

**TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 12, 2021 @ 7:00PM**

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The Regular Monthly Council Meeting of the Tyrone Borough Council was held on Monday, April 12, 2021 @ 7:00PM at the Tyrone Borough Municipal Building, 1100 Logan Avenue, Tyrone, PA. Ardean Latchford gave the Invocation and Mayor Latchford led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Latchford called the meeting to order and requested roll call. Present: Council members Robert Dollar, Sarah Jane Miller, Charlie Mills, Tammy Wills, William Wisner, David Snyder (by phone). and Mayor Latchford. Absent: Council Member Ken Patterson. Also present were Borough Manager Ardean Latchford; Solicitor Dan Stants; Interim Chief of Police Jessica Walk; Sewer Superintendent Jason Harris; Water Superintendent Mike Ashcroft; Highway Superintendent Jim Bywater; Consulting Engineer Kevin Nester; Code Enforcement Officer Marvin Frazell; Administrative Assistant Kimberly Gurekovich and Kimberlee LaRosa.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Jen Powell, Tyrone-Snyder Public Library**

Ms. Powell advise Borough Council members the Library will be starting it's first scavenger hunt this week.

The Library has a program entitled, "Autism – Be A Change Maker ". Some of the participants in the program addressed Council with their ideas to "be a change maker".

- Lavendar Capenos, an 18-year-old senior would like to create a Snack Shack near the community pool. This would be free of charge and would be stocked with drinks and snack crackers and feel it would not take away from the Snack Shack at the Pool. This would be a 2' X 2' X 1' box to be placed somewhere across from the pool. Ms. Capenos would also like to place a "Imagination Station", that would be filled with art supplies, books, etc. The Library will stock the boxes. There are several food boxes and book boxes in town that residents have done on their own.
- Cashmere Paige Capenos, 17 years old, would like to give the Borough 8 pine trees to be planted where the Borough sees fit. These 8 trees represent the 8 participants in the "Autism-Be a Change Maker" program.

It was moved and seconded that Council permit these activities. It was noted the Borough can pick the location of the trees. Council unanimously approved said motion.

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- Lindy Gill, participant in the program is establishing a Donation Drive for the Central Pennsylvania Humane Society. The box will be located inside the public library.

There was no further public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded the March 8, 2021 minutes of the Regular Council Meeting be approved. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS**

It was moved and seconded the financial reports for the monthly accounting period ending March 31, 2021 be approved: (1) The Account Balance Report; (2) Statement of Revenues and Expenses; and (3) Cash Disbursement Journal. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT**

**Annual Commercial Building Inspections**

The topic of Commercial Building Inspections as resurfaced and is before Council for discussion. During the May 14, 2018 Borough Council meeting, Council members at that time discussed the possibility of annual commercial building inspections in the downtown area. Council member David Snyder stated his thought was just to include the downtown business area due to the close proximity of buildings. Mr. Snyder stated he is looking to protect residents.

Borough Manager Ardean Latchford invited Tyrone's Fire Marshall and the Fire Chiefs from Hookies & Neptune's. Fire Marshall Austin Lynn was in attendance and advised he is not able to do these inspections although he could help the Borough develop a process if they wish. Mr. Lynn also advised it should not be too involved and he suggested doing them in the winter because a lot of exits are blocked by snow.

Borough Manager Latchford is not in favor of a fee associated with these inspections. Mr. Snyder felt it would be nothing more than an annual walk thru. Mayor Latchford felt the Borough is providing a service to the residents. Council member Snyder was in favor of fines for non-compliance. Council was in agreement to move forward with an inspection program.

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Homer Kann, a Borough resident and business owner inquired as to whether this would include private residences that occupy spaces above businesses. Mr. Kann feels there is a higher chance a fire could come from a residential unit than a business front. Council was just thinking this being for businesses for now; however, this brought up another topic that nobody considered. Mayor Latchford felt at this point some additional research needed done. The Borough Manager and Code Enforcement officer will look into this a little deeper. This discussion was tabled for now.

