

TUNKHANNOCK BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
May 3, 2018

Council President Robert Robinson called the Monthly Meeting of the Tunkhannock Borough Council to order in the Borough Building, 126 Warren Street, Tunkhannock, PA at 7:00 p.m. He led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were: Mayor Norman Ball; Council Members: Ben Barziloski, Marshall Davis, Robert Robinson, Lisa Tesluk, David Wiggins, and Borough Manager Dawn Welch. Absent: Scott Douthett, Dan Gay, and Ruth Vincenti.

Others present were: Chief Keith Carpenter, Ned Slocum, Michael DiStadio, Wyoming County Press Editor Bob Baker, Carl Williams, Patty Mead, Nicholas Perez, Jr. and Mark Monsey

On motion by David Wiggins, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to approve April 5, 2018 and April 18, 2018 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Ben Barziloski, seconded by David Wiggins, move to approve the payment of bills which includes an invoice from Attorney Litwin for \$1,791.67 which will be reimbursed from NE Marcellus Aqua Midstream. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Privilege of the Floor:

Patty Mead advised the Council that Harold May will not be moving back to the Borough due to health issues. Harold will be missed.

Finance and Administration Committees:

Nicholas Perez, Jr. Letter regarding Tunkhannock Borough Taxes:

Nicholas Perez, Jr. hand delivered a letter on April 25, 2018. Tonight he came to address the council regarding Tunkhannock Borough Taxes. He currently purchased 8 real estate investment properties in the borough. Then he was contacted by the Wyoming County Tax Assessor's Office concerning one of the properties and advised that his taxes would be increased significantly as a result of the renovation. He asked Council what could be done if anything, because this will determine if he will buy additional properties in the Borough.

Ben Baziloski applauded Nick Perez on what he has been doing.

Marshall Davis believes that in order reestablish fairness and equity for all property owners a County Wide tax Reassessment needs to be considered.

President Robinson told Perez that we would try everything we could to keep our taxes down.

2011 Impala Bids:

Elmer Franko \$550.00. DeNaples Auto Parts, Inc. \$601.50. J.B. Taxi \$629.00.
Mark's Motors \$515.00. Bayridge Motors Inc. \$511.00. Highest bidder is J.B. Tax for \$629.00.

On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by David Wiggins, move to accept the highest bid contingent on the Solicitor's approval. Motion carried unanimously.

EMC-Williams vs Tunkhannock Borough:

A tentative settlement offer has been reached for the shooting in Overfield Township for \$1,270,000.00. It was reported that liability had been fixed at Tunkhannock Borough 10%, Meshoppen Borough 10%, Tunkhannock Township 40%, and Overfield Township \$40%. At least one of the current Councilpersons was not a member at the time of the incident and a discussion followed. In response to questions the Manager indicated that the legal Counsel representing the Borough remains the same as throughout the federal lawsuit, approval was recommended, but in fact may not be required for the insurance company to settle, and all costs were covered under the limits of the Borough's insurance coverage

On motion by Ben Barziloski, seconded by Marshall, move to approve the settlement offer of \$1,270,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Murphy, Dougherty & Company Borough Auditors Contract Renewal:

On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to accept Murphy, Dougherty & Company, 3 year proposal. Motion carried unanimously.

Transportation and Streets Committees:

Utility Agreement for UGI:

On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Ben Barziloski, move to send the recommended changes to UGI for review. Motion carried unanimously.

Building and Property Committees:

President Robinson informed Council that two circulating pumps blew due to a power surge.

Manager Welch already turned the claim in to EMC, which we have a \$1,000.00 deductible.

Riverside Park Committee:

Mayor Ball reported that the grass is growing.

Police Committee:

Chief Carpenter presented a summary of the Police Report for the Month of April. Note: a copy of the report is on file in the Police Department.

Planning & Zoning Committees: N/A

Council of Governments (COG):

Chairman Baziloski reported the COG is offering free flagger training for anyone that is interested.

Resolution 2-2018 Blue Ridge Cable:

Information had been distributed to Counsel prior to the meeting and emails were exchanged. A discussion followed concerning the proposed term of the contract being 10 years or reduced to 5 years as well as the rate of payment being fixed at 5%. The Manager advised that the last contract had actually ended approximately 2 years ago and the new contract would be retroactive to that date.

On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Ben Barziloski, move to approve Resolution 2-2018 Blue Ridge Cable for 5 years. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business:

On motion by David Wiggins, seconded by Marshall Davis, move to accept Ingrid Rogler's resignation from the Shade Tree Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Concerns:

On motion by Ben Barziloski, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Welch,
Borough Manager

