

**MINUTES OF THE November 1, 2022
MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Council President Scott Martin called to order the regular meeting of Trappe Borough Council, held at the Borough Hall at 525 W. Main Street, on November 1, 2022 at 7:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those present were:

Julie Bechtel
Scott Martin
Stu Strauss
Mallory Perlin
Tara Hiley

Also present:

Solicitor Tom Dyer
Engineer Ryan Kern
Borough Manager Marcus Dolny
Treasurer John Klink

Absent: Theresa Pammer, Dave Davis, Mayor Matthew Wismer

Visitors were present

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The members of Council reviewed the minutes of the October 4, 2022 regular meeting:

Motion to approve the minutes:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 5/0

PUBLIC FORUM/AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

None

STAFF REPORTS:

Borough Engineer: A copy of the written report is on file at the Borough Office, no action taken.

Treasurer's Report:

John Klink presented the Treasurer's Report dated October 28, 2022 along with a bill list for two payrolls, and direct charges from Phoenixville Federal Credit and checks 1169, 1172 -1195 for payment totaling \$134,882.22.

Motion to pay the bills as listed, clarifying the notation of loan fees to Truist Bank for auditing purposes and a correction of description of the payment to Signal Service for work on 7th and Main:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 5/0

J. Klink presented the Treasurer Report dated October 28, 2022 for the Liquid Fuels Fund direct charges by PECO in the amount of \$2,236.39.

A motion was requested to pay bills as listed:

Moved: J. Bechtel

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 5/0

J. Klink presented the Treasurer's Report dated October 28, 2022 for the Escrow Fund check number 1021 in the amount of \$7,905.40.

A motion was requested to the pay bill as listed:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 5/0

M. Dolny noted a request for payment from Trappe Fire Company for the payment of two invoices for Gorski Engineering check numbers 1196 and 1171 in the amount of \$44,000.00.

A motion was requested to the pay bill as listed:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 5/0

Mayor's Report: No Report

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

24 E. 1st Avenue – Land Development Parking Lot:

M. Dolny, speaking on behalf of the applicant, looking to construct a 6,500 +/- SF Parking lot and related stormwater improvements on a neighboring property to help serve as a commercial neighboring lot. Council was presented with the minutes from the August 16, 2022 Planning Commission Meeting with full recommendations for approval. Applicant intends to convert the residential use of the property into a private office for the neighboring business. Plans were provided and a review was performed by Barry Isett dated October 26, 2022. Applicant is willing to comply all comments in the letter. The applicant is asking for the following waivers:

Section 295 – 10 .B sections 1.C and 2.B requiring nothing be placed within easement areas. They have discussed this with CTMA and will be getting a letter stating their willingness to allow, understanding that ultimately access to the area will be permitted if needed or in the event of excavation that CTMA is not responsible for restoration or repair to the access point. It was noted that the commission recommended televising the line prior to any construction.

Section 295 – 34 showing existing features within 400 feet of the site shown. Due to the small nature of the project applicant is asking to simply provide an aerial photo of the area.

Section 295 – 36 H6 requiring review from Montgomery County Planning Commission as this is just land development of an accessory use allowed in the zoning district on a single lot.

Section 295 15.G(4) requiring storm drains to have a minimum slope of 0.5%. Outlet pipe from the rain garden will need to be 0.4% in order to connect to the existing inlet and maintain a minimum of one foot of cover at the outlet structure.

approved and M. Dolny asked for a motion to agree to 50% of the cost install the parking markers. Estimated cost is \$1,100.00.

Motion to approve:

Moved: J. Bechtel

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 5/0

M. Dolny also updated council on a number of issues the office is handling regarding violations and resident concerns.

A copy of the monthly permit report was distributed.

Borough Solicitor:

T. Dyer opened the Public Hearing at 7:40PM to discuss Ordinance 740 Permitting the use of alcohol at Borough Parks for Borough Events or Borough Sponsored events, which was advertised for adoption in the Pottstown Mercury on October 25, 2022.

Hearing no comments the Public Hearing was closed at 7:41PM, with no further discussion.

Motion to approve ordinance #740:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 5/0

Motion to accept professional reports as presented:

Moved: T. Hiley

Seconded: S. Strauss

Approved: 5/0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Traffic and Safety:

S. Martin reported that M. Dolny and M. Perlin attended a regional meeting regarding the state of the newly formed Freedom Valley Ambulance Service. Although questions still remain and we continue to see an issue with our station not being staffed, Freedom Valley is looking for serviced communities to contribute financially in 2023, which will be considered with the budget. Further discussion of the services contract will be discussed in Executive Session.

J. Bolger noted that the Fire Company assisted with State Police during an incident on October 18, 2022 and wanted to commend Bob Greenwood for his leadership, direction, and coordination that evening.

Administrative Services: No Report

Business, Property & Parks:

S. Strauss stated that there are some things being addressed in the Budget in 2023, noted that gutters needed to be addressed.

Finance Committee:

M. Perlin stated that M. Dolny has presented a draft budget and budget narrative for the council’s review. This will include as it sits right now a .25 mil increase to the emergency services tax as part of a 5-year funding plan to be used to construct a new fire house and address future emergency service needs. The budget currently sits with a surplus and M. Dolny believes that it will be easy to get to a remotely balanced budget for 2023. It is his hope to advertise at the December Meeting and Adopt at the 2022 close out meeting.

Recreation:

M. Perlin stated that we had a great community turn out for Truck or Treat but was disappointed that community partners that committed to the event didn’t show as they pledged, they would.

Public Affairs & Legislation: No Report

Street & Development: No Report

Planning & Zoning: No Report

Regional Planning: No Report

Public Works & CTMA: No Report

Regional Sewer:

Looking into a cost study regarding the cost of an EDU and strong chance those fees will be increased following the study.

Old Business: None

New Business:

T. Hiley noted that she has received a few requests for the Memorial Committee to consider and will be arranging those meeting soon.

Executive Session – Personnel and Contracts

Entered at 7:56PM

Exited at 8:38PM with the following action:

Motion was made to budget for the following Salaries in 2023:

Kim Godshall: \$51,500

Marcus Dolny: \$110,000

Moved: M. Perlin

Seconded: S, Strauss

Approved: 5/0

Motion to Authorize the Borough Manager to fully explore and vet alternative Emergency Medical Services for the Borough of Trappe:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 5/0

Council adjourned the meeting at 8:41PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marcus V. Dolny