

***MINUTES OF THE  
TOPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MONDAY April 13, 2015***

Members of the Topton Borough Council met on Monday April 13, 2015 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 Mayor Biltcliff, Mr. Gehman, Ms. Lorah, Mr. Jost, Mr. Beck, Mr. Wagaman, Mr. Arndt, and Mr. Stauffer. Borough Secretary Marcus Dolny. Solicitor Joan London, Engineer Robert Korp and visitors were also in attendance.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR ZONING ORDINANCE 1-2015**

A full report will be included with the minutes as provided by the court stenographer.

A motion to close the public hearing at 7:50PM was made by Mr. Jost and seconded by Ms. Lorah, passing unanimously.

**THE REGULARLY SECHEDULED BOROUGH MEETING FOLLOWED AT 7:51PM AS ADVERTISED.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Gehman, seconded by Mr. Wagaman the minutes of March 9, 2015 were approved unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Helen Eisenhart requested permission for removal of trees in the right of way. Mr. Gehamn made the motion to allow, seconded by Mr. Jost and passing unanimously.

Topton EMS asked for permission to hold a Chicken BBQ fundraising event in the front parking lot on May 7, 2015. A motion to allow was made by Mr. Wagaman, seconded by Mr. Arndt and passed unanimously.

Berks Conservancy thanked us for our continued support.

**HEARING OF VISITORS:**

Mr. Rauenzahn questioned the charges related to the request of documents from the office.

Mr. Moyer (elected constable) informed council that he had completed his testing on PA Commission on Crime & Delinquency scoring a 100%.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Applauded the newsletter prepared by Mr. Dolny

Mr. Stauffer noted that he had a ticket available to any of the council members for the Legislative Banquet courtesy of the Topton Grange.

### **Finance Committee – (Mr. Wagaman)**

Mr. Wagaman made a motion to pay bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jost and passed unanimously.

### **Property Committee – (Mr. Jost)**

The new truck is 3 to 4 weeks away from delivery, and will be working on getting two more quotes for the new building at the Water Treatment Plant.

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

Started to work on the pools for the 2015 season.

### **Streets Committee – (Mr. Arndt) –**

Touched base on the progress of identifying streets and alleys for future repairs and noted that the State project to resurface Weis St. is moving ahead as scheduled.

### **Utility Committee – (Mr. Gehman) –**

Mr. Gehman brought up issues found in sewer main under Birch Alley, corrections to be made using trenchless technology, and the need for a new sampler at the Sewer Treatment Plant.

### **Public Affairs Committee – (Ms. Lorah) –**

Mr. Dolny asked for assistance securing the space in front of the Hoch Memorial for Community days for the Borough's use.

## **Mayor's Report** –

NO REPORT

## **Secretary's Report**

- Mr. Dolny asked for permission to enter into agreement with the Brandywine Heights School District to provide them bulk road salt, at 120% our cost. With this agreement the Borough would offer for purchase the unused salt spreader to the district at \$750.00. Mr. Wagaman made the motion to sell the spreader, seconded by Ms. Lorah and passing unanimously. Mr. Dolny will prepare the necessary documents for the agreement to provide road salt.
- Mr. Benecoff has altered his payment agreement to reimburse the Borough for funds forwarded on his behalf for schooling.
- Mr. Dolny addressed the ongoing issue of curbing at the corner of Washington and Heffner. The Borough has done everything in their power we feel to be accommodating. Mr. Dolny feels it is time to pursue a legal backing in the matter. Mr. Arndt made the motion for Solicitor London to pursue, seconded by Mr. Gehman and passing unanimously.

## **Solicitor's Report**

- Ms. London presented the Findings of Fact relating to the Conditional Use hearing for 15 E. Weis Street. Mr. Wagaman made a motion to accept and sign, seconded by Mr. Beck and passed unanimously.
- Solicitor London also gave updates on pending litigation involving the Police Union, Confirmation of a joint public meeting April 16, 2015 for the Joint Comprehensive Plan, and sated that we are still waiting to receive a signed copy of the Toad Creek Funding agreement from the Delaware County Water and Sewer Commission.

