

QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MONTHLY BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

July 17, 2024

The meeting took place at the Leetsdale Borough Building (373 Beaver Street, Leetsdale, PA 15056) and was broadcast via Zoom.

President Carrier called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken.

The following members were in attendance:

Aleppo:

Avalon: Roberta Edwards*

Bell Acres:

Bellevue: Dan McKelvey*

Ben Avon: Tavia Washington*

Edgeworth:

Emsworth:

Sewickley Heights:

Glen Osborne: Barbara Carrier

Glenfield:

Haysville: Amy Paff*

Kilbuck: Daryl Hartman

Leet: Donna Adipietro

Leetsdale: Maria Napolitano*

Sewickley: Julie Barnes

Public Comment:

Approval of June 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the June 19, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of June Financial Reports, Payroll, and Unpaid Bills:

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the June financial reports, unpaid bills, and employee payrolls as presented. Ms. Paff seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

President's Report:

President Carrier stated that Glen Osborne Borough Council has been fielding recommendations and reviewing possible plans of action regarding the increase in cases of Lyme's Disease within the Borough and region. She inquired to the group to see if their communities had discussed this matter as well. Mr. Hartman cited that Kilbuck Township has experienced an increase in their local deer and tick populations. Mr. Briggs stated that Sewickley Heights Borough hosts an annual deer culling event to help manage the population within their community. A discussion ensued.

Route 65 Report:

Executive Director Conners reported that the Route 65 Committee had convened via Zoom on July 10th to discuss the feedback that was provided by the QVCOG Managers and Secretaries Committee at their June 26th meeting. He proceeded to display the proposed language within the Route 65 Intergovernmental Agreement (approved at the June 19th Board of Delegates meeting) citing that an excerpt within the document led to some apprehension amongst member communities.

“WHEREAS, the Municipalities are cognizant that there may be financial, time and other obligations that may be requested in undertaking and carrying out the Project;”

Executive Director Conners reported that Kilbuck Township and Emsworth Borough had approved the Agreement as is, while a handful of other municipalities provided their feedback and, in some cases, recommended alterations to the document. Ms. Washington cited that Ben Avon Borough Council also approved the Agreement. Executive Director Conners stated that the Route 65 Committee would re-convene in the coming weeks to evaluate the feedback received from members to revise the Agreement to fit the needs of all QVCOG communities.

Emergency Preparedness Committee Report:

Executive Director Conners reported the Tri-Boroughs Emergency Preparedness Committee convened via Zoom on July 11th. He cited the discussions revolved around Haysville, Glenfield, & Glen Osborne updating their respective Emergency Operations Plans and building upon each other’s efforts and available resources. President Carrier noted that working towards final approval of the revised EOP for Glen Osborne Borough has been a lengthy, but worthwhile process. Ms. Paff echoed Ms. Carrier’s statement.

Grant Status Report:

Executive Director Conners provided brief updates concerning all active and recently awarded CDBG and GEDTF projects. He noted that beginning August 12, 2024, through September 13, 2024, Allegheny County Economic Development (ACED) will be soliciting pre-applications for construction related projects for its 2025-26 (Year 51 cycle) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Subsequently, he reported that the 2024 Gaming Economic Development & Tourism Fund Grant application window will be open from August 19th through August 30, 2024. He then proceeded to summarize the parameters of each program.

Executive Director’s Report:

Dixmont Cemetery Cleanup Event – Executive Director Conners reported that Kilbuck Township & their Local Government Academy “Municipal Intern” Hailey McClain have organized a community clean up event for the Dixmont Cemetery. He stated that the event will take place on July 20th beginning at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Hartman stated that the goal of the event will be to help remove fallen trees, pick weeds, rake leaves, and remove debris. to help make the cemetery a better resting place for those that remain there.

