

December 3, 2024 Agenda

December Council Meeting

Call To Order

Roll Call

Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and remain standing for the Council Prayer.

Copies of the minutes of the previous council meeting have been given to Borough Council members and Mayor Tomko, are there any errors or corrections? If not, they stand approved.

Public Comment

Mayor's Report

1. A heartfelt thank you to Holy Apostles Episcopal Church and to the Schuylkill County Knights of Columbus for providing free Thanksgiving dinners to those who found themselves alone or unable to cook for the Thanksgiving holiday.
2. On behalf of myself, the Borough Council, Borough Officials, and the Borough employees – we wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!
3. Those wishing to oppose the renewal or extension of the BRADS landfill permit could exercise their 1st amendment right to petition by sending their reasons for opposition to the PA Senate Committee on Environmental Resources and Energy at Senate Box 203023, Harrisburg, PA 17120-3013 and the PA House Committee on Environmental Resources and Energy c/o the Capital Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

Historical Note

Admiral Joel Thompson Boone was born in St. Clair on August 29, 1889. He attended the borough's public schools and then went on to Mercersburg Academy. He graduated from Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, PA in June of 1913.

He was a cousin several times removed to Daniel Boone. He entered the U.S. Navy in 1915.

During his service in World War I, he received the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, and was awarded the Silver Star six times. These awards made Boone the most highly decorated Medical Officer in the history of the United States Armed Forces.

He remained in the Navy after the first World War and also served during the Second World War and the Korean War. He was one of the few individuals to have served in all three conflicts.

He was promoted to Lieutenant Commander in 1918. He was assigned as one of the Presidential physicians during the administration of Presidents Harding and Coolidge. When Herbert Hoover became President, Boone was assigned as the physician to the White House.

He served in World War II as Fleet Medical Officer under Admiral William F. Halsey in the Pacific Theater of Operations.

He was promoted to Rear Admiral on January 8, 1946. Upon his retirement from the Navy in December of 1950, he was promoted to the rank of Vice Admiral and was appointed to serve as Medical Director of the United States Department for Veterans Affairs.

Vice Admiral Boone died April 2, 1974 in Washington, D.C. and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. The park next to our Borough Hall was dedicated to Admiral Boone.

Solicitor's Report

- Review Master Service Agreement with American Municipal Power.
- Discuss Palo Alto Police contract.
- Discuss Police Pension Ordinance.
- Update on conservatorship properties.

-214 S. Third Street

- Request an Executive Session to discuss negotiations with Reading Anthracite, sale of conservatorship properties and other legal issues.

Engineer's Report

- Discuss potential grant opportunities.

Departmental Reports

Street Department Report

Electric Light Department

Treasurer's Report

Tax Collector's Report – Taxes collected up to October 31, 2024

Real Estate -	\$ 4,060.49
Per Capita -	\$ 88.00
Occupational -	\$ 23.10
TOTAL -	\$ 4,171.59

Respectfully submitted by William Umbenhaur, Tax Collector

Police Department

Zoning Officer's Report

Fire Chief's Report

Code Official Report

COMMUNICATIONS - None

Old Business

Accept a motion to adopt the 2025 fiscal budget.

Accept a motion to adopt the tax ordinance for the borough increasing the real estate tax by 1 mill for a total of 9 mills.

Accept a motion to adopt the Electric Light Ordinance increasing the electric light rate by 0.01 per KWH as recommended to cover the capacity charge increase.

Accept a motion to adopt the Resolution authorizing the adoption of the Master Service Agreement authorizing the execution of the fourth amendment to the 2013-2017 non-pool energy purchase schedule with American Municipal Power, Inc. ("AMP")

Accept a motion to authorize the purchase of a regulator from T & R Electric in the amount of \$31,200 as part of the maintenance for the switchyard.

New Business

Accept a motion to adopt the resolution to amend the Privacy Policy to include the Attestation for a Requested Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information Potentially Related to Reproductive Health Care.

Accept a motion to empower the Borough Secretary to communicate with the Pennsylvania Senate and the House of Representatives Committees in Environmental Resources and Energy in order to oppose the BRADS Landfill renewal permit and the BRADS Landfill expansion permit for reasons including but not limited to truck traffic through our Borough as well as horrible odors coming from the landfill which negatively affect our property values and are deleterious to our quality of life and our health.

Accept a motion to mandate all Borough Departments to assist in preparing the borough streets in the event of a Snow Emergency as declared by the mayor.

Accept a motion to hire Bryce Lewis as a part time police officer at the current rate.

Accept a motion to hire Cody Searfoss as a part time police officer at the current rate.

Accept a motion to hire Ryan Smith as a part time police officer at the current rate.

Discuss Borough Engineer' action items.

This is the last council meeting of the year. The next Issues, Review and Finance work session is scheduled for Thursday, January 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Executive Session.

Accept a motion to pay all Bills and Claims properly approved by council.

Accept a motion to adjourn.

Upcoming Events:

- December 7 – 3rd Annual Christmas Festival and Tree Lighting Ceremony from 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Third Street Gazebo.