

**TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2024 @ 7:00PM**

=====

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Tyrone Borough Council was held on Monday, February 12, 2024 @ 7:00PM at the Tyrone Borough Municipal Building, 1100 Logan Avenue, Tyrone, PA. Pastor Kenneth Patterson, Bible Baptist Church, gave the Invocation and Mayor Latchford led the group in the Pledge of the Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Latchford called the meeting to order and requested roll call. Present: Council members Sarah Hunter, Robert Dollar, Ken Patterson, David Snyder, Tammy Wills, Rob Poust and Mayor Latchford. Absent: Council member William Wiser.

Also, present were Borough Manager Ardean Latchford; Solicitor Dan Stants; Sewer Superintendent Jason Harris; Water Superintendent Don Shultz; Highway Superintendent Jim Bywater; Code Enforcement Officer Marvin Frazell; Consulting Engineer Matt Coleman, Chief of Police Jessica Walk and Executive Assistant Kimberly Gurekovich.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Latchford announced Borough Council held an Executive session meeting prior to the Council meeting to discuss real estate.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Barry Gummo, Tyrone Little League

Mr. Gummo was present, representing the Tyrone Little League. Mr. Gummo was seeking financial support from the Borough for improvements to Ferner Field. They would like to restructure and rebuild Ferner Field. Mr. Gummo stated there are 161 members and is the largest organized sport in the Tyrone Area School District. They would like to create multi-use fields which would alleviate some use of the new soccer fields. The league would also like to include 13-year-olds for play as well. Mr. Gummo stated it would be a total restructuring of the field.

Councilmember Poust asked if he had received any quotes for this work. Mr. Gummo has been in contact with Altoona, and they installed two new infields for \$170,000 two years ago.

Borough Manager Latchford suggested speaking with TYAA; they had received an estimate from a Turf Pro.

Councilmember Poust asked Mr. Gummo to get some quotes.

**Minutes – Regular Council Meeting
February 12, 2024
Page Two (2)**

Councilmember Snyder asked Mr. Gummo to meet with him after the meeting.

Hope Shaffer, 601 S. Lincoln Avenue

Mrs. Shaffer was present at the meeting requesting help from Borough Council with a problemed neighbor. Her complaints are that he burns garbage constantly, allows his dogs to be unleashed; rakes the dog excrement into a pile that runs onto their property when it rains; he has fired golf balls and a bird gun towards their house, has brandished a gun, put a laser on her couch and had previously peeped in neighbors' windows. Between August and November 2023, the Shaffer's have had 18 instances of vandalism at their house. The Shaffer's have taken means to vacate an alley and install a fence. Shaffer has sent numerous videos to the Borough of his activities and harassment. She doesn't know what to do and they are contemplating whether to move or not. She plead with Council to help them. Mrs. Shaffer encouraged Borough Council and staff to look at the current codes and see if the penalties could be stronger.

Chief Walk advised he has been arrested 9 times and has 5 pending cases in the court system.

Deb Moore, 422 5th Street, asked if the dog residue is a violation.

Mr. Charles Wolford, 804 W. 15th Street encouraged all involved to seek mental health evaluation for this individual before a tragedy happens.

There was no further public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that Council approve the Minutes of the January 8, 2024 Council meeting. Council unanimously approved said motion.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

It was moved and seconded the financial reports for the monthly accounting period ending January 31, 2024, 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

Request For Hockey Rink Enclosure

The Borough has received a request from the Pickle Ball Association inquiring about enclosing the hockey rink so that it can be used as an indoor facility for play all year round. The Borough’s engineer has done some preliminary design and cost estimates. Council was provided with a copy of Mr. Szala’s email with some preliminary cost estimates. Preliminary costs are approximately \$475,000 for an air supported enclosure. Mr. Szala advised that the Borough could apply for an LSA grant or a community grant to offset the costs. The minimum grant about is \$50,000 and not maximum grant limit. Mr. Szala advised there was a \$100 application fee and the Borough would be responsible for the design fees. It was the consensus of Borough Council to explore the LSA grant.

