

**TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

DECEMBER 8, 2014 @ 7:00PM

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The Regular Monthly Council Meeting of the Tyrone Borough Council was held on Monday, December 8, 2014 @ 7:00PM at the Tyrone Borough Municipal Building, 1100 Logan Avenue, Tyrone, PA. Mayor Fink led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Keith Deal, Community Worship Center, gave the Invocation.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Fink called the meeting to order and requested roll call. Present: Council members Mark Black, Ray Detwiler, Christy Ray, William Latchford, Courtney Rhoades, and Mayor Fink. Absent: Council members Terry Richardson and Mark Kosoglow. Also present were Borough Manager Phyllis Garhart; Director of Administration Brandi Miller; Solicitor Daniel Stants; Sewer Superintendent Tim Nulton; Water Superintendent Ardean Latchford; Chief of Police John Romeo; Consulting Engineer Kevin Nester; Code Enforcement Officer Patrick Rabits; and Administrative Assistant Kimberly Gurekovich.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor Fink presented Proclamations to Officers Fry, Hollis and Walk for their part in the life saving efforts during a water rescue of a woman who drove in to the Paper Mill Dam on November 28th. Officers Fry and Walk were on hand to accept their Proclamation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Fink announced Borough Council held an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tyrone Events and Promotions/Northern Blair Rec/Presentation of Weapons

Sue Griep, President of the Tyrone Events and Promotions Committee along with Treasurer Kristen Barrett were present to make a presentation of weapons to the Borough's Police Department. Mrs. Griep advised that in September, the Tyrone E & P in conjunction with the Northern Blair Recreation Center, had planned a 5K, honoring Fire, Police, EMS and Military personnel, which in turn was to benefit the Tyrone Borough Police Department. Due to unforeseen circumstances, this race had to be cancelled, however; the businesses that donated desired for their contributions to be put towards weapons for the police department.

Mitch Cooper, Blair County Sheriff's Department also addressed Borough Council and shared his experience and concern that officers are issued the same weapon. Thus

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when out in the field and one officer may become disabled, another officer is able to come to his aid with the same weapon. Mr. Cooper stressed the importance of like weapons and every officer having the same training. A picture of the new guns and a spec sheet was provided to Council. The group advised that six (6) Smith & Wesson, M & P40 Pistols have been ordered and will be delivered to the Police Department in the coming weeks. Those who contributed are Tyrone Women's Club, Conner Heating and Air Conditioning, American Eagle Paper Mill, J N D Guns, Chill N Grill, HealthSouth, Shoefly, Blair County Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Foundation and G & R Excavating.

There was no further public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded the Minutes of the November 10, 2014 Borough 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 November 30, 2014 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

2015 Budget

The 2015 has been properly advertised for public inspection. Budget changes made during the November 18th Special Meeting reduced the deficit to \$89,500. It was noted some of the items Council previously removed were capital items and did not help the operating deficit. Council also discussed the proposed shift change to 10 hour days for officers. Mrs. Garhart advised this would add \$32,900 to the operating deficit. It was the consensus of Council to table this until more information was provided with respect to vacation time, sick time, etc. It was also noted this needs to go to the Police Union for their input before Council makes any decisions.

Council member Rhoades asked for Chief Romeo's opinion. Chief again stated he feels it is a safety issue and would like 2 officers on peak hours.

Mayor Fink added that he is bothered by adding \$32,000 on top of the current deficit.

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Mrs. Garhart added that a 4 mill tax increase would cover the current operating deficit. Council member Latchford stated that \$89,500 is a lot to take from cash reserves. The last tax increase was in 1996. Several Council members were adamantly against a tax increase when the Borough has a noted 2.6 million in capital reserves. Mrs. Garhart advised that \$600,000 of that was encumbered for large projects not yet completed. One suggestion was to borrow half from capital reserves and a 2 mill tax increase. It was moved and seconded that Council borrow the \$89,500 deficit from cash reserves. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Council members Black, Ray, Latchford, Detwiler, and Rhoades. Nays: Mayor Fink. The motion carried with a 5-1 vote.

FY 2014 CDBG

It was moved and seconded that Council approve the Administrative Agreement with Improved Dwellings of Altoona for the Borough's FY 2014 CDBG Grant. The activities identified were \$ 82,558 for Housing Rehab and \$11,000 for Administration. Council unanimously approved said motion.

APPOINTMENTS – VARIOUS BOROUGH BOARDS

Two seats are coming due on December 31, 2014; those being Judy Duey on the Zoning Hearing Board and Jennifer Bryan on the Tyrone Borough Authority. Both members have agreed to continue to serve. The Zoning Hearing Board is a three (3) year term while the Tyrone Borough Authority is a five (5) year term. These will be done by Resolutions under the Solicitor's report.

