

TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 14, 2016 @ 7:00PM

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The Regular Monthly Council Meeting of the Tyrone Borough Council was held on Monday, March 14, 2016 @ 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 Roy Garthwaite, Grace Baptist Church gave the Invocation.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Fink called the meeting to order and requested roll call. Present: Council members Christy Ray, Courtney Rhoades, Nate Verilla, Bob Dollar, William Latchford, Michelle Miller, Charlie Mills and Mayor Fink. Also present were Borough Manager Phyllis Garhart; Solicitor Dan Stants; Sewer Superintendent Tim Nulton; Highway Superintendent Jim Bywater; Consulting Engineer Kevin Nester; Officer Dustin Rhoades; Code Enforcement Officer Marvin Frazell; and Administrative Assistant Kimberly Gurekovich.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Fink announced that Council held an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss possible litigation.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – IRISH HERITAGE DAYS

Mayor Fink presented a Proclamation to Sue Griep, President of the Events & Promotions Committee, acknowledging the *Irish Heritage Celebration*, being held March 12-19, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Joseph J. Peluso, CEO Tyrone Hospital

Mr. Joseph J. Peluso, new CEO of Tyrone Hospital was in attendance to introduce himself to Borough Council. Mr. Peluso stated the standard of care at Tyrone Hospital does not take a backseat to any facility, providing such a level of high quality care. Mr. Peluso further stated Tyrone Hospital can continue this level of service as long as they have the support of the community, however, they must run it as a business wherein it must be profitable.

Several members of the Community were in attendance and asked several questions of Mr. Peluso. Mrs. Lori Eckert, 518 W. 18th Street, inquired as to the deed for the ground the hospital sits on. Council member Ray stated this is a done deal, this was done by a previous council and the sitting Council has no other option than to do a "housekeeping

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measure” to correct some paperwork that was not done when the deed in question was transferred. Mrs. Connie Muir, 2119 Lincoln Avenue inquired as to the patient count of the hospital. Mrs. McClain asked what the residents can do to guarantee that Tyrone keeps their hospital in operation.

Mr. Peluso stated the hospital’s fiscal year ends in June at which time he plans on having a community meeting.

Resident Ed Isenberg, Morrison Street, stated he was a member of the 1982 Council and they were ill informed at the time. He asked the Council to make sure they have all their information before making further decisions.

Mrs. Connie Muir, 2119 Lincoln Avenue

Mrs. Muir was in attendance at the meeting to discuss flooding issues in her neighborhood. Mrs. Muir stated her discontent with not being allowed to attend a meeting regarding the same, as well as why this has taken so long. Mrs. Muir stated her frustration as they have had water in their basement as well as many residents have had extension automobile repairs due to the flooding issues. Mrs. Garhart advised there are many factors involved and have to meet with all parties. Mrs. Garhart also advised the Borough has nothing in place to control storm water runoff. This is up to the County of Blair to control. Councilmember Ray stated that once the new Grace Baptist Church was built, there have been problems. Mrs. Ray further advised the Borough has met with the Railroad however, the Council cannot get answers either.

Mrs. Garhart advised Borough that staff with SEDA-COG representatives to discuss issues with 23rd Street and Lincoln to Laurel Run along with the Little Juniata debris within the river. The Borough has provided SEDA-COG’s Engineer, Mr. John Conrad, with a copy of the US Army Corps of Engineers Flood Risk Management Study for his review. Once this review is complete, additional meetings will be held in an effort to establish a strategy for relieving this flooding issue.

There was no further public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded the Minutes of the February 8, 2016 Council Meeting be approved. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Council members Ray, Verilla, Rhoades, Dollar, Latchford, Mills and Mayor Fink. Council member Miller abstained.

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APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

It was moved and seconded the financial reports for the monthly accounting period ending February 29, 2016 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

Liquid Fuels Audit

Council was in receipt of the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund Audit for the period of January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2014. One classification was noted for equipment purchases. It was moved and seconded that Council approved said Audit. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Equipment Purchase – Water Department

Council was in receipt of a request from the Water Department to purchase a John Deere Sub-Compact Utility Tractor in the amount of \$18,622.20. The Water Budget Included purchase of a new full size backhoe, however, Mr. Latchford advised this machine is in good shape and does not need replaced. This sub-compact utility tractor is much smaller, will have turf tires and can make smaller street cuts when needed. It was moved and seconded that Council approve said purchase of the Sub-Compact Utility trailer at a cost of \$18,622.20. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Request for Use of Borough Facilities