Nittany Media– Ice Mountain Lease

Council was in receipt of an email from Nittany Media advising they no longer need the Lease for the Ice Mountain property. It was moved and seconded that Council approve this request. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Election Polling Place Agreement

The second floor of the Municipal Building has been used for several years as two separate polling places. Council was provided with an Agreement from the County for continued use. It was moved and seconded that Council approve this Agreement. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Request From ELM

Council was in receipt of a request from Every Life Matters (ELM) to use Pavilion #1 on Saturday, September 14 for a soup sampling as a fundraiser for ELM. ELM is non-profit. It was moved and seconded that Council approve this request and waive the fee. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Civil Service Requirement For Hours Worked

During a recent meeting of the Civil Service Commission, Chief Walk requested the “500 hours of work as a municipal police officer” requirement be removed. This would allow the Borough to get candidates directly from a Police Academy. The Commission agreed; Council was polled by email. It was moved and seconded that Council ratify

**Minutes – Regular Council Meeting
February 12, 2024
Page Four (4)**

their action of approving Chief Walk’s request. Council unanimously approve said motion.

Award of Bids – Reservoir Park Restrooms

On February 8, 2024, the Borough accepted bids for the construction of new, handicap accessible restrooms at the upper end of Reservoir Park. Eight bids were received and are listed below:

Name of Bidder	General Construction	Plumbing	Electrical
Maines Engineering	\$179,950	\$19,800	No bid
K & K Plumbing Electrical	No bid	\$ 28,973	No bid
Strouse Electric	No bid	No bid	\$14,988
John Claar Excavating	\$155,830	No bid	No bid
Montgomery Bros Plumbing	No bid	\$ 22,000	No bid
Mid-State Construction	\$170,849	No bid	No bid
PBCI Allen	No bid	\$ 22,400	\$17,500
Marmat, Inc.	\$162,700	No bid	No bid

The bids have been reviewed by P. Joseph Lehman Engineers and it is recommended to award to the low bidders as follows:

General Construction	John Claar Excavating	\$ 155,830
Electrical	Strouse Electric	\$ 14,988
Plumbing	Maines Construction	\$ 19,800

It was moved and seconded that Council approve the low bidders as reviewed and recommended by P. Joseph Lehman Engineering, issue a Notice of Intent to Proceed, contingent upon receiving required documentation from the contractors. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Committee Appointments

The Borough is in receipt of requests from Blair County for Council members to be appointed to 3 County committees. Hazard Mitigation Committee, Government Advisory Committee, and the Stormwater Management Committee. Council was provided with a brief description of the Committees. Council member Poust agreed to serve on the Hazard Mitigation Committee; Council member Bob Dollar agreed to serve on the Stormwater Management Committee and Council member David Snyder agreed

**Minutes – Regular Council Meeting
February 12, 2024
Page Five (5)**

to serve on the Government Advisory Committee. These names will be forwarded to the County.

Miscellaneous:

- Reservations are now being taken for Reservoir Park
- Municipal Outreach Meeting, February 21, 2024 @ 1pm at the Municipal Building (for Borough officials only)
- Burgmeier's Spring Cleanup, April 16, 17, 18
- PennDOT has permitted the Borough to make a temporary fix for the upper bridge at Reservoir Park. The Borough hopes to have the bridge open by Memorial Day.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: The Solicitor had nothing to report:

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Council was in receipt of Rettew's Engineering Report. Engineer Matt Coleman had the following action items for Council's consideration:

It was moved and seconded that Council approve the NPDES Permit for the WWTP in the amount of \$12,300, this permit renews every five (5) years; and the Organic Rate at a cost of \$19,800; which brings the WWTP in line with the local limits. Council unanimously approved said motion.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Council was in receipt of Mr. Frazell's monthly report. Mr. Frazell submitted the following Subdivision for Council's approval.

The purpose of this submission is to get approval of a subdivision/merger for Revel W. Kemp and Amy L. Stever located at 806 W. 15th Street, Tyrone, Pa. 16686 (T.M. 22.06-09..-009.00 and 10 ft. of T.M. 22.06-09..-10.00 Charles Wolford property) and merging the 10 foot piece with T.M. 22.06-09..-009.00 the Kemp property. The merged property will contain 0.35 acres and the residual property T.M. 22.06-09..-010.00 will contain 1.15 acres.

It was moved and seconded that Council approve the subdivision. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Minutes – Regular Council Meeting
February 12, 2024
Page Six (6)

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Council was in receipt of Chief Walk’s monthly report.

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

WATER DEPARTMENT: Council was in receipt of Mr. Shultz’s monthly report.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Council was in receipt of Mr. Bywater’s monthly report.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Councilmember David Snyder is seeking input from Council as to forming a committee to explore how to best modernize how the public can engage with the Borough. Borough resident Tony Kost advised he is interested in participating on the committee. Mayor Latchford also stated he would be interested. Council member Patterson suggested trying this for a year. It was Council’s consensus to try this for a year

The Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ardean C. Latchford/kdg
Borough Manager