

***MINUTES OF THE
TOPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2014***

Members of the Tipton Borough Council met on Monday August 11, 2014 at 7:30 P.M. at Borough Hall for the regularly scheduled meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Stauffer with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present Ms. Lorah, Mr. Jost, Mr. Gehman, Mr. Arndt, and Mr. Stauffer. Also in attendance were Borough Secretary Marcus Dolny, Solicitor Joan London, Harry Garman, and visitors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Gehman, seconded by Mr. Arndt the minutes of July 14, 2014 were approved unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Ms. Cascino requested a reduction of sewer charges due to a leak outside of the property located at 410 S. Home Ave. A motion was made to waive the excess sewage charges by Ms. Lorah, seconded by Mr. Jost and passed 4 to 1 with Mr. Gehman voting in the negative.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Dennis Siebert returned to council to address the matter of his sewer lateral being located under Broad Alley. After discussion on Motion by Mr. Gehman the Borough of Tipton agrees moving forward to be responsible for costs incurred beyond the property line for repairs or maintenance to the lateral as outlined in a forth coming agreement. The motion was seconded Mr. Jost and passed unanimously.

Mr. Arndt made a motion for Ms. London to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Siebert property, seconded by Ms. Lorah and passed unanimously.

Ms. Lorah then made a motion that the Borough be responsible for our portion of the work done previously to Mr. Siebert's property at an amount to be reimbursed after that figure is determined at a later time. The motion was seconded at by Mr. Arndt and passed unanimously.

Mark Almendinger from BSA inquired about future plans with the park and recreation fields as they would like to look at placing lights at the softball field.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel Committee – (Mr. Stauffer)

Mr. Bennecoff has completed his probationary period and as outlined at his hire will receive an additional \$.50/ hour of pay on motion by Mr. Jost, seconded by Mr. Arndt and passing unanimously.

On motion by Ms. Lorah and seconded by Mr. Jost, Blaine Campbell was appointed quality of life appeals officer. The motion passed unanimously.

On motion by Mr. Gehman and seconded by Mr. Arndt the following Appeals board was created. The motion passed unanimously.

Board – Alexander Beach

Board – Kenneth Reitmeyer

Board – Robert Rauenzahn

Alternate – Margaret Reign

Alternate – Nathan Kline

Finance Committee – (Mr. Wagaman)

Mr. Jost made a motion to allow the payment of bills. Ms. Lorah seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Property Committee – (Mr. Jost)

Mr. Jost made a motion to accept the highest bid of \$1,800.00 on the heavy duty trailer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arndt and passed 4 to 1 with Mr. Gehman voting in the negative.

Also there was discussion regarding the purchase of a smaller commercial grade trailer

Parks & Recreation Committee – (Mr. Beck)

Noted the conclusion of the 2014 Music in the Park

Streets Committee – (Mr. Arndt) –

Mr. Arndt made a motion for new street markings as shown in attached drawings. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jost and passed unanimously.

Utility Committee – (Mr. Gehman) –

No Report – Deferred to Engineer

Public Affairs Committee – (Ms. Lorah) –

NO REPORT

Mayor's Report –

NO REPORT

Secretary's Report

- Mr. Dolny brought to council's attention the interest of Longswamp residents interested in obtaining water from the Borough.
- Updated the standing of certain Grants that are in play for the Borough
- Brought to council's attention to East Penn's plan to make signage more visible as outlined in the included letter. Mr. Jost made a motion to allow, seconded by Mr. Gehman and passed unanimously

Solicitor's Report

Contact was made with the Borough Office in regards to curbing in regards to the corner of Washington and Heffner. Permits are to be pulled and work completed before 2015.

Ms. London also gave an update regarding the Membrino property.

Engineer's Report

1. Sewage Treatment Plant Copper Limit

Pursuant to our meeting with DEP on July 7th, Russ and I continue to investigate and pursue a number of options on how the treatment plant can be modified in order to remove copper in the wastewater. Russ and I have been working on evaluating the following alternatives:

1. Performing a BLM (Biotic Ligand Model) Study as presented in a study plan submitted to DEP in May; however, DEP has not yet made a decision to approve or deny the study plan.
2. Chemical addition of the product TR-50 in order to precipitate the copper so that it settles out of the waste stream and is removed with the sludge. A series of Jar Tests were performed on July 29th where TR-50 was added at various dose rates to samples taken from the selector tank just prior to the aeration tank. These Jar

Tests failed to prove that the TR-50 will work by being added at the selector tank. Additional jar tests are scheduled to be done on August 18th.

