

**Borough of Modena
Monthly Council Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2024**

1. Call to Order

At 7:00 pm on Monday November 4, 2024, at Borough Hall, 5 Woodland Ave President Daywalt called to order the Council meeting, of the Borough of Modena Council.

2. Salute to the Flag

3. Roll Call

Secretary Cloud conducted roll call. In attendance were President Jennifer Daywalt, VP Beau Tilghman, Council members Jenny Hines, Ruth Ayers, Felicia Handley, Elizabeth Sinton, Blaise Frost, and Treasurer Danielle Pearson. Solicitor Fuller and Mayor Harvey were absent.

4. Approval of this evening's Agenda

VP Tilghman made a motion to accept this evening's agenda. Council member Hines second, all in favor motion passed.

5. Approval of Minutes

Monthly meeting minutes from October 21, 2024, reviewed. Council member Hines made a motion to accept the minutes, council member Handley second, all in favor motion passed.

6. Public Comment on Agenda Items

None

7. Written Reports

7.1 Treasurer's Report

- President stated that balances are not out yet for the month.

7.2 Payment of Bills

- President read the bills to council as listed. There are a few outstanding.
- VP Tilghman made a motion to accept the report and to pay the bills, council member Ayers second, all in favor motion passed.

7.3 Police and Fire Department Reports

- Council reviewed report.

7.4 Sewer Flow Report

- Council reviewed report.

7.5 Code Enforcement Officer Report

- Council reviewed report.

8. Council and Committee Reports

8.1 Council President Report

- President Daywalt stated that the MOU from Shelly at Cleveland Cliffs is almost completed. President will get together with her to review it.

8.2 Secretary Report

- The invoice for advertising, stenographer, all original and electronic recordings for the Conditional Use hearing of 98 N. Brandywine Ave. has been paid by JMMD Holdings for the amount of \$2,200.44.

8.3 Mayor Report

- Absent.

8.4 Park & Rec Committee Report

- Tree lighting, Santa and Menorah lighting event will be held on Sunday. December 1, 2024, 4:00 to 5:00pm.
- December 7 the borough signed up to be in the Coatesville Parade. Volunteers needed to decorate the vehicles.
- Luminaries are available for purchase. 15 kits for \$20. There is a QR code on website.
- Early registration for Duck Derby vendors forms are online.
- Garage needs cleaned up and organized. Christmas decorations are to be put up soon.

8.5 Historical Committee Report

- Mode House website has a QR code posted for 'Just \$5.00 in 2025' requesting donations.
- Mr. Graves again will reach out to the descendants of the Mode house regarding their donation.
- He attended a meeting for America2025PA. Then distributed free advertising items to council.

8.6 Public Works Report

- 2005 Dump truck sold on Municibid, for \$4,080.00
- Garage clean up is necessary from events.
- There is also scrap metals VP will remove to sell at scrap yard.

8.7 Planning, Zoning and Ordinance Report

- Nothing to report.

8.8 Environmental & Conservation Report

- Work with Historical committee on funding for the Mode House and pocket park. A meeting needs to be set up soon.
- Grant information: The mini-grants have a maximum cash award value of 10,000 and must be completed within one year. To learn more and apply, please visit [https://www.chescoplanning.org/MuniCorner/Vpp- RollingMini.cfm](https://www.chescoplanning.org/MuniCorner/Vpp-RollingMini.cfm). If you have any questions, please reach out to our Community Planning Director, Bambi Griffin Rivera, at bgriffinrivera@chesco.org.

8.9 Finance Committee Report

- Finance committee head Blaise Frost spoke about raising fee schedule for 2025. Committee's suggestion is to reduce police. SCV police proposed earlier this year, \$66,500K a year, locked in for 3 years. Currently the contract we are working on is 4 years old. President stated that all costs are going up, it will be hard to reduce the policing.

Council members stated that they don't currently see policing. President stated to review the reports on how often they are in the borough. EFT Police and Manager will meet with Mayor and President in mid-December to have them as Modena's police. They would like that meeting sooner.

Legal fees; LTL Codes & engineering. What they charge the Borough, we should be charging a bit more to make some money.

Council member Ayers asked if there is an ordinance that allows funds to be transfer out of Sewer to General; then replenished back. President stated that when she came on board the treasurer named Deb G. would make transfers. Deb was excellent at her job knowing what is permissible.

- President needs budget for the November 18 meeting. Need to advertise for 30 days.

9. Unfinished/Old Business

Grant Project Updates

CRP Grant – Streets

- Liquid Fuels/Highway aid funds are not allowed to pay Abbonizio \$30k. There is a process/application with PennDOT to have permission to do so that we were unaware of, that deadline was February 2024 to advise them. President Daywalt will speak with Abbonizio about a payment plan.

Meredith Court Mitigation Project

- 100 % funded project from FEMA & PEMA. Federal Share \$2,763,209.00, State Share \$ 655,666.00 = TOTAL \$3,418,875.00

Progress Review at 3 Union St. Parcel #10-4- 41.3 and at 1 Meredith Court parcel 10-4-41.3

- Mr. Jeff Morrison did not attend this meeting to give an update. Visually no progress. Does council want to take this back to court? President will contact Mr. Morrison to attend this next meeting.

98 N. Brandywine Conditional Use Appeal

- Again, no movement. Solicitor Fuller will appeal to the state on behalf of the Borough. Not on the docket yet.

10. New Business

- Secretary submitted a claim for the 5 lights and poles that were damaged during a July storm. Invoice for the work from Vietri was \$3,300.00. Waiting if they are covered; deductible would be \$500.
- STMP through DCED – Financial Grant program; to work with consultants for 3-5 years to come up with a better financial plan for the Borough. There is a 50/50 match, yet SCV applied for this service, and was able to get it at 10/90 match. Council needs to review this more at this website; <https://dced.pa.gov/download/strategic-management-planning-program-smpp-guidelines/> Decision to be made for the November 18 meeting.

11. General Public Comments – limit of 3 minutes per person.

- Mr. Graves spoke about a large leaning tree across the street from his house at 18 Union St. is leaning on the electric lines. PECO has been called, done nothing. Property owner will be notified.

- Ms. Kim Sherman asked the question if Portnoff reports were ready. This question should be directed to the treasurer not Secretary. Prior to this meeting Secretary did provide the finance committee head, Blaise Frost with old sewer & refuse excel reports that need cleaned up then merged.
- Ms. Sherman need clarity on 'what the tenants and owners would get out of the increase in fees. President said, Borough can't make money on nothing- need to specify why borough is making money. EX: to cover safety annual inspections, codes goes up, Borough fees need to go up.

Meeting Adjourned

Regular Council meeting ended at 8:40pm. Council member Frost made a motion to end the meeting, Council member Handley second, all in favor, motion passed.

Next Council Meeting:

Monday November 18, 2024, at 7:00 pm at Borough Hall

President:

Secretary:

Date: