

TUNKHANNOCK BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
July 6, 2017

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, Robert Robinson, and Ruth Vincenti; and Borough Manager Dawn Welch.

Others present were: Citizens: Susan DiStadio, Ned Slocum, Patti Mead, and Harold May; and Wyoming County Press Examiner Reporter C.J. Marshall.

On motion by Ruth Vincenti, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to approve the minutes of the meetings held on June 1, 2017 and June 21, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Robert Robinson seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

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

On motion by Joseph Myers, seconded by Ben Barziloski, move to go into executive session at 7:05 p.m. for labor negotiations matters related to the collective bargaining agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Joseph Myers, seconded by Ben Barziloski, move to go into regular session at 7:53 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance and Administration Committees: N/A

Transportation & Streets Committee (TSC): N/A

Building and Property Committee:

Act 13:

2016 Impact Fees \$29,158.71 (decreased 10.5%)

Riverside Park Commission:

Mayor Ball reported that River Day is July 22, 2017.

Police Department:

Mayor Ball was curious when the Civil Service would be testing for promotions.

Chief Carpenter presented a summary of the Police Report for the Month of June 2017. Note: a copy of the report is on file in the Police Department.

Chief Carpenter reported that: a). Tunkhannock Borough Police Officer Association (TBPOA) signed the Fourth Officer Side Agreement, knowing that it may not happen due to the pension deficit, b). TBPOA will not grieve or go to arbitration if the officer is not hired at this time because it is the right thing to do, c). Would like Officer Cokely to be Acting Sergeant, and d). Borough Code says the Council could appoint the Sergeant, and did not have to be tested.

Police Chairman Davis requested that Chief Carpenter make a written request to Council that the civil service promotional exam for Sergeant be scheduled at the earliest possible time.

On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Scott Douthett, move to adopt the Fourth Officer Side Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning and Zoning:

Hand-Break Holdings (HBH) Issue:

As regards the Hand Break Holdings zoning issue, we are still awaiting a decision by the presiding judge. We have been advised that a decision could be two to three weeks away.

Zoning Ordinance Re-Write:

President Huber reported we received the final draft of the revised Borough Zoning Ordinance. It has been referred to the Borough Planning Commission and Solicitor Litwin for review and comment.

Zoning Officer:

Zoning Enforcement Officer Jere Woods is back on the job, and the interim appointment to fill the position was not required.

Council of Governments (COG):

Chairman Ben Barziloski reported there was a meeting, which they discussed the grass planted at the flood buyouts.

Other Business: Nothing to report

Council Privilege of the Floor:

Marshall Davis requested that Chief Carpenter provide a brief narrative to Council on a recent joint operation between the local police and PSP which resulted in a major drug arrest involving a mobile drug laboratory. Chief Carpenter provided details of the event.

On motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Joseph Meyers, move to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Welch,
Borough Manager