**Discussion of Sale of 1102 & 1104 Logan Avenue**

At the March 8 Council meeting Mr. Charles Bickel, owner of ACE Hardware, made a request to Borough Council to purchase 1102 and 1104 Logan Avenue from the Borough to expand their parking lot. This was met with some kickback from Mr. Mills as he was concerned about the location of the crosses. Borough Manager Ardean Latchford had met with the American Legion and they do not have a problem with Mr. Mill's crosses being placed at the Legion they just do not want them intermixed. Council Member Ken Patterson sent a statement that he requested be part of the minutes, in his absence from this meeting. The statement read as follows:

*To Council Members & people of Tyrone,*

*I believe the soldiers who served our country to preserve our freedoms have "paid their dues" and should be honored by having their cross displayed in Soldier's Park with the rest of the soldiers. The park which is owned by the borough has been designated for this purpose. It is located on a main thoroughfare so as to receive proper attention more so than Logan Avenue. Nonresident visitors to the park would never know to go to the location on Logan Ave. Having crosses in two locations causes questions in the viewers minds as to why these crosses aren't with the others? If the lots in question are sold to a business it will generate income and benefit the people of Tyrone all year long versus designated holidays. The maintenance of said property is an added expense we would no longer have if sold.*

*Respectfully,*

*Ken Patterson*

It was moved and seconded that these parcels be appraised and place for bid as one. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Council members Wisser, Wills, Miller, Snyder, Dollar and Latchford. Nays: Council member Mills. The motion carried.

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**Sale of 1107 Bald Eagle Avenue**

The Borough was in receipt of a letter from David Snyder requesting to purchase 1107 Bald Eagle Avenue. The appraised value is \$400. It was moved and seconded that Bald Eagle Avenue. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Council members Wills, Miller, Dollar and Wisler. Nays: Council member Mills. Council member Snyder abstained. The motion carried. It was noted that Mr. Snyder would also incur the cost of the \$200 appraisal.

**Award of Bids – Improvements to Tyrone Community Swimming Pool Filter Room**

The Borough accepted bids on March 19 for “Improvements to the Community Swimming Pool Filter Room”. One bid was received from DC Goodman & Sons, Inc., of Huntingdon, PA in the amount of \$24,975. It was moved and seconded that Council approve the sole bid from DC Goodman. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Council members Snyder, Miller, Dollar, Wisler, Wills and Mayor Latchford. Nays: Council Member Mills. The motion carried.

**Political Signs on Borough Property**

Political signs on Borough property have been a long time “hot topic”. Due to previous Borough employee(s) running for elected offices years ago, the Borough has not permitted political signs on any Borough owned property. This also has not allowed room for the perception that the municipality is supporting one candidate or another. There has never been a formal ordinance regarding this. According to the Blair County Voter Registration office, Municipalities are only required to permit political signs at the polling places on election day. Council member Snyder has done some research on this and has found that other entities allow political signs in designated areas. Council member Wisler stated he would rather not see any signs on Borough owned property. It was moved and seconded that Council direct Attorney Stants to prepare an Ordinance prohibiting political signs on Borough property. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes: County members Miller, Snyder, Dollar, Wisler, Wills, and Mayor Latchford. Nays: Council member Charlie Mills. The motion carried.

**Basketball Court - Placement of Memorial - Steve Catich**

The Tyrone Sports Association (TSA) will be starting their improvements to the basketball court on Reservoir Drive. As part of their improvements, they are requesting

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permission to place a memorial in honor/memory of Steve Catich. The placement of the memorial would be near the existing scoreboard and approximately 20' off the roadway. It was moved and seconded that Council approve said request. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**Update – Micro Loan Program**

Tom Seasoltz, CFO of ABCD Corp, provided the Borough that as of April 7 they have only received two applicants for the Micro Loan Program. They are listed below:

Powerhouse Subs – withdrew

Ingenuity Services LLC – David Snyder - \$20,000 - approved

As a reminder, this program is still available for Tyrone Borough business owners. Anyone interested should contact ABCD Corp to apply. Council member David Snyder stated he was impressed with how smooth the process was and encouraged others to take advantage of this opportunity.