## Engineer's Report

### **1. Sewage Treatment Plant Copper Limit**

The copper level remains well below the permit limit and Russ continues to make adjustments in the feeding of the Mastercat products into the plant in order to improve the clarity of the wastewater in the settling tanks as well as minimize the amount of product being used. With warmer weather on the way, Russ will keep a close eye on the copper levels in the effluent.

### **2. Topton Home Water Connection**

We are still waiting for Diakon to get back to us regarding the possibility of the Topton Home becoming a water customer of the Topton Water System.

### **3. Influent Sampler and Flow Meter**

The automatic sampler for the treatment plant's influent has stopped working and is beyond repair. This sampler is about 20 years old and has had numerous repairs made over the years. DEP is insisting that a new sampler must be capable of collecting a flow proportioned sample as required in the NPDES permit. Although DEP has indicated that the permit does allowed for the influent sample to be flow paced using the effluent flow meter, this is not recommended for a couple of reasons including logistics in getting the signal from the effluent meter to the influent sampling point and more importantly, the accuracy will be compromised when flow pacing the influent sampler is based on the effluent flow meter.

Russ has received a price quotation in the amount of **\$13,770.91** from Environmental Systems and Equipment Service, Inc. for furnishing and installing an influent flow meter and a refrigerated sampler so that flow proportioned samples can be collected as required in the permit. Enviromental Systems and Service, Inc. is registered as a COSTAR Supplier.

Russ does have two portable samplers; but, only one works and he has been using it for the past few weeks. The problem with the portable unit is that it is as old as the others and not very reliable for weekly 24 hour composite samples, it is not flow proportional and it is not refrigerated. The refrigeration has not been a problem up until now; but, with warmer weather on the way, the sample needs to be kept a 40 degrees. Although this item was not included in the 2015 budget, it is recommended that the new sampler and flow meter be purchased. Failure to collect the weekly sample will result in a violation of the permit.

### **4. TV Inspection of Sanitary Sewer Pipes**

Levan Pipe Services (formerly Captain Clog) has televised several sanitary sewer lines in the Borough. One area where there have been a number of defects observed is in Birch Alley at the Hess Gas Station. We have not yet received the video and reports from Levan; once these are received we will meet with Russ in order to develop a plan of attack for addressing the problem areas.

### **5. Annual Wasteload Management Report**

The 2014 Annual Wasteload Management Report was submitted to DEP prior to the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

**6. Influent Screen**

New brushes and hardware were installed last month and Russ has indicated that although there is still some items that must be manually removed from the screen, it is better than what it was before the new brushes were installed.

Now that the winter appears to be over, we will be looking at the screen installation in order to determine if any measures should be taken prior to next winter in order to gain some additional protection from freezing.

**6. Toad Creek Improvements**

Preliminary plans have been finalized. Awaiting receipt of a copy of the Middle School Land Development plans and stormwater report to assess the impact of the school property.

**7. Topton Alleys**

On 1/23, BIA performed a site visit with Marcus Dolny to view and assess several alleys throughout the Borough that need maintenance. BIA is compiling a list of the alleys with our recommendation for the appropriate maintenance solutions. Once the weather breaks, BIA will perform Core Samples at each alley to assess the existing pavement depths and materials.

**Old Business**

Audit Report is now in and copies are available for review.

**Other Matters**

Mr. Gehman made a motion to grant permission for the 2015 Memorial Day Parade. Motion was seconded by Mr. Wagaman and passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Council adjourned at 8:48 PM on a motion by Ms. Lorah, seconded by Mr. Wagaman

The next Borough Council meeting will be held on May 12, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Marcus V. Dolny  
Borough Secretary