

The Tamaqua Borough Council held its second Regular Council Meeting for the month of October on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Tamaqua Municipal Building, 320 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA.

Present were Councilmembers Robert Amentler, Ronald Bowman, Kathy Kunkel, Ritchie Linkhorst and Mary Linkevich. Excused were Brian Connely and Jay Hollenbach Jr. Officials present were Borough Solicitor Tony Odorizzi, Police Chief Michael Hobbs, Borough Manager Kevin Steigerwalt and Borough Secretary/Treasurer Tonia Collevchio. Excused was Mayor Nathan Gerace.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Bowman. The invocation was given by Councilwoman Linkevich. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Kunkel. The roll was called with five councilmembers present.

The reading of the minutes of the first Regular Council Meeting held on September 20, 2022 was ordered suspended; and with no additions or corrections; the minutes were approved as written on motion of Amentler, seconded by Linkevich, and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from The Southward Playground Association asking to sponsor a Hallow-Fun-Day at the Southward Playground on Saturday October 22, 2022 from 3-7pm; want to have a Mini Halloween Costume Parade starting at the High School Parking lot going down Penn Street to Green Street and up Race Street to the Southward Playground; also having a coloring contest, music, food, pumpkin decorating and a Chinese Auction; requesting those streets be blocked off from 3:45-4:30 pm for a safe parade. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Linkevich, seconded by Amentler, to approve the requests for the mini Halloween parade and unanimously approved.

Borough Manager Steigerwalt reported on the Demolition Bids that were opened publicly on Friday October 14th with the results and as follows:

Project A – 517 Washington Street – Daniel J. Farber \$17,777.00

Project B – 130 Clay Street – AMC Enterprise \$69,444.00

Project C – 300-302 Race Street – Northeast Industrial \$43,270.00

Project D – 161 Penn Street – AMC Enterprise \$53,656.00; grand total of \$184,147.00.

We have funds to cover, \$115,000 CDBG funds left and Demolition Grant in the amount of \$100,000 to pay for projects. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Linkevich, seconded by Amentler, to approve the lowest bidders listed and unanimously approved.

Borough Manager also reported on the #2 Heating Oil Bids that were opened publicly on Monday October 17th with the results as follows:

Fegley Oil Company Inc. – Fixed Price \$3.799 per gallon; Floating Price \$0.08 per gallon. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Amentler, seconded by Linkevich, to accept the fixed price proposal in the amount of \$3.799 per gallon from November 1st, 2022 through October 31st, 2023 and unanimously approved.

Borough Manager reported on the status of the completion of the 2023 budget; police are looking for tasers and an extra police officer and will get to council by the end of the month;

code officials are asking for updates for our ordinances for building codes, if we choose to enforce, we have to adopt ordinances etc., Solicitor Odorizzi to review draft for a future meeting. A recommendation was made to amend the agenda to include a motion to authorize the solicitor to prepare and advertise. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The motion to amend the agenda, as well as the recommendation to authorize the solicitor to prepare and advertise were so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Linkevich, and unanimously approved.

Under Public Safety Committee Report, a Civil Service Commission Patrolman Eligibility List was provided. A recommendation was made to amend the agenda to include a motion to hire David Krape as a full-time police officer effective October 30th, 2022. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The motion to amend the agenda, as well as the recommendation to hire David Krape effective October 30th, 2022 were so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Amentler, and unanimously approved.

Under Parking and Traffic Committee Report, a recommendation was made to approve a handicapped parking space application for 112 North Lehigh Street. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Amentler, and unanimously approved.

Under Parking and Traffic Committee Report, a recommendation was made to approve a handicapped parking space application for 522 Washington Street. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Amentler, and unanimously approved.

Under Parking and Traffic Committee Report, a recommendation was made to adopt an ordinance amending the weight limit on Owl Creek Road to 15 tons gross vehicle weight, except local deliveries.

ORDINANCE NO. 733

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF TAMAQUA, SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REVISING AND AMENDING SECTION 326-18 OF THE BOROUGH OF TAMAQUA CODE OF ORDINANCES ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE II TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, SECTION 326-18 TRUCK TRAFFIC RESTRICTED TO CERTAIN STREETS

A recommendation was made to adopt the foregoing ordinance for article II traffic regulations, section 326-18 truck traffic restricted to certain streets. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Amentler, and approved by unanimous roll call vote. Linda Geary, 252 Owl Creek Road, thanked council for putting up signs in Owl Creek and reported that a weight limit sign is thrown down and not put back up; there was also much discussion on the truck weights.

Under Finance, Wage and Salary Committee Report, a recommendation was made to retain Shane Young as a full-time Street Maintenance Worker effective October 25, 2022. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Linkhorst, seconded by Kunkel, and unanimously approved.

The meeting was opened to the floor.

Kathy Nunemacher, 322 Mahanoy Street, addressed council on three dead trees and branches that came down and requesting someone to cut them down. There was a brief discussion on the matter.

Dave Clemson, 226 Pitt Street, asked Council why nothing is still being done about the lot across the street from him, Borough Secretary/Treasurer reviewed the notices the property owner has received and identified that the protocols are being processed accordingly.

John Sakusky, 331 Owl Creek Road, wanted to know who was responsible for cleaning the river; there was a brief discussion on the matter.

With no one else wishing to address council, the meeting was closed to the floor.

A recommendation was made to accept and file the various reports of the borough officials. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Linkevich, and unanimously approved.

A recommendation was made to pay all properly approved bills and claims against the borough. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Linkhorst, seconded by Amentler, and unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m. on motion of Amentler, seconded by Linkevich, to meet again at the call of the President.

ATTEST:

Tonia Collevchio, Borough Secretary/Treasurer