

**TUNKHANNOCK BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 2, 2015**

**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 Marshall Davis, Stacy Huber, Joseph Myers, Robert Robinson, Ruth Vincenti, Wendy Sweppenheiser and Lisa Tesluk; and Borough Manager Dawn Welch. Via phone: Council Member Scott Douthett.**

Others present: Wyoming County Press Examiner (WCPE) Reporter Josh Siegel; citizens Susan DiStadio, Michael DiStadio, Mark Monsey, Tunkhannock Business and Professional Association (TBPA), Nancy Klimas and Patricia Mead; and Police Chief Roger Hardy.

**On motion by Ruth Vincenti, seconded by Marshall Davis, move to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 5, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Public Privilege of the Floor:**

Mark Monsey, on behalf of the TBPA, presented a flyer announcing Scenic Spring Train Rides to be conducted on May 2nd and 3rd by Reading & Northern Railroad, in conjunction with the TBPA. There will be three 70 minute rides daily, with tours toward Falls along the river. Mark also noted that Founders' Day activities on East Tioga Street will extend to McCord Street and that TBPA is working on obtaining additional signage.

**Finance and Administration Committee:**

President Huber reported that the Borough's Annual Audit was recently completed by the CPA firm of Murphy, Dougherty and Company. The results were excellent. He did note for the record that there was the normal annual finding for small offices, such as the Borough, regarding a shortage of assigned personnel for segregating certain financial duties and responsibilities.

The new lease with our tenant, A Better Today (ABT), has been signed.

The State Liquid Fuels Audit was completed with no findings. This year's State Liquid Fuels allocation was \$46,223.10.

**On motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to approve advertising the sale of Triton Hose Company's utility ambulance. Motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Wendy Sweppenheiser, move to send a letter of support for Wyoming's County Planning Office, which wishes to apply for a State Grant that would allow them to complete a trail feasibility study. Motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Ruth Vincenti, move to approve the revision to the 2015 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) Worksheet, in accordance with the recent arbitration finding that reduced the 2015 Police Obligation from 5 to 2.5 percent. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Transportation & Streets Committee:**

Committee Chairman Robert Robinson reported that the Committee: a) met on March 23rd; b) is looking into estimated costs for paving Redfield and Harrison Streets; c) designated Department of Public Works Foreman to be the liaison for matters related to the Walnut Hill Subdivision; and d) believes that a new dump truck will need to be purchased in 2016.

#### **Building and Property Committee:**

President Huber reported that the Police Bathrooms Renovation Project is scheduled to begin in mid-April.

**On motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Ruth Vincenti, move to approve repairs to the Borough Building roof, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. Motion carried unanimously.**

President Huber reported that the exchange of properties (between the Borough and the owner of 57 Realty Properties Corporation), which was required for the Borough to be allowed to proceed with the Retaining Wall Project, included a transfer of two small triangular properties (approximately 38 and a half feet in width) between the parties. Part of the overall agreement included (for properties owned by 57 Realty) four parking spots. These four spaces, per our Zoning Ordinance, require a total of 40 feet. Thus, to comply with the ordinance, an easement of approximately one and a half feet is necessary. Our Solicitor would prepare the necessary documentation and record the easement at the Courthouse.

**On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Robert Robinson, move to authorize the Solicitor to proceed with these actions. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Riverside Park Commission:**

Mayor Ball reported that Sam Elias is waiting for the ice to melt, so they could clean up the skating rink.

#### **Police Committee:**

Mayor Ball reported that traffic citations and warnings are up, due to traffic pattern changes at the Bypass (Walmart Project).

Chief Hardy presented a summary of the Police Report for the month of March, 2015. Note: a copy of the report is on file in the Police Department. In addition, the officers have had online training to administer Nalozone, a potentially life-saving medicine that reverses the effects of opioid overdoses.

Chairman Davis reported that the Police Committee met and discussed many issues, such as advertising for a part-time police officer, Facebook Policy, shotguns, computer usage, etc.

### **Planning and Zoning:**

A zoning hearing is scheduled on April 15<sup>th</sup> for Sherwood Chevrolet, which is seeking a variance for a sign.

**Council of Governments (COG):** N/A

### **Old Business:**

President Huber reported that activity on the FEMA Restoration Property at 22 McCord Street has not yet resumed, due to weather conditions. He contacted Wyoming County EMA Director Gene Dziak to inquire about the next steps planned by the County's Engineer and their contractor. Mr. Dziak stated that he would check and get back to us.

President Huber contacted UGI Penn Natural Gas Company's public relations representative and provided our point of contact information. UGI's Engineering Department will be conducting estimating activity and then will be contacting us to discuss options for possible gas line installation over the next few months.

**New Business:** N/A

### **Ordinance:**

**On motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Marshall Davis, move to adopt Ordinance 2015-1, Inter-Municipal Agreement (with Tunkhannock Township) for the Walnut Hill Development. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Resolutions:**

**On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to adopt Resolution 1-2015 MMO, which is based on the arbitration results and formalizes pension contributions for the follow-on years of the Police Contract. Motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Joseph Myers, seconded by Wendy Sweppenheiser, move to adopt Borough Resolution 2-2015, confirming the appointment of Lisa Tesluk to Council. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Council Privilege of the Floor:**

President Huber thanked Dawn for her excellent work on numerous recent projects. He then asked her to research a Quality of Life Ordinance, for possible consideration by Council.

President Huber expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to Warden Repsher for again providing inmates to assist with Borough Clean-Up activities.

**At 7:47 p.m., on motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to go into executive session for personnel/possible litigation matters. Motion carried unanimously.**

**At 8:34 p.m., on motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Ruth Vincenti, move to go into regular session. Motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Scott Douthett, seconded by Robert Robinson, move to proceed with actions detailed under the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Police Association, allowing the Borough to have discretion to determine the size of the Police Force. Without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.. Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Welch  
Borough Manager