3. Chemical addition of a chelating agent which is commonly used for removal of copper from swimming pools. Last week, Russ purchased a bottle from a local pool supply store and conducted a similar series of jar tests with similar results.
4. Change of chemical used for phosphorus removal. Currently, Poly Aluminum Chloride (Delpac 2000) is used successfully as a coagulant to remove the phosphorus. Russ experimented using Sodium Aluminate for removing the phosphorus and the copper level was below the permitted concentration level; however, while he was feeding the aluminate, the plant was not performing that well and he is not sure that it is a result of the change in chemical or something else that may have been discharged into the sewer system. Inasmuch as the copper concentration is only above the permitted level, we cannot be certain that it was solely due to using Sodium Aluminate and since the treatment plant was not working at its best, Russ switch back to the Delpac 2000.
5. Tertiary filtration is being explored and a meeting with a vendor was held last week. The vendor indicates that they typically can meet our permit parameter for copper. A tertiary filtration system would probably cost in excess of \$250,000. Things to consider with a filter system is that it would probably result in a chemical savings of nearly \$20,000/year because it would also remove phosphorus and if a nitrogen limit was ever placed on the permit, a filter system would most likely be required anyway. Additional chemical savings of about \$17,000 to \$18,000 per year could be saved by replacing the chlorination and de-chlorination process with ultra-violate disinfection at an upfront cost of about \$60,000
6. The addition of corrosion control in the drinking water system by adding a phosphate blend to the water has been suggested by DEP. This will create a coating to the inside of the copper plumbing in the homes and prevent copper from leaching into the drinking water. Russ has sampled the water from the Topton Home and found that the copper concentration in the sewerage from the Home is about 50% higher than that in the Borough's wastewater. It should be noted that treating the Borough's drinking water will not do anything for the wastewater received from the Home. It should also be noted that we believe that the Home is adding chlorine in their hot water system as a precautionary measure due to the Legionaires disease case that occurred last year. This would make their hot water system more corrosive.

DEP has asked that we meet with them again in a few weeks in order to review the progress that was made in exploring the various options in removing copper from the treatment plant's effluent. This meeting has not been scheduled.

2. Sewage Treatment Plant influent Screen

Last month, we reported that the following items that should be completed: (we recommend that these items be completed before cold weather arrives)

The heat trace should be replace with a type of shielding that is capable of withstanding occasional flooding of the pit. (this should be done before winter)

The vendor shall replace the cracked housing for the filter on the spray wash water service line. (there was a question as to whether or not this filter is required since the

water is supplied from the drinking water system and the vendor originally had the understanding that utility water from the treatment plant effluent was being used. A vendor representative did visit the plant on Thursday, August 7th and noted that the spray wash looked a little weak. This could be due to partial blockage in a solenoid valve which would indicate that the filter is necessary and therefore should be replaced.)

The vendor has promised to visit the plant to discuss the need to manually pull certain items from the screen. (As stated above the vendor rep did visit the site on August 7th, and noticed that the spray wash appeared weak, this needs to be investigated as to why there appears to be low pressure.)

The Borough shall install a backflow preventer on the water service line. (this remains to be completed by the Borough)

I did speak with Aaron Baar at DEP earlier today and he advised that he has everything he needs for the permit and that the permit should be written and issued shortly.

3. Toad Creek Improvements

Topographic survey has been completed and the existing features plan has been prepared and is being reviewed. The environmental survey and field work continues and is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

4. Zoning Ordinance Update

Bob Korp of BIA attended the July 23rd Planning Commission meeting and will be attending another meeting on August 27th for the purpose of discussing this matter.

5. Borough Hall Sign

Inasmuch as the Zoning Application for the electronic Borough Sign has been denied by the Zoning Officer, the Borough may wish to apply to the Zoning Hearing Board for a variance.

Old Business

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Council adjourned at 9:27 PM on a motion by Ms. Lorah, seconded by Mr. Jost

The next Borough Council meeting will be held on August 11, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Marcus V. Dolny
Borough Secretary