

**Taylor Borough  
Council Meeting Minutes  
November 13, 2024**

The Taylor Borough Council held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. at the Taylor Municipal Building, 122 Union Street, Taylor, Pennsylvania.

President Mickavicz chaired the meeting.

President Mickavicz opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On Roll Call: Councilman Fox, Yes; Councilman Maldonato, Yes; Councilman McKeel, Yes; Councilman Nezlo, Yes; Councilman Digwood, Yes; Councilman DeAngelo, Yes; President Mickavicz, Yes; Mayor Kavulich, Yes.

President Mickavicz asked if anyone from the public had any comment or input on any agenda item, if none, with Councils permission, I would jump out of order. We have tonight our recently retired Officer Stephen A. Derenick, Chief if you would like to come up and the Mayor has a Proclamation to present. On behalf of the Mayor and the Taylor Community, we would like to commend Officer Stephen Derenick for his dedication and service to the Taylor Police Force. Stephen, before you leave here, I want this to be on record, you set the history or a record here. I think it was the first time ever you served on Taylor Hose Company #2 as a very active fire fighter, probably the better part of 20 years. Served on Taylor Hose Company #1, served as the Borough Fire Chief and then became Taylor's Police Chief. He has always been very active in the County Drug Task Force, was active throughout his whole career in the Community. So you can actually say, you given us a service of a life time to Taylor Borough. I know your still active with the Library and the Santa's Parade. On behalf of the entire council and the Mayor and the residents, you really did through your career serve Taylor Borough. You will be deeply missed. We congratulate you and wish you well. Leslie, we say the same to you, you shared him with Taylor Borough for many years. You hope and you pray they are always safe. How many times did you miss dinners, Christmas dinners, holidays and family gatherings.

We thank you for working with the Borough as well. Councilman Digwood would also like to say something. When he came on board, you were already a Police Officer, so these three decades later, you're just retiring. There is only one other person in this room who has been here longer and that is Attorney Jones and Eddie Kristoff is the other one. I got to know you even better when you became Police Chief, and we forged a good working relationship and friendship, and I wish you all the best in your retirement you and your family.

President Mickavicz asked if Council read the minutes. Councilman Digwood made a motion. Seconded by Councilman DeAngelo. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

Item A is to consider a motion to approve Resolution #13 for Authorizing the Board of Commissioners of Lackawanna County to submit an application for Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Community Development Block Grant Program Funds in the amount of \$118,211.00 on behalf of the Borough of Taylor for Schlager Street Paving Program. The Chairman would like to make a motion to adopt Item A. Councilman DeAngelo made a motion and seconded by Councilman McKeel.

Item B is to consider a motion to approve Course Vector to ensure our website is ADA compliant, making the website more accessible. The amount is \$500.00 per year. This is a recommendation by our webserver, hosted by the Association of Boroughs. It will put features on it that would benefit hearing impaired as well as vision impaired. The Chair would entertain a motion to adopt Item B. Councilman McKeel made a motion and seconded by Councilman Maldonato. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

Item C is to consider a motion to motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$500.00 to the American Legion Auxiliary for their Annual Children's Holiday Party. Can I get a motion to adopt Item C. Councilman Maldonato made a motion, and second by Councilman DeAngelo. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

Item D is to consider a motion to hire a part-time employee, Joshua Muth, for the Taylor Community Center at an hourly rate of \$15.00 per hour with no benefits and scheduled on an as needed basis. He has his clearances, and we have advertised on the Website and the Newspaper. Does anyone have any input, being the name was not on the Agenda? Seeing none, Madame Secretary, can you call roll please. Councilman Fox, Yes; Councilman Maldonato, Yes; Councilman McKeel, Yes; Councilman Nezlo, Yes; Councilman Digwood, Yes; Councilman DeAngelo, Yes; President Mickavicz, Yes. After receiving a unanimous vote, Mr. Muth is hereby appointed as a part time employee at the Taylor Community Center.

Item E is to consider a motion for recommendation to appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator for Taylor Borough. I'm going to ask to Table Item E at this time. We have been talking with the Fire Company across the street to fill Marty Cusick's position being he has passed away. The EMA coordinator is appointed by the Governor. In the event of an emergency, Lackawanna County has their own agency, which they would respond. With that being said, I would like for a motion to Table Item E. Councilman Digwood made a motion, and second by Councilman McKeel. A voice vote was called, all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

Item F is to consider a motion to approve the highest bid of \$15,750.00 from Gallagher Masonry for 2009 GMC K3500 4X4 Dump Truck, 103,848 miles, Central Hydraulics with Fischer 9' HD Plow, Spreader and Spinner. This truck has been replaced already. Councilman McKeel made a motion and seconded by Councilman Maldonato. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

Item G is a request from Riverside High School for 54 recycling bins for the Ecology Program at an approximate value of \$1,269.00. We originally purchased the recycling bins from a grant and the more ordered, the less each bin cost, that is why we have approximately 200 left. Councilman DeAngelo made a motion and seconded by Councilman Fox. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

Item H is to consider a motion to approve the purchase of Holiday Decorations with partial funds from a grant of \$5000.00 Re-Invest Grant and for the replacement

bulbs for pole decorations (\$1,449.42). The Chairman would like to make a motion to adopt item H. Councilman Maldonato made a motion and seconded by Councilman Digwood. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

Item I is a discussion on Solar Ordinance Recommendation from the Planning Commission. They are looking for a screening around the perimeter. They would like to use a 6 ft. fence along with Evergreens. They are asking to change the wording in the ordinance.

