

**TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 @ 7:00PM**

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The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Tyrone Borough Council was held on Monday, September 12, 2022 @ 7:00PM at the Tyrone Borough Municipal Building, 1100 Logan Avenue, Tyrone, PA. Pastor Eric Fether, Tyrone Church of the Brethren, 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 David Snyder, Charles Mills, Ken Patterson, William Wiser, Robert Dollar, Sarah Hunter, Rob Poust and Mayor Latchford.

Also, present were Borough Manager Ardean Latchford; Solicitor Dan Stants; Sewer Superintendent Jason Harris; Water Superintendent Mike Ashcroft; Highway Superintendent Jim Bywater; Code Enforcement Officer Marvin Frazell; Police Chief Jessica Walk; Rettew Consulting Engineer Steve Siegfried; and Administrative Assistant Kimberly Gurekovich.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Brian Igou, Tyrone Improvement Group

Brian Igou of the Tyrone Improvement Group was present to request 2023 Food Truck Festival dates. The dates are May 6, June 3, July 1 and August 5. These are the first Saturday of these months. It was moved and seconded that Council approve these dates. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Chris Cherry, Assistant Chief Neptune Volunteer Fire Company

Mr. Cherry was in attendance to request funding from Council for an incentive program to entire volunteer firefighters. The program would cap at \$575 and volunteers would earn points for responding to calls, working fundraisers, etc. Those points would equal a dollar amount that would be paid out once/year, Mr. Cherry suggested November 1st of each year. They can only make this program work if the Borough funds it. Mr. Cherry explained the need for volunteers and stated that in the State of Pennsylvania had 300,000 volunteers in 1970 and 38,000 in 2021. Mr. Cherry was estimating \$9-10,000/year. If Council agrees to this, Solicitor Stants and Borough Manager Latchford suggested the Borough increase their monthly stipends to equal this amount so that it doesn't appear the fire fighters are paid. Solicitor Stants will check with other municipalities to see how they handle this type of arrangement. Council asked Mr. Cherry to speak with the Blazing Arrow Hook & Ladder Fire Company and put something on paper for them to look at for the October meeting. Jay Young advised

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that the State Fire Academy has a recruitment course they may want to look at. Councilmember Ken Patterson suggested hosting a First Responder's Day.

Trina Illig, Grant Coordinator, Blair County CDBG

Ms. Illig was present seeking approval of the Borough's 2022 CDBG Allocation. Ms. Illig advised there are currently 18 applicants on the list for housing rehabilitation. It was moved and seconded that Council allocate all funds for housing rehab. The amount allotted for projects is \$91,020. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Gloria Catich, 583 Oak Street

Mrs. Catich was present asking Council for assistance with a major flooding issue at her house every time it rains. A storm blew thru Tyrone this evening and her house is flooded again. She has been to the Borough since last Spring asking for assistance and has received none. Mrs. Catich advised the inlets are not big enough to hand the amount of water when we get downpours (such as this evening) The Borough Manager apologized and advised he thought this issue had been resolved. Borough Manager Latchford will be looking into this to insure a resolution.

There was no further public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded the Minutes of the August 8, 2022 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 August 31, 2022, 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 Use of Shea Field

At last month's meeting, Council was in receipt of a request from the Tyrone Christian Academy to use Shea Field as a playground/recess area for their students. This activity would be Monday thru Friday for the duration of the school year. At that time Council

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had inquired if the school was non-profit. Since that meeting, it was confirmed that the school is non-profit. Borough Manager and Council member David Snyder also visited the area and feel there is adequate room. It was moved and seconded that Council approve this use of the field. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Council members Hunter, Mills, Patterson, Poust, Snyder and Mayor Latchford. Nays: Council members Wisner and Dollar. The motion carried. The school will provide the Borough with a Certificate of Insurance.

MMO's-Uniform and Non-Uniform

Council was in receipt of the 2023 MMOs for the Borough's pension plans. The MMO for the Uniform Plan is \$114,135 and the MMO for the Non-Uniform Plan is \$166,346. It was moved and seconded that Council approve the 2023 MMOs. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Engineering Services – Blair Avenue Parking Lot

Council was provided with a copy of the Engineering Agreement with Lehman Engineering for design, preparation of drawings and all bid documents for this Borough owned parking lot located on Blair Avenue in the amount of \$19,584. It was moved and seconded that Council approve said motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

Discussion – Labor Day Picnic

The Borough has had several inquiries about the status of the Labor Day Picnic. Historically this has been a great end of summer event for the Borough (and surrounding) residents. It is our understanding that one of the reasons this has not occurred post COVID is due to the financial strain and lack of donations. The Tyrone Park and Recreation Committee would like to start this picnic again. We are requesting \$5,000 from the Community Enrichment Fund to put toward this event. It was moved and seconded that Council approve this request. This money would come from the Community Enrichment fund and will be used to purchase prizes, thus reinvesting the money back into the Tyrone community. Council unanimously approved said motion.

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American Rescue Funds

Council is in receipt of our 2nd deposit of the American Rescue funds. Council previously earmarked this money towards new apparatus for the Blazing Arrow Hook & Ladder fire company. The amount received was \$269,797.88. These funds will be turned over to the financial institution funding this purchase.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Community Yard Sale – September 17, 2022
- Fall Cleanup – September 20, 21 & 22
- Trick or Treat – October 27, 6-8pm
- Halloween Parade – October 29 @ 2pm (please note the time change)
- Trunk or Treat – October 2, 4-7pm at Reservoir Park

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

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Council was in receipt of Rettew's Engineering Report. Mr. Siegfried advised they recently held a meeting with the University Joint Authority to discuss the Biosolids Agreement. Mr. Siegfried advised they should have an agreement to review very soon.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Council was in receipt of Mr. Frazell's report. Mr. Frazell presented Council with a proposal for the Borough doing Commercial Building Inspections in the downtown. Mr. Frazell's proposal is to do this once per year; non residential rentals at this time. Mr. Frazell stated Tyrone has had several catastrophic incidents and feels this program could only help. Mr. Frazell was asked to draft a residential and commercial program for the October Council meeting. Borough Manager Ardean Latchford suggested starting with Commercial inspections only.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Council was in receipt of Chief Walk's report. Chief Walk requested Council appoint Trevor Pelton as a new part-time police officer, contingent upon his background check, physical and psychological. It was moved and seconded that Council approve the hiring of Mr. Pelton, contingent upon successfully completing the testing. Council unanimously approved said motion.

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

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

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

MISCELLANEOUS

- Council Member Hunter inquired about the fence at Reservoir Park. Borough Manager Latchford advised it is to be installed mid-September, weather pending.
- Council has previously discussed installing a sound system in City Hotel Park for public events and holiday music. Councilmember Snyder requested that Council earmark \$5,000 for this. This item was not on the agenda. Mayor Latchford called for public comment, there was none. It was moved and seconded that Council approve purchasing a sound system, not to exceed \$10,000. Council unanimously approved said motion.
- Some Council members questioned Ms. Ann Osborne as to why the Christmas parade was changed to a daytime parade. Ms. Osborne referred them to the parade committee.

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ardean C. Latchford/kdg
Borough Manager