

TUNKHANNOCK BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
March 3, 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, Stacy Huber, Joseph Myers, Lisa Tesluk, and Ruth Vincenti; and Borough Manager Dawn Welch. Absent: Council Members Scott Douthett and Robert Robinson.

Others present: Wyoming County Press Examiner (WCPE) Reporter C.J. Marshall; Police Chief Roger Hardy; and Citizens Mark Monsey, Patti Mead, Susan DiStadio, Paul Ruhf, Jean Ruhf (Executive Director of the Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau), Nancy Parlo (Tunkhannock Business and Professional Association Consultant/Coordinator), Susann Barziloski, and Kathy Boehmer & the Heritage Trail Girl Scouts Community 511.

Heritage Trail Girl Scouts Community 511:

Mayor Norman Ball presented and read a proclamation recognizing the many contributions made by the Heritage Trail Girl Scouts to our community and declaring the week of March 6, 2016 as Girl Scout Week in Tunkhannock.

Agenda Items:

On motion by Joseph Myers, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to approve the minutes of the meetings held on February 4 and February 24, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Administrative Comments:

President Huber reported that Councilman Robert Robinson was involved in a motor vehicle accident on February 20th and is now recuperating at Allied Services.

Public Privilege of the Floor: There were no comments from the Public.

Finance and Administration:

President Huber recapped the February 24th meeting (regarding possible changes to the Fire Fund, and related matters) with Triton Hose Company and representatives from Eaton, Lemon,

and Tunkhannock Townships. Finance Committee Chairman Douthett opened the informal meeting by providing a brief synopsis of events leading to and affecting the matters at hand. Discussions and questions followed, principally concerning financial responsibilities to be assumed and/or amended, timing of the proposed actions, and workers' compensation insurance obligations, all of which appeared to be well received and understood by the participants. At the conclusion, copies of draft/proposed agreements (by municipality) were distributed for review, comment, and consultation with respective legal counsel.

President Huber then noted that the draft agreement had been further distributed to the Council, Mayor, and Manager; and that comments related thereto had been received. At this point, Council agreed to forward the consolidated comments to Solicitor Litwin for review and possible inclusion in an updated draft agreement.

President Huber reported that Corporal Roberts had delivered (this afternoon) a signed copy of the Co-Pay Side Agreement (to the Collective Bargaining Agreement), by and between the Borough of Tunkhannock and Tunkhannock Borough Police Officers Association, to establish a procedure for reimbursing members of the Association for any differences in co-payments under the Highmark Healthcare Plan.

Transportation & Streets Committee:

President Huber reported on the status of the Susquehanna River Bridge Lighting Project and the proposed Storm Water Project on Redfield Street.

On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to defer action on the Bridge Lights until June, at the request of Eaton Township. Motion carried unanimously.

As a reminder, it was reported that this year's Borough Clean-Ups will be June 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th for Wards 1, 2, 3, and 4 respectively.

The State 2016 Liquid Fuels allocation is \$52,577.73.

On motion by Joseph Myers, seconded by Benjamin Barziloski, move to authorize the inter-municipal sale of the 2000 Ford Dump Truck and specified supporting equipment, in the amount of \$11,000, to Springville Township, on an "as is" basis and in consultation with Borough Solicitor Litwin. The motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to authorize the Manager to advertise the 2000 Ford Dump Truck with a minimum bid of \$11,000.00, if the transaction with Springville Township is not consummated. Motion carried unanimously.

Building and Property Committee:

Riverside Park Commission:

Police Committee:

Mayor Ball reported that calls for service were down for February.

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

Chairman Marshall Davis stated that he was pleased to have received a signed copy of the Co-Pay Side Agreement.

Planning and Zoning:

With respect to the ongoing re-write of the Borough Zoning Ordinance (BZO), President Huber reported that: 1) Grace Fellowship Church requested that the Planning Commission add Pre-schools as a Permitted/Accessory Use in the BZO Special (S-1) District; and 2) citizen Ron Kukuchka requested that Commercial Greenhouse Growing be added as a Permitted Use in the BZO Industrial (I-1) District. President Huber/Manager Welch will contact the Planning Commission to review these requests.

President Huber reported that the Planning Commission had met with Zoning Consultant Carson Helfrich on March 1st, in regard to the aforementioned zoning re-write.

Council of Governments (COG):

Ben Barziloski reported the COG's Legal Counsel is still trying to work out the contract with Bureau Veritas.

Other Business:

Council received a letter from the Tunkhannock Borough Municipal Authority (TBMA) Chair Marshall Davis notifying us that Ms. Janet Shoemaker is resigning from her position on the TBMA Board, effective February 29, 2016. Janet has faithfully served the Borough through her work with the Authority for approximately twenty-two years. She had served with patience and dignity; and her contributions will be missed. TBMA has recommended Mr. Anson Carter, 30 Philadelphia Avenue, for Council's consideration, to serve the remainder of Ms. Shoemaker's term, which runs through December 31, 2018.

On motion by Joseph Myers, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to appoint Mr. Anson Carter to the TBMA, term to expire December 31, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Privilege of the Floor:

Council wished Robert Robinson a speedy recovery.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Welch,
Borough Manager