

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2019
MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

President Phil Ronca called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of Trappe Borough Council, October 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Trappe Borough Hall, 525 West Main Street, Trappe, Pennsylvania.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council President Ronca announced there will be an executive session this evening.

Those Present Were:

President Phil Ronca
Vice President Cathy Johnson
Tammy Liberi
Scott Martin
Stu Strauss
Pat Webster
Brett Yeagley

Also Present:

Manager Tamara Twardowski
Solicitor David Onorato
Treasurer John Klink
Engineer Paul Schmoll

Absent:

Mayor Matthew Wismer

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The members of Council reviewed the minutes of the September 3, 2019 regular meeting of Borough Council.

Motion to approve the minutes:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: B. Yeagley

Approved: 5-0

PUBLIC FORUM/AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

S. Calvin – representing State Representative Joe Ciresis’ office said that the House is back in session.

STAFF REPORTS:

Engineer’s Report: The written Engineer’s Report from Paul Schmoll, representing Barry Isett Associates (BIA) was presented to all to review. A copy of the report is available at Borough Hall.

P. Schmoll asked if the permit fees would be waived for the salt shed project. Council agreed that permit fees would be waived but the costs for the inspections should be billed to Public Works.

P. Schmoll reported that the bids were opened for the First Avenue Storm Water project. The apparent low bid was entered by Gore Con. The bid amount was \$84,025.46.

Motion to award the project to Gore Con, Inc. in the amount of \$84,025.46 contingent upon review and satisfaction of the Solicitor:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: C. Johnson

Approved: 7 – 0

S. Martin asked about the status of the Welcome to Trappe sign at the east end of Trappe. P. Webster said that she had spoken with Mr. Holcombe and he requested that T. Twardowski call him.

C. Johnson reported that Public Works had received a presentation on a GIS system and it was her understanding that Barry Isett also works with the product and it is something that the Borough could also get a license for and add our infrastructure.

Treasurer's Report: John Klink presented the Treasurer's Report dated September 30, 2019 with a list of checks, check numbers 2703-2730, along with transfers, direct payroll charges and the Phoenixville Federal Card Service Center direct withdrawal from the Customers Bank General Checking Account in the amount of \$107,964.92.

A motion was requested to pay bills as listed:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: C. Johnson

Approved: 7 – 0

John Klink presented the Treasurer Report dated September 30, 2019 for the Customers Bank Liquid Fuels Fund direct charges by PECO in the amount of \$2,299.59.

A motion was requested to pay bills as listed:

Moved: B. Yeagley

Seconded: C. Johnson

Approved: 7 – 0

John Klink presented the Treasurer's Report dated September 30, 2019 for the Customers Bank Escrow Fund check numbers 1148-1149 in the amount of \$4,172.75.

A motion was requested to the pay bill as listed:

Moved: B. Yeagley

Seconded: T. Liberi

Approved: 7 – 0

Mayor's Report:

T. Twardowski reported that the mayor had received a request from the Speaker's House for auxiliary police coverage on Tavern Night at Dewees Tavern and also for the Tree Lighting on December 4th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and the candlelight tours on Saturday December 7th from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

S. Martin suggested that rather than approve the hours for each individual event that Borough Council consider increasing the amount of the yearly donation by \$1,200.00 which will roughly cover the amount of hours that they request (around 30 hours). If the Borough did this, then the Speaker's House would pay the Borough for the services, and Council could approve the list of events that auxiliary police would be utilized out. Another option that was offered to the Borough was if the Borough increased their annual contribution to \$5,000.00 the Speaker's House would pay for auxiliary police services and all Trappe residents would get free admission to the museums and buildings (not including special events). Extensive discussion ensued. T. Twardowski explained the process the Borough goes through when billing for auxiliary police hours and also confirmed that the only auxiliary police hours that the Borough doesn't bill for are Borough Events and the Historical Society.

Motion to approve an annual increase to the donation to Historical Society in an amount that is comparative the annual hours budgeted upon submission to the Borough beginning in budget year 2020:

Motion: S. Martin

Seconded: P. Ronca

Approved: 7-0

Motion to approve auxiliary police for Tavern Night on October 10, at the Borough's expense from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.:

Motion: S. Strauss

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7 – 0

Motion to approve auxiliary police for the tree lighting on December 4th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and for candlelight tours on December 7th from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Borough's expense:

Motion: S. Strauss

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7-0

Borough Manager's Report: The written Borough Manager's report by Tamara Twardowski was presented to all for review. A copy of the report is available at Borough Hall.

T. Twardowski provided the bid results for the plowing and salting contract. MAK Services was the only bidder. The bid rate was approximately 3-4% higher than 2018-19 year.