Item J is to consider a discussion and update on the transfer of the Zamias Escrow Account in the amount of \$60,302.14 transfer to the Pennsylvania State Treasurers Office for unclaimed property. Attorney Jones had been in contact with them. Back in June, council voted, I want to go on record tonight, I'm going to ask you for a written opinion by next Tuesday of the law if we are in compliance with the Pennsylvania Dept. of Treasury, that we have an obligation to return dormant accounts to that department so they can find the rightful owner. I appreciate your input that we are not going to do it, but I don't know how you can defy a motion by the council.

Item K is to Consider a motion to approve 2025 Tentative Budget. Here is what we have. The operating budget amount comes in at \$4,809,465.00 and the Liquid Fuels amount is \$212,500.00. That is the amount we get from the state every year and that goes towards the streetlights, traffic lights, traffic signals and maintenance, rock salt and minor road repairs. We have a Capital Budget of \$1,941,571.00. and in that we are putting in for a BIP loan which is an infrastructure loan available to municipalities, specifically for street paving and improvements for that. We are on year 7, I believe and this is to finish what we did not do on top of the other streets. This would be to do the alleys. This comes as a total of \$6,776,965.00 as the 2025 Tentative Budget. With that being said, the Chair would entertain a motion to adopt Item K. Councilman McKeel made a motion and seconded by Councilman Maldonato. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

Approval of Bills for payment

October Payroll	\$252,626.20
October General Fund Open Invoices	\$84,762.91
October ACH Transactions (Fidelity Loan)	\$3,074.78
October Paid Invoices	\$216,047.16
October Liquid Fuels Open Invoices	\$ 6,697.57

Total Expenditures \$563,208.62

**Treasurer's Report  
October 2024**

Local Services Tax	\$2,656.40
Earned Income Tax	\$27,492.50
RE Transfer Tax – Oct.	\$4,877.51
Miscellaneous	\$80,570.67
Tax Duplicates	\$320.00
ERSI Landfill 3rd ¼ 2024	\$440.33
Waste Management 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1/4 2024	\$414,123.93
(** Waste Management 3 <sup>rd</sup> ¼ 2023	\$539,857.88)
RE Tax Delinquent 2017	\$131.02
RE Tax Delinquent 2018	\$136.49
RE Tax Delinquent 2019	\$336.10
RE Tax Delinquent 2020	\$171.62
RE Tax Delinquent 2021	\$1,352.73
RE Tax Delinquent 2022	\$2,612.30
RE Tax Delinquent 2023	\$540.63
Court Fees/Police Fines	\$4,382.28
TCC	\$1,359.00
UCC Permits	\$2,178.41
PLCB License Fee's	\$1,400.00
Interest	\$1,123.46
Zoning	\$160.00

**Total Revenue: \$546,365.38**

**Financial Report  
October 31, 2024**

General Account	\$	592,525.78
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Real Estate Tax Account	\$	5,729.29
Liquid Fuels Account Balance	\$	78,766.58
Veteran's Memorial Account	\$	1,306.83
Hero's Banner Account	\$	8,883.93
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Open Purchase Orders (PO's)	\$	(2,749.51)
10 Year General Obligation Note	\$	(91,800.29)
Lease Obligations	\$	(398,480.43)
2023 Police Comp/OT Obligations	\$	(46,589.84)
Other Police Comp/OT Obligations	\$	(32,332.35)
Escrow Funds (Taylor Commons)	\$	60,360.87
Escrow Account (General)	\$	18,156.90
Police Pension Fund	\$	3,615,984.78
ESL, Inc. Escrow Account	\$	536,297.30
Fire Insurance Escrow	\$	60,360.87
Taylor Police K-9 Fund	\$	7,682.85
Government Money Market Fund	\$	502,398.23

**Recycling Report  
October – 2024**

	Pounds	Tons
Commingle	21,740	10.87
Cardboard/Paper	39,080	19.54
Grass/Brush	61,280	30.64

Totaling	122,100	_ 61.05
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The Chair will make a motion to approve the bills, Councilman Nezlo made a motion and seconded by Councilman McKeel. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

The Chair will make a motion to approve the Treasure’s Report, Councilman Digwood made a motion and seconded by Councilman DeAngelo. A voice vote was called, and all Council Members were in favor and the motion was accepted.

The Chair asked that the Financial Report for 2024 be placed on file.

Mayor’s Report

During the month of October 2024, the Police Department responded to 797 incidents. There were 26 traffic crashes investigated; 313 Traffic Stops were made; and 146 traffic citations were also issued 4 non-traffic citation. Officers made 17 criminal arrests. Arrest Report’s — Officer Boback - 4 arrests; Officer Feliciano – 1 arrest; Sergeant Snyder - 5 arrests; Officer McDonald - 3 arrests; Officer Baizan – 1 arrest; Officer Palonis – 1 arrest; Total 17

Revenues received for the month of October 2024, Special Duty: \$1,762.60, Police Reports: \$300.00, Magistrate Fines \$2,193.44, Judicial Fines \$126.24, - Total \$4,382.28.

Next, President Mickavicz asked that the Mayor’s Report for the month of October 2024 be placed on file.

Then President Mickavicz asked if the public had anything to say.

I hereby declare this meeting adjourned.

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Kenneth F. Mickavicz, President

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LuAnn Krenitsky, Secretary