

TUNKHANNOCK BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
April 7, 2016

Council President Stacy Huber 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, Scott Douthett, Stacy Huber, Joseph Myers, Lisa Tesluk, and Ruth Vincenti; and Borough Manager Dawn Welch. Absent: Council Member Robert Robinson.

Others present: Wyoming County Press Examiner (WCPE) Reporter C.J. Marshall (arrived at 7:30); Police Chief Roger Hardy; and Citizens Mark Monsey, Patti Mead, Susan DiStadio, Ned Slocum, Michael DiStadio, Mo Devlin and Wyoming County Humane Officer, Lisa Devlin.

Agenda Items:

On motion by Scott Douthett, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 3, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Marshall Davis seconded by Joseph Myers, move to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrative Comments:

President Huber brought greetings from our esteemed and learned colleague, Councilman Bob "Rabbit" Robinson, who was unable to be here tonight, as he is continuing his recovery from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle collision. Bob is beginning to get around somewhat better and hopes to be back with us at our meeting in May.

Lisa C. Devlin, Humane Officer of Wyoming County:

Lisa C. Devlin, Wyoming County Humane Officer, requested that Council consider adopting an Extreme Weather Ordinance for dogs, which would provide for additional protections and care for animals kept outside on a partial or permanent basis, during periods of extreme weather. After a brief discussion, President Huber advised that Council would review the matter.

Public Privilege of the Floor:

Mark Monsey, Tunkhannock Business and Professional Association, reported that, on April 9th, railway motor cars ("speeders") from Jim Thorpe would be spending the night in town.

Finance and Administration Committee:

On motion by Scott Douthett, seconded by Marshall Davis, move to adopt the Triton Hose Company (THC) Fire Protection Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Scott Douthett, seconded by Marshall Davis, to adopt Resolution 4-2016, THC Workers' Compensation Insurance (WCI) Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

President Huber discussed having the Solicitor draw up a WCI agreement for the Tunkhannock Community Ambulance Association (TCAA). Council agreed.

At the request of PA State Association of Boroughs Pension Advisor, there will be a Pension Committee Meeting on May 11th,

Transportation & Streets Committee:

President Huber reported that: a) Eaton Township Supervisor Paul Rowker is checking with PennDOT to see if we can be permitted to structurally repair the damaged light poles on the Susquehanna River Bridge by welding the affected areas; b) as a reminder, the 2016 Borough Clean-Up will be held in June; c) line/crosswalk painting will start when weather conditions permit; d) the street-sweeper was used on March 24th; and e) the Manager is obtaining specifications and cost estimates for street pavement crack-sealing.

On motion by Joseph Myers, seconded by Ben Barziloski, move to approve Resolution 3-2016 authorizing the transfer of the 2000 Dump Truck. Motion carried unanimously.

Building and Property Committee:

Riverside Park Commission:

Mayor Ball reported Jerry Bogedin is inspecting the lawnmowers for the upcoming season.

Police Committee:

Mayor Ball reported that Naloxone Kits have been approved and distributed to the Police Department for use in incidents involving opiate overdoses.

Chief Hardy presented a summary of the Police Report for the month of March, 2016. Note: a copy of the report will be placed on file in the Police Department.

Planning and Zoning:

The Planning Commission met again with Zoning Consultant Carson Helfrich on April 3th. Discussions centered principally on possibly adding a Professional Commercial Development use in certain areas currently listed as Residential; however, no specific courses of action or decisions on this aspect were made. The Commission did request that Carson include possible changes to Downtown Parking criteria in his forthcoming draft document. The next meeting is scheduled for May 3rd.

Zoning hearings will be held on April 20th at 7:00 p.m., as follows: a) Triton Hose Company is seeking a variance to allow the installation of an electrical sign at the Fire House, within the Residential District; and b) Grace Fellowship Church, 155 Bridge Street, is appealing the determination that a Pre-School is not allowed at their location (in the Special [S-1] District).

On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to appoint David Wiggins as Alternate Member on the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Council of Governments (COG):

Ben Barziloski reported that, after many months of review and negotiations, the contract between the COG and Bureau Veritas has been signed.

Other Business:

The Tree Association will be conducting their annual Arbor Day Tree Planting on April 28th at 10:00 a.m. at 73 Warren Street.

Council Privilege of the Floor:

Council wished Robert Robinson a speedy recovery.

On motion by Joseph Myers, seconded by Scott Douthett move to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Welch,
Borough Manager