2024 International City Management Association Conference – Executive Director Conners reported that the 2024 ICMA annual conference will be held in the City of

Pittsburgh from September 21 - 25, 2024. He highlighted that the conference will bring together local government professionals around the world to connect and learn from peers, focus on emerging trends and challenges, and provide solutions to help them prepare for the future. He cited that registration for the event officially opened on June 12th and a discounted rate is available through August 14th.

New Business

Presentation - Mr. Andrew Novak, Office of Representative Valerie Gaydos - PA 44 – Executive Director Connors introduced Mr. Andrew Novak, District Legislative Aide for State Representative Valerie Gaydos (PA-44). Mr. Novak provided a brief update regarding proposed House Bill 589, which would introduce a statewide landslide insurance program. Additionally, he provided a grant and funding program directory to those in attendance and encouraged any communities seeking letters of support for the upcoming GEDTF application cycle to contact the Representative’s office as soon as possible. Subsequently, he invited everyone to an upcoming phone-based town hall hosted by Representative Gaydos on July 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Award ALPR Project to Surveillance Group & PlateSmart – Executive Director Connors cited that with the assistance of a Keystone Communities grant award (\$100,000.00), and with direction and guidance from the QVCOG Police Chiefs Group, five regional intersections (see below) are slated to become equipped with Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) camera systems. He reported that after soliciting five quotes for procurement of ALPR equipment and installation, the Surveillance Group provided the lowest quote in the amount of \$69,535.00. He stated that maintenance agreements for the proposed systems are being considered by Avalon Borough, Bellevue Borough, Leetsdale Borough (2) and Glen Osborne Borough (administered via Sewickley Borough P.D). He noted that each host community would be responsible to maintain the systems as well as pay all legacy costs (i.e. internet access, utility billing, etc.). He highlighted that remaining grant award funding will be utilized to provide all QVCOG member police departments with one year of access to the PlateSmart network. He reported that access to the PlateSmart network will better connect all regional police departments and should result in enhanced communication and criminal monitoring abilities.

Executive Director Connors proceeded to outline each anticipated location for the ALPR systems: Route 65 & Elizabeth Avenue (Avalon Borough), N. Balph Avenue & Lincoln Avenue (Bellevue Borough), River Road & Route 65 (Glen Osborne Borough), Cross Street & Beaver Street (Leetsdale Borough), and Broad Street & 1st Street (Leetsdale Borough). He then announced the quotes that were solicited for project: Surveillance Group – **\$69,535.00**, Secure Technical Solutions - **\$73,286.00**, David Davis Communications - **\$75,068.00**, Horizon - **\$84,905.75**, and Watkins Security - **\$141,595.00**.

Mr. Hartman moved to accept the quote and proposal for procurement and installation of Automated License Plate Reader equipment submitted by the Surveillance Group as well as accepting the proposal for one year of network access to PlateSmart for each of the

nine QVCOG affiliated police departments. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

QVCOG Intergovernmental Reception Update –

Executive Director Conners stated that the Intergovernmental Reception Committee would be meeting via Zoom on July 23rd to discuss the various outstanding details of the event. He reminded the Board that the event is set to take place on Thursday, August 29th between 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Edgeworth Club. He cited that additional information, including registration details would be sent out in the coming days.

Other Concerns of the Delegates:

Avalon Borough – Ms. Edwards noted that the North Boroughs Annual 5k would be taking place on August 10th.

Bellevue Borough – Mr. McKelvey reported that Bellevue Borough completed all paperwork and associated requirements to be recognized as a “Birdtown” through the Pennsylvania Audubon Council. He also noted that National Night Out would be taking place on the first Tuesday in August. Ms. Edwards noted that Avalon Borough was also recognized as a Birdtown.

Adjournment: Ms. Paff moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hartman. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

The next meeting will take place at the Leetsdale Borough Municipal Building (373 Beaver Street, Leetsdale, PA 15056) on August 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will also be broadcast via Zoom. Please visit qvcog.org for further information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick M. Conners
Executive Director