# MINUTES OF THE TOPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL Monday May 27, 2020

Members of the Topton Borough Council met virtually via Zoom on Wednesday May 27, 2020 at 6:12 P.M. for a scheduled special council meeting. The meeting was called to order by Council President Ms. Kunkel with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present Mayor Biltcliff, Ms. Kunkel, Ms. Lorah, Mrs. Moll, Mr. Bower, Mr. Beck, Mr. Stauffer and Mr. Jost. Solicitor London and visitors were also in attendance.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Stauffer raised a point of order that the correct motion on the May 11, 2020 meeting minutes was to accept the settlement agreement with Mr. Marcus Dolny. Mr. Beck made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Ms. Lorah seconded this motion passing with a 6 to 1 vote with Mr. Stauffer in the negative.

# **HEARING OF VISITORS**

None

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None

# **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mrs. Moll made a motion to approve the continuation of weekly Disaster Declarations until further notice as needed. Mr. Bower seconded this motion passing unanimously.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Lorah made a motion to authorize Solicitor London to advertise for adoption Ordinance 3-2020, adopting, enacting and ordaining a code of ordinances for the Borough of Topton. Mr. Jost seconded this motion passing unanimously.

Solicitor London advised Council that she had received a request from the Brandywine Heights School District Solicitor to accept a Bond without Surety for financial security for public improvements for the current project. Ms. London explained that it is common to allow a bond without surety when the project is by an agency with power of taxation, and the amount secured is not a large one, in order to save taxpayers the additional cost. The cost estimate provided by the School District is approximately \$48,000, The Borough Engineer wishes to review the costs more closely, and the Solicitor advised that if the Borough and School District Engineers could reach agreement, and the costs were not substantially higher, that she would recommend

proceeding with the Bond without Surety and will report on and prepare the Improvements Agreement and bond for the June meeting of Council.

Mr. Stauffer made a motion to approve Council President Monica Kunkel and Mayor Tom Biltcliff to execute Resolution 14-2020, incurring debt service in the amount of \$125,000 with semi-annual repayments for three years for the purchase of a property located at 229-231 West Weis Street in the Borough of Topton. Ms. Lorah seconded this motion passing unanimously.

Ms. Lorah made a motion to authorize Borough officials to sign all required documents and IRS forms required for the \$125,000 General Obligation Note evidencing the borrowing from M & T Bank. Mr. Jost seconded this motion passing unanimously.

Mrs. Moll made a motion to authorize Mr. Toby Bower to execute documents for the purchase of the property located 229-231 West Weis Street on behalf of the Borough of Topton. Mr. Stauffer seconded this motion passing unanimously.

Mrs. Moll made a motion to approve Council President Monica Kunkel to sign and execute the Stormwater Best Management Practices Operations and Maintenance Agreement for Brandywine Heights School District. Ms. Lorah seconded this motion passing unanimously.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Public Affairs Committee** – (Ms. Kunkel)

No Report

**Personnel Committee** – (Mr. Stauffer)

Mr. Stauffer discussed employment applications received for the position of seasonal grounds crew. He noted that after further discussion with public works employees they do not believe there is a need for this position to be filled at this time but if the need arises they will revisit the applications received.

Mr. Stauffer also requested the revised final minutes of the May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 council meeting to be emailed to all of council.

**Finance Committee** – (Mrs. Moll)

No Report

# **Property Committee** – (Mr. Jost)

Discussion was had amongst Council regarding a possible rodent matter at 546 Celia Avenue. This matter along with our vector control ordinance will be reviewed.

### **Parks & Recreation Committee** – (Mr. Bower)

Mr. Bower advised Council the need for soft soil remediation to be completed for the Topton park project. After further discussion council chose to not take action on this possible change order for the project until grants and finances are reviewed.

# **Streets Committee** – (Ms. Lorah)

Ms. Lorah discussed the speed patrol being conducted on Weis Street and Main Street.

**Utility Committee** – (Mr. Beck)

No Report

# **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

No Report

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourned at 7:08PM on a motion by Mrs. Moll, seconded by Ms. Lorah.

Next Borough Council meeting will be held on June 8th, 2020 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted Sherry Palinkas Administrative Assistant