Motion to award the Plowing Contract to MAK service at a rate of \$150.00/hour for the 8500 trucks, \$125.00/hour for the 350 and 3500 trucks, \$115.00 for the John Deere and \$1800.00 for salt storage:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: B. Yeagley

Approved: 7 – 0

T. Twardowski presented Resolution 2019-07 authorizing the Borough Manager to execute the permit documents for application to PennDot for the traffic signal projects.

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-07:

Moved: B. Yeagley

Seconded: C. Johnson

Approved: 7 – 0

T. Twardowski announced that Montgomery County has approved a change to the Trappe polling location, Trappe residents will now vote at South Elementary.

T. Twardowski shared a request from the Lions Club to donate a bench to Rambo Park. Discussion ensued regarding the how many benches we need in the park, how many we have, and how these requests should be handled. Council requested that the recreation committee take a look at this and come up with a recommendation.

Motion to approve bench donation request from the Lions Club:

Moved: S. Martin

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7-0

T. Twardowski asked Council if they wanted to authorize auxiliary police hours for Halloween this year and outlined what was approved last year.

Motion to approve 2 auxiliary officers from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on October 30th and 31st and reimbursement up to 50 miles:

Motion: S. Strauss

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved 7-0

T. Twardowski reported that the consortium salt bid award for 2109-2020 was to Morton Salt at a cost of \$50.68/ton.

T. Twardowski shared a handout on illicit discharges and how to help protect our watersheds by not dumping things down storm drains.

Solicitor's Report: no report

Motion to accept the staff reports:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative Services: C. Johnson had provided a copy of a purchasing policy for distribution with your monthly packet.

Motion to adopt the purchasing policy as presented:

Motion: C. Johnson

Seconded: S. Strauss

Approved: 7-0

Motion to authorize the purchasing amount for 2019 as \$1,000.00:

Motion: C. Johnson

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7-0

Parks, Recreation, and Open Space:

S. Strauss reported that the trees that were authorized to be taken down at Rambo Park should be removed within the next few weeks. S. Strauss and T. Twardowski met with F. Schuetz and discussed a stormwater concern at Rambo Park.

Trappe Business Committee:

S. Strauss reported that the next Business Committee meeting will be October 28th.

Planning, Zoning, Ordinances: Neither the Trappe Planning Commission nor the Central Perkiomen Valley Regional Planning Commission met in September. The Zoning Hearing was continued to November 18th @ 6:30 p.m. as testimony was not concluded on September 30th.

P. Ronca advised Council the at the Subdivision and Land Development Open Space Requirements allow the dedication of Open Space versus a fee in lieu of to be at the discretion of the developer, rather than it being a Borough decision. He suggested that Council consider amending that Ordinance. Council agreed and asked the Ordinance Committee and the Solicitor to work on that.

Public Works & CTMA: The minutes of the August 27, 2019 meeting of the CTMA were presented. There was not a quorum for the CTJPW. A copy is available for inspection at Borough Hall.

Traffic & Safety: The August 2019 State Police was not yet available. The September report of the Trappe Fire Company and the August 2019 Trappe Fire Company Ambulance report were presented. The Fire Task Force met on the 23rd. T. Twardowski will try reaching out again to our new Community Liaison for the State Police and see if we can get a meeting scheduled, but she is currently not available for October.

Motion to accept the committee reports:

Moved: B. Yeagley

Seconded: C. Johnson

Approved: 7-0

OLD BUSINESS:

P. Ronca reported that Trappe Community Day was a success. He thanked Council members, the Fire Company, Connie Peck, Ellen Goodman, and all the others who helped volunteer along with the sponsors and vendors. P. Webster reported that she heard from some vendors that 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. was a long time and that maybe Council might want to consider shortening the event in the future.

NEW BUSINESS:

S. Martin reported that he had several “complaints” from residents as he was walking around the Borough. They included parking enforcement, potholes on Meadowview, and spotted lantern flies. Since Meadowview isn’t on the project list until 2021 T. Twardowski will reach out to Public Works and ask that they repair the pot holes in the meantime. S. Martin will draft a letter to send to the State regarding the lantern flies requesting that the State budget for some type of remediation. T. Liberi mentioned that the lights at Seventh Avenue do not always sync and then B. Long mentioned that the light at E. Seventh Avenue does not always turn green (if you are sitting on East Seventh) and C. Johnson and S. Strauss confirmed this. T. Twardowski has had Signal Services look at that for missed cycling two or three times after complaints but Signal Services finds it is working correctly when they test it. P. Ronca also reported that he has heard complaints from residents regarding parking in front of fire hydrants and also dogs roaming. He reminded Council that if they have concerns from residents to let Tamara know and reminders of Ordinances can be added to the website.

R. Ladson, Apian Way brought up a well that is located on W. Main Street that has a piece of plywood over top. He is concerned that this is a potential hazard. T. Twardowski will follow up on the situation and report back.

Council adjourned to executive session at 8:55 p.m. Council reconvened at 10:05 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 10:06 p.m.:

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara D. Twardowski
Borough Secretary