**Historical Park/Railroad Park Improvements**

During last Council Meeting approval was given to pursue options to improve the Tyrone History Museum and Rail Park.

Phase 1 of this rejuvenation is presented for discussion and approval:

Before anything can be done to improve the Museum the memorial bricks need to be relocated. These bricks were used as a fundraiser for the construction of the Museum and have a great importance to the Museum and those who donated money for their purchase. This will be a very delicate operation as we do not want to damage any of the bricks. We are asking permission to put out for bid the following:

1. The construction of a cement pad located on the left or east side of the Museum or in front of the present brick location. This pad will need to be 8' x 30' to hold the brick wall. This will only be done if it is possible to move the brick wall.
2. The actual removal of the brick wall from its present location and then reassembled on the new cement pad. The brick wall is approximately 26' long x 1' thick and 6' high.

When this is completed, it will be necessary to obtain certified drawings to construct walls, install electrical equipment and HVAC in the present breezeway. Enclosing this

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area will give the Museum an additional 550 square feet of usable floor space. A proposed drawing, made by the Board Members of the Museum, is available for review.

It was suggested that since this will be paid for out of the Community Enrichment funds that we wait until this years donation is received.

Council member Sarah Miller inquired as to why any changes need to be made in this area. Council member Dollar advised that since the Historical Society had to relocate 21 carts of artifacts from their original location, the Museum is in need of more space.

**Informational:**

- Shredding for Tyrone Borough residents is April 23, 11am-2pm at Reservoir Park
- Senior Fish Rodeo will be held on May 13, 8am to 11am
- The Tyrone Community Pool will open on Memorial Day weekend then will open for the season on June 4
- Council was provided with a schedule Summer Concerts in the Park
- The Tyrone Community Yard Sale is scheduled for September 18.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** The Solicitor had the following to report:

**Resolution No. 2021-05 – Earned Income Tax Extensions**

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Resolution No. 2021-05 authorizing a time extension for filing Earned Income Tax. The motion was made contingent upon all other entities agreeing to the same. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**Resolution No. 2021-06 – Destruction of Municipal Records**

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Resolution No. 2021-06 approving the destruction of Municipal records in compliance with the Records Retention Act. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**CONSULTING ENGINEER:** Mr. Nester had the following items for Council's approval:

**Flooding Issues – Lincoln Avenue**

GHD and Borough officials recently met with SEDA COG regarding the flooding issues in this area. While there is no exact solution at this time they are working on a few ideas to help resolve this problem.

**Application for Payment #4 – Water Treatment Plant Filter Rebuild**

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Application for Payment #4 in the amount of \$19,152.00. This AFP has been reviewed by GHD Engineering and they recommend payment. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**Change Order No. 1 – Water Treatment Plant Filter Rebuild**

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Change Order No. 1 for the Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$ 17,399.50. This Change Order is for re-piping. This Change Order has been reviewed by GHD Engineering and they recommend payment. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**Application for Payment #6 – Water System Improvement Project**

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Application for Payment #6 in the amount of \$ 406,516.74. This AFP has been reviewed by GHD Engineering and they recommend payment. This has been submitted to PennVEST for payment. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**Application for Payment #3 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Storage Tank**

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Application for Payment #3 in the amount of \$ 305,467.31. This AFP has been reviewed by GHD Engineering and they recommend payment. This tank should be in service within two weeks. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**Change Order No. 2 – Water System Improvement Project**

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Change Order No. 2 for the Water System Improvement Project. This Change Order is in the amount of \$19,366 and is for additional excavation and courses of retaining wall construction for the new electrical kiosk. Council unanimously approved said motion.

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**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Council was in receipt of Mr. Frazell's report.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Council was in receipt of Interim Chief Walk's report.

**SEWER DEPARTMENT:** Council was in receipt of Mr. Harris's monthly report.

**WATER DEPARTMENT:** Council was in receipt of Mr. Ashcroft's monthly report.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:** Council was in receipt of Mr. Bywater's report.

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ardean C. Latchford/kdg  
Borough Manager