Council was in receipt of a request from TACO to hold their Annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 19, 2016 at 4PM. TACO is also requesting use of Reservoir Park for their annual Fishing Rodeo to be held on April 30, 2016 at 8am. It was moved and seconded Council approve both requests. After some discussion about the duck issue, it was Council's desire to have some of the area cleaned up by Borough staff prior to the event and other areas taped off. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Fire Committee

The Fire Committee held a meeting on March 4, 2016 to discuss several items including the emergency sirens located within the Borough. The sirens have not been operational for quite some time. The fire companies have looked at these sirens however are unable

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to identify the problem. The Chiefs have asked the Borough to take these over and suggested contacting ComPros and Center Communications to look at all the controllers and identify the issue. The Committee also discussed the relocation of a siren that was located on Washington Avenue. This siren pole was taken out by a vehicle accident and it was suggested it not be replaced in the same location.

Hoopsfest Requests

At the February 8th Council Meeting, Council discussed street closing requests for Hoopsfest in July. One concern that was brought up was closing Logan Avenue and 10th Street, due to passage of emergency equipment. Mrs. Garhart recently held a meeting with the Fire Chiefs and they advised this is not a problem for them. With that being said, it was moved and seconded the street closures and use of the Municipal lot be approved. Council unanimously approved said motion.

Update-Army Corps of Engineers

Storm Water Study: The Corps is continuing the storm water study tasks to determine drainage area to each of the inlets. This project should be completed by this summer. This study is also to provide mapping of the areas susceptible to flooding and propose corrective action for the same.

FEMA Mapping: The Corps of Engineers is coordinating work with FEMA to complete the Borough's requested map revision. Once the new maps go into effect, the Borough will then have another round of "*Letter of Map Revisions*" to be submitted on behalf of the Borough residents. Council will be updated as this process continues.

2015 Transportation Alternatives Grant Program

The Borough previously submitted 2 Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grants for the proposed Logan Avenue Streetscape and Bridges and Walking Path at Reservoir Park. Representatives from PennDOT, Lehman Engineering and Blair County Planning Commission conducted a walk thru with the Borough Manager on March 8th. One suggestion that was made was for the Borough to replace trees that will be removed throughout the project. This project selection is to be made May 30th.

Mrs. Garhart asked for 2 Council members to be part of discussions for the proposed Logan Avenue Streetscape project. Council members Dollar and Miller volunteered.

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Reservoir Park - Waterfowl Issue

Council chose to table the Goosinator at this time. It was noted that the removal of migratory/native birds is prohibited by the PA State Game Commission. Amy Elder, 2 W 11th Street, Apt #510 addressed Council regarding the duck issue. Ms. Elder frequents the park to feed the ducks and feels the public should have been made aware of this before any action was taken. Mayor Fink stated the Borough is trying to avoid health risks from the defecation that is left behind. Ms. Myla Hoy, 174 Sunset Hills Ext, is hoping for a compromise as she would still like the chance to feed the ducks. Council advised the prohibition and fine was implemented because people are leaving massive amounts of food and bedding and with these items being left the migratory fowl will not leave. Mayor Fink stated over feeding leads to overpopulation.

Mayor Fink suggested that perhaps if the overfeeding ceases, maybe Council could revisit this Ordinance.

There was no further public comment.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Stants had the following for Borough Council:

Resolution No. 2016-02-Fair Housing Notice

It was moved and seconded that Council approve Resolution No. 2016-02, adopting the Borough's Fair Housing Act. Council unanimously approved said motion.

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

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

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

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.

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MISCELLANEOUS:

- Councilmember Charles Mills requested the Borough look in to having crosses for all Veteran's at Soldier's Park. Currently the crosses that are displayed in Soldier's Park are only for Members of the American Legion. It was suggested that Mr. Mills go to other entities and inquire. Mr. Mills felt it should come from the Borough. Mr. Mills made a motion that all Veteran's should have a Cross in Soldier's Park. After further discussion by Council, Councilmember Rhoades stated she would speak with the Legion to see what we could do. Mr. Mills withdrew his motion.
- Councilmember Miller asked if the Borough could look in to updating the current audio system in the Council Chambers. Councilmember Latchford suggested the Borough look into lapel microphones. Mrs. Miller advised that when she attended the meetings as a spectator it was difficult to hear.

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phyllis J. Garhart/kdg
Borough Manager