

**TUNKHANNOCK BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Public Hearing/Regular Meeting**  
**September 7, 2017**

**Council President Robert Robinson called the Public Hearing of the Tunkhannock Borough Council to order in the Borough Building, 126 Warren Street, Tunkhannock, PA at 6:45 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, Dan Gay, Joseph Myers, Lisa Tesluk (6:50 p.m.), Robert Robinson, Scott Douthett, Ruth Vincenti and Borough Manager Dawn Welch.**

**Others present were:** Chief Keith Carpenter, Shana Tesluk, John Tesluk, Ned Slocum, Susan DiStadio, Mike DiStadio, Patty Mead, and Wyoming County Examiner Reporter CJ Marshall.

**Zoning Hearing:**

President Robinson opened the special zoning hearing, which was being held in accordance with Pennsylvania law, to receive public comment on proposed amendments to the Tunkhannock Borough Zoning Ordinance. Following administrative/procedural comments, the hearing was opened for comments and questions. No questions or comments were raised; and President Robinson then asked for a motion to close/adjourn the hearing.

**On motion by Ben Barziloski, seconded by Ruth Vincenti move to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. Motion carried.**

**At 7:00 p.m. The Regular Meeting resumed.**

**Public Privilege of the Floor:** No comments

**On motion by Scott Douthett, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to approve the minutes of the meetings held on August 7, 2017 and August 16, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Scott Douthett, seconded by Lisa Tesluk, move to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Finance and Administration Committees:**

President Robinson reported that the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Uniform Pension Fund was determined to be \$770,000.00 underfunded in 2017. The Borough borrowed \$320,000.00 to revise the 2017 MMO which reduced the 2017 MMO from \$43,966.00 to \$37,491.00. The liability for 2018 would be \$86,898.00 instead of \$130,864.00. The MMO's were prepared by our Pension Consultants.

Finance Chairman Douthett explained, even though the underfunded pension liability could have been paid from the Reserve Account, the only way to trigger the necessary recalculation by state law; was to secure a loan. Without the loan, Council would have had to raise taxes approximately six mills to cover shortfall.

**On motion by Ben Barziloski, seconded by Ruth Vincenti, move to adopt 2018 Non-Uniform MMO \$14,321.00, 2017 revised MMO \$37,491.00, and 2018 Uniform MMO \$86,898.00. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Transportation and Streets Committees:**

Chairman Robinson reported DPW committee met August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**PennDOT Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Grant:**

PennDOT Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Coordinator (Chris Metka) informs us that our stormwater project is eligible, and we will continue to keep the grant application moving along.

Chairman Robinson reported that PennDOT is considering installing drainage facilities along Franklin Avenue prior to paving the Street. PennDOT may want the Borough to maintain the final constructed drainage project and connect the drain to an existing borough drainage facility.

**Building and Property Committees: N/A**

**Riverside Park Committee:**

Mayor Ball reported mowing season is coming to an end.

**Police Committee:**

Mayor Ball reported that he, Officer Cokely, and Chief Carpenter participated at a round table hosted by U.S. Senator Bob Casey discussing the opiate drug crisis.

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

Police Chairman Davis: N/A

**Planning & Zoning Committees:**

**On motion by Scott Douthett, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to adopt 2017-1 Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Hand Break Holdings LLC:**

Jason J. Legg, President Judge, 34<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, after careful review of the entire record, there was substantial evidence to support the Board's denial of the Appellant's application.

**Council of Governments (COG):**

Chairman Barziloski reported the next meeting would be October 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Other Business:**

Michael DiStadio sent a letter to Council concerning his interest for a position to the (TBMA) Tunkhannock Borough Municipal Authority. This letter is being referred to the TBMA Board for consideration in filling the vacant position.

Mayor Ball said Michael DiStadio would be an asset to the TBMA Board.

**On motion by Joseph Myers, seconded by Ben Baziloski, move to go into executive session at 7:56 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Joseph Myers, move to go into regular session at 8:19 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Marshall Davis, seconded by Ben Barziloski, move to have Council request the Civil Service Commission, begin the process necessary to modify Section 5.1(b) Creation of Eligibility List to read "...Investigation an may order a Polygraph Examination...". Motion carried unanimously.**

**On motion by Ruth Vincenti, seconded by Dan Gay, move to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Welch,  
Borough Manager

