on the smallest farm Vanguard has developed one these digesters on.

Greg Labe, 132 N. Chestnut St., Elverson, stated he moved here a few years ago from Philly to get away from that atmosphere and now he is afraid if this facility is built, he will not be able to sell his

house and move again.

Tim McEwen, 61 W. Conestoga Rd., Elverson, stated he went to the meeting at French Creek Golf Club; he went to all seven (7) tables, and no one could answer all his questions. Tim discussed how the traffic from this is going to increase drastically. Tim feels there are too many variables, and we are not being told all the facts about this facility.

Joseph de Garay, 163 Township Line Rd., Elverson, suggested Council adopt an Ordinance to prohibit the spreading of the digest on land within the Borough. Joseph stated he read the traffic study report, and it does not speak about taking the waste going out, only what will be coming into the facility and that concerns him. He thanked Council for the opportunity to speak at tonight's meeting.

Merle Stoltzfus thanked everyone for coming to tonight's meeting, he advised everyone that they were heard, and their concerns were noted. Greg Phillips stated the public hearings are indefinitely postponed at this time, he feels it could be several months before they reconvene. Tom Feeley stated we must stay diligent.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Tom Feeley and seconded by Dennis Kurtz to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully,

Lorrie Stolz
Secretary Treasurer