Renewal of Lease – Invisible Allies Ministries, Inc.

The Lease the Borough has with Invisible Allies Ministries will expire December 31, 2014. Through correspondence with Invisible Allies Ministries, it is their desire to renew their Lease with the Borough for property on Ice Mountain. It was moved and seconded that Council approve said Lease Agreement. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Tyrone Borough Police and Non-Uniform Pension

Council was provided with Pension Plan audits for both police and non-uniform, no findings were present. It was moved and seconded that Council approve said pension plan audits as presented. Council unanimously approved said motion.

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County Bridge #40 – 9th Street Pedestrian Bridge

Borough Manager Phyllis Garhart along with Mayor William Fink met with County Commissioner Ted Beam regarding the situation of the 9th Street Pedestrian Bridge. Mr. Beam advised that the County would be willing to complete the short term repairs to the 9th Street Bridge however he has inquired if the Borough would take over the maintenance i.e. removal of snow and ice, cutting weeds, etc. The County will prepare an Agreement and forward the same for the Borough's review.

December Parking Meters

The Borough has historically offered free meter parking for the month of December; labels have been placed in the meters to reflect the same. Free parking is for a two hour limit and downtown businesses have also been notified of the same.

Wastewater Electric Supply Quotes

The Borough was in receipt of quotes for electric supply for the Wastewater Treatment plant. Based on the quotes received, Washington Gas Energy Services was locked for an 11 month period at a rate of 5.891. This is a 16.49% increase over the current rate.

SOLICITOR'S RERORT: Solicitor Stants presented the following for Borough Council:

Proposed Ordinance No. 1358 – 2015 Compensation

It was moved and seconded that Council approve *Ordinance No. 1358*, adopting the 2015 Compensation budget. The Ordinance is outlined below:

“An Ordinance Of The Borough Of Tyrone, A Home Rule Municipality, Establishing The Compensation Of Borough Officials And Employees For 2015; And Establishing An Effective Date.”

Council unanimously approved said motion.

Proposed Ordinance No. 1359 – 2015 Taxes, Fines, Fees, Etc.

It was moved and seconded that Council approve *Ordinance No. 1359*, adopting taxes, fines and fees for 2015. The Ordinance is outlined below:

“An Ordinance Of The Borough Of Tyrone, A Home Rule Municipality, Establishing and/or Setting Rates For Various Taxes,

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***Fines, Fees, Permits, Licenses and/or Other Charges Imposed By
The Borough Of Tyrone For 2015; And Establishing An Effective
Date.”***

Council unanimously approved said motion.

Proposed Ordinance No. 1360 – 2014 Budget

It was moved and seconded that Council approve *Ordinance No. 1360*, adopting the compensation for Borough employees and Council for 2014. The Ordinance is outlined below:

***“An Ordinance of the Borough Of Tyrone, A Home Rule Municipality,
Adopting The 2015 Final Budget Appropriating Specific Sums
Estimated To Be Required For the Specific Purposes of the Municipal
Government Hereinafter Set Forth During The Year 2015, and
Establishing an Effective Date.”***

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Ordinance No. 1347, adopting a balanced budget for 2015 borrowing \$89,500 from cash reserves. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Council members Rhoades, Black, Richardson, Latchford, Detwiler and Ray. Nays: Mayor Fink. The motion carried.

Proposed Resolution No. 2014-14 – CDBG Administrative Agreement

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Resolution No. 2014-14, approving the Borough’s Administrative Agreement with Improved Dwellings of Altoona. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Proposed Resolution No. 2014-15 – Reappointment of Judy Duey-ZHB

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Resolution No. 2014-15 reappointing Judy Duey to the Tyrone Borough Zoning Hearing Board for a term of three (3) years. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Proposed Resolution No. 2014-16 – Appointment of Jennifer Bryan-TBA

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Resolution No. 2014-16 reappointing Jennifer Bryan to the Tyrone Borough Authority for a term of five (5) years. Council unanimously approved said motion.

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CONSULTING ENGINEER: Council was in receipt of Mr. Nester's report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Council was in receipt of Mr. Rabits' report.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Council was in receipt of Chief Romeo's report. Chief inquired about a request for a private handicap parking space for Mr. Ken Shaw, made in September. This item was again tabled by Borough Council.

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

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

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

MISCELLANEOUS: None

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phyllis J. Garhart

Phyllis J. Garhart/kdg
Borough Manager