

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 1, 2020
MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Council President Cathy Johnson called to order the regular meeting of Trappe Borough Council, held virtually, on December 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

C. Johnson announced that an executive session was held prior to the start of the meeting to discuss legal matters.

Those Present Were:

President Cathy Johnson
Vice President Scott Martin
Dave Davis
Tom Lauterio
Mallory Perlin
Stu Strauss
Pat Webster

Also Present:

Manager Marcus Dolny
Solicitor David Onorato
Treasurer John Klink
Engineers Ryan Kern
Doug Brown

Absent: Mayor Matthew Wismer

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The members of Council reviewed the minutes of the November 10, 2020 regular meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7-0

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE #459

D. Onorato opened the public hearing for Ordinance #459 at 7:03PM which was advertised in The Pottstown Mercury on November 20, 2020. The Ordinance amends Chapter 315 of the Code of the Borough of Trappe pertaining to parking enforcement and permitted fines relating to parking in the Borough. After an overview of the Ordinance was given, the hearing was open for Council or public comment.

No Comment was made.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance #459 at 7:05 PM:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 7-0

PUBLIC FORUM/AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

A scheduled appearance from the residents of Colonel's Place to discuss Ordinance 458 which limited parking on Colonel's Place was brought before Council. Speaking on behalf of the residents, Don and Kathleen Sharkey presented concerns regarding timing of implementation, safety, and lack of parking. They also expressed concern to which it seems as if their street was being singled out. John Diemer another resident spoke of extensive review of original plans, minutes of both Council and Planning Commission, and HOA documents which show no statement or terms for restriction of parking. Also noting the concern of possible long-term impacts to residents as families grow. Kathleen also referenced a signed petition that was not

Company. M. Perlin referenced the new Fire Tax and the existing \$37,000 annual contribution to the Municipal Emergency Services Capital Fund saying it seems like double dipping on the tax payer. S. Martin said the Fire Company should be prepared for donations to take a hit if the tax is implemented. B. Greenwood, Fire Chief stated that donations have remained strong currently even despite current pandemic and financial climate. F. Schuetz, resident and former council member stated that previous a Fire Tax had existed and when removed the applicable governing board of the time implemented the \$37,000 contribution annually for emergency services capital expenses. B. Greenwood stated that the Company is in need of a new building and ladder truck. These amounts are in addition to payment of \$38,000 to assist annual expenses. S. Martin said a cleaner approach would be raising the proposed tax to 1mil and simplifying contribution. S. Strauss stated that there should be no tax increase unless absolutely necessary and working with the Fire Company for a phased approach was the direction to go. D. Davis echoed this sentiment, stating no more than .5mil for 2021.

No further discussion pertaining to the budget.

Motion to advertise the proposed budget as presented:

Moved: S. Martin

Seconded: P. Webster

During discussion M. Perlin stated in her opinion it should be the Fire Tax or the \$37,000.00 contribution not both.

Rollcall Vote as follows:

P. Webster – Yes

M. Perlin – No

T. Lauterio – Yes

D. Davis – No

S. Strauss – Yes

S. Martin – Yes

C. Johnson – Yes

Motion carries with approval 5-2, M. Perlin and D. Davis voting in the negative.

M. Dolny presented Resolution 2020-17 Trappe Borough Fee Schedule for 2021 setting the rates for the upcoming year.

A motion to adopt as presented:

Moved: P. Webster

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7-0

Borough Manager's Report: A written copy of the report is on file at the Borough Office.

M. Dolny shared a proposed list of donations for 2020 for approval and payment.

Motion to release payment as follows: PV Library donation of \$1,000.00, Family Services donation of \$500.00, Pillars of Light donation of \$1,000.00, and Historic Trappe donation of \$3,000.00:

Moved: P. Webster

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7-0

Regional Planning

D. Davis went over 2021 budget, priority remains Business Corridor and Perkiomen Trail. Reduced expenses lead to reduction in municipal contributions for 2021.

New Business:

It was brought to Council's attention the passing of Bob Field, former Regional Sewer member, and Former Mayor Bateman.

Council adjourned the meeting at 10:46 PM

Respectfully submitted,

**Marcus V. Dolny
Borough Manager/Secretary**