

TUNKHANNOCK BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
November 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 7:00p.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, Robert Robinson, Lisa Tesluk, and Ruth Vincenti; and Borough Manager Dawn Welch. Absent: Council Member Scott Douthett.

Others present were: Police Department Officer-in-Charge (OIC) Keith Carpenter; Citizens Michael DiStadio, Patricia Mead, Ned Slocum, Merriel Oliver, Jeannie Brady, Darci Smith, Peggy Kingston, Dawn Kingston, Joseph B. Sick, Mark Monsey, Richard Huffsmith, Sandra Boyle, Kate Crowley, and William Kern, Jr.; and Wyoming County Press Examiner Reporter C.J. Marshall.

15 Marion Street:

Ms. Jeannie Brady, ERA Brady Associates, along with Dawn Kingston, Peggy Kingston, and Darci Smith, were present to discuss zoning, assessment, and taxation issues for the property at 15 Marion Street. Ms. Brady believes "that a commercial zoning designation would bring a better presence to our neighborhood and continued higher revenue to the Borough and County". After considerable discussion, President Huber stated that he would refer this matter to the Borough Planning Commission for their review, evaluation, and recommendation(s), to be forwarded to Council.

Joe Sick:

Mr. Sick wanted to know why his brush clippings had not been picked up. Manager Welch said she would check into the matter. (Note: The Department of Public Works was waiting for him to finish his project.)

Mr. Sick was also concerned about increased flight activity and accompanying noise from expanded aircraft operations at nearby Sky Haven Airport. In addition, Mr. Sick expressed concern that there is not one person from Tunkhannock Borough on the Wyoming County Planning Commission. President Huber then stated that this issue had previously been brought to the attention of the Wyoming County Commissioners and that he would again address this matter to them.

Finally, Mr. Sick requested to know if the Police Department could issue citations to

commercial vehicles operating without mufflers. OIC Carpenter reported that our officers will be attending training, after which then they will be able to issue such citations.

Countryside Conservancy:

Bill Kern, Executive Director of the Countryside Conservancy, stated that he was present to provide an informational overview of the Conservancy's mission, goals, and areas of responsibility. The Countryside Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, dedicated to protecting lands and waters in and near the Tunkhannock Creek Watershed for the public benefit, now and for the future. He distributed copies of the Preserve's Trail Guide and their 2015 Annual Report and Trolley Trail Commemorative Edition.

Agenda Items:

On motion by Ben Barziloski, seconded by Ruth Vincenti, move to approve the minutes of the meetings held on October 6, 2016 and October 19, 2016. 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:

Merriel Oliver reported that there are many inoperative lights in the Riverside Park Tunnel.

Mark Monsey passed out flyers for the "Santa Train Rides" and Christmas in our Hometown event.

Administrative Remarks:

President Huber presented a brief recap of the actions taken at the October Mid-Month Meeting.

Finance and Administration Committees:

Revolving Loan Fund:

The documentation to establish the Revolving Loan Fund was submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED); and we are awaiting their approval and/or the guidance before the program can be implemented.

Triton Hose Company Inter-Municipal Agreement:

Council had previously approved our portion of the inter-municipal agreement regarding our commitment to cover the Borough's share of Workers' Compensation Insurance coverage for

Triton Hose Company. An informational memo on this subject was sent to the Eaton, Lemon, and Tunkhannock Township Supervisors.

Transportation & Streets Committee (TSC):

Storm-water Issues:

Our grant request for the Storm-Water Diversion Project (Slocum Avenue, near the Wyoming County Correctional Facility) was formally submitted to DCED. President Huber thanked all who contributed to this laborious and technical effort and specifically recognized Municipal Authority Manager Roger Hadsall, Borough Engineer Ned Slocum, Borough Manager Dawn Welch, and Northern Tier Grant Writer Rachel Hauser.

Building and Property Committee: Nothing to report.

Riverside Park Commission: Nothing to report.

Police Committee:

OIC Carpenter presented a summary of the Police Report for the Month of October, 2016. Note: a copy of the report is on file in the Police Department.

Mayor Norman Ball reported that OIC Carpenter is doing an exceptional job.

Planning and Zoning:

Hand Break Holdings:

On October 27th, Hand Break Holdings filed an appeal with the Court of Common Pleas, seeking to overturn the decision of our Zoning Hearing Board.

Council of Governments: Nothing to report.

Ordinance 2016-5:

This ordinance, which proposes the transfer of certain fire apparatus and/or equipment, as well as the Fire Fund, to Triton Hose Company was considered at our mid-month meeting but tabled pending additional review and clarification of specific aspects. Those updates have been made.

On motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to advertise Ordinance 2016-5 with the intent to adopt December 1, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business: Nothing to report

Council Privilege of the Floor:

Mayor Norman Ball requested to know when there was going to be a Police Committee meeting because he had a proposal for consideration. Police Chairman Marshall Davis said he is trying to schedule one.

President Huber will be sending the (draft) 2017 Newsletter for review to Council.

On motion by Robert Robinson, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Welch,
Borough Manager