

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

**JANUARY 9, 2017 @ 7:00PM**

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The Regular Monthly Council Meeting of the Tyrone Borough Council was held on Monday, January 9, 2017 @ 7:00PM at the Tyrone Borough Municipal Building, 1100 Logan Avenue, Tyrone, PA. Mayor Fink led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and Ardean Latchford and Pastor Aaron Jeffrey, Grace Baptist Church gave the Invocation.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Fink called the meeting to order and requested roll call. Present: Council members Robert Dollar, Nate Verilla, Charlie Mills, Michelle Miller, Bill Latchford and Mayor Fink. Absent: Council member Courtney Rhoades. Also present were Borough Manager Phyllis Garhart; Solicitor Dan Stants; Sewer Superintendent Tim Nulton; Water Superintendent Ardean Latchford; Highway Superintendent Jim Bywater; Consulting Engineer Kevin Nester; Chief of Police John Romeo; Code Enforcement Officer Marvin Frazell; and Administrative Assistant Kimberly Gurekovich.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded the Minutes of the December 12, 2016 Council Meeting be approved. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Council Members, Dollar, Latchford, Mills, Verilla and Mayor Fink. Council Member Miller abstained.

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS**

There were no financials available.

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT**

**Council Member Appointment to Blair County UCC Board of Appeals**

Due to the resignation of Councilmember Christy Ray, the Borough will need to appoint a new member of Council to the Blair County Board of Appeals. Councilmember Dollar volunteered to fill said vacancy. It was then moved and seconded that Council appoint Bob Dollar as the Borough's representative on the Blair County UCC Board of Appeals. Council unanimously approved said motion.

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**SOLICITOR'S RERORT:** Solicitor Stants had the following to report:

**Resolution No. 2017-01 – Council Vacancy**

It was moved and seconded that Borough Council approve Resolution No. 2017-01, designating a vacant Council seat due to Mrs. Christy Ray's resignation. Council unanimously approved said motion.

**CONSULTING ENGINEER:** Mr. Kevin Nester reviewed his report with Borough Council.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Council was in receipt of Mr. Frazell's report. Mayor Fink read portions of a letter the Borough received from the Department of Labor and Industry stating no violations were found during the recent audit of Building Permits. Mayor Fink offered a congratulations to Mr. Frazell for a job well done.

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

Chief Romeo advised he would be attending a meeting with other Chiefs to discuss the newest Traffic and Criminal Software (TRACS) and to decide if they will be using tablets or laptops in the patrol cars. This new program would allow officers to do traffic and non traffic citations, crash reporting and written warnings from their patrol car. Individual municipalities will be responsible for purchasing the hardware, all other associates expenses will be covered by the State. Officers will have training on this system in April and will go live on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Chief advised Council of an increasing number of homeless people they are encountering. The police department is in receipt of a donation to help offset this cost. Chief suggested the check being cashed and given to the police department to be used as needed for housing. Council was in agreement with Chief's recommendation.

Chief also asked Council to think about additional funding for 2018 for additional manpower for the police department. With the recent killing of a Huntingdon State Trooper, awareness is heightened. Chief advised of being on a domestic call the day of Trooper Weaver's funeral. This individual would not follow police commands and fought with the officers. Chief called for backup and had 14 patrol cars assist. This due largely to so many officers being in the area for the funeral. Chief advised that statistically this is society today, bringing harm to law enforcement. Chief stated the safety of the officers must come first.

Chief also inquired about the generator at the Municipal Building. The Borough had experienced a power outage over the holiday and the generator did not carry the police

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department. Chief stated in an emergency the police department needs to be fully operational. Borough staff will look into this issue.

Mayor Fink acknowledged Law Enforcement Appreciation Day being this date. Mayor thanked the Chief and his department for all they do to keep our community a safe place to live.

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

**WATER DEPARTMENT:** Council was in receipt of Mr. Latchford's monthly report. Mr. Latchford offered a reminder for water customers to be mindful of the increasing colder temperatures and advised it is good practice to leave a faucet trickle during such cold temperatures.

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

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Council member Charlie Mills would like to see Council involved in the hiring and firing process of Borough employees. Mayor Fink advised the Charter allows for the Borough Manager to do the hiring/firing and report to Council after the fact.

Mr. Mills also stated he would like to see the fire police issue move forward and get some fire police appointed. Chief Romeo also agreed with this. With one of Tyrone's biggest parades coming up in March it is vital that we have some people in place for traffic control.

Mr. Mills also inquired about a letter from PennDOT regarding the 14<sup>th</sup> Street and PA Avenue intersections. Mrs. Garhart advised she has the letter and will get Mr. Mills a copy of the same. Mrs. Garhart again advised that at the time correspondence was with Mr. Tom Prestash and the Borough was told the lack of pedestrian traffic does not warrant them changing the traffic light pattern back to what the Borough had in place when the former Logan School was at the corner of Logan and 14<sup>th</sup> Street.

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The Meeting Adjourned at 7:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phyllis J. Garhart/kdg  
Borough Manager