

***MINUTES OF THE
TOPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
MONDAY December 14, 2015***

Members of the Topton Borough Council met on Monday December 14, 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 Mr. Gehman, Ms. Lorah, Mr. Jost, Mr. Beck, Mr. Wagaman, Mr. Arndt, Mayor Biltcilff, and Mr. Stauffer. Borough Secretary Marcus Dolny. Solicitor, Engineer and visitors were also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Bruce Meitzler submitted a letter to Borough Council announcing his interest in being appointed to fill a vacant seat on the Planning Commission. Mr. Jost made a motion to appoint Mr. Meitzler to a four year term set to expire in 2019, seconded by Mr. Gehman and passed unanimously.

Borough Council received a letter from Richard Sherry regarding a leak discovered at Herman's Drive In. After discussion and determination by the borough council that the water was discarded via the public sewer system, past practice lead to a motion by Mr. Gehman to deny the request for relief from the charges. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lorah and passed unanimously.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Mr. Robert Rauenzahn again commented on past decision from former council regarding paving of parking lots and issuing of permits.

Mr. Rollman asked if there was a way to notify customers sooner regarding possible leaks. It was noted that with the procedures and systems in place currently there is not.

Mr. Patrick Rauenzahn inquired about the number of springs the borough still has in use. He expressed concern over the use of asphalt millings to fortify roads through the water shed and the dumping of clean fill from borough projects. Mr. Dolny noted that DEP is aware of borough practices and to date has expressed no issue with the procedure.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel Committee – (Mr. Stauffer)

Mr. Stauffer reminded members of council that Dec. 24th we will hold a staff luncheon at 11:30.

Mr. Stauffer also polled council for their opinion of starting council meeting at 7:00PM in 2016. Council agreed prompting Ms. Lorah to make a motion to advertise 2016 council meetings for 7:00PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jost and passed unanimously.

Mr. Beck made a motion for all full time employees to receive a one-time additional compensation of \$200.00 for 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arndt and passed 6 to 0. Mr. Stauffer abstained from the vote.

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)

Mr. Jost stated the Boy Scout Project in the water shed is completed.

Parks & Recreation Committee – (Mr. Beck)

Community Christmas Tree was a success, will look to grow event.

Mr. Dolny attended a seminar for DCNR to help with future development of the recreation area.

Streets Committee – (Mr. Arndt) –

A request for a 4 way stop sign at Penn & St. John is being denied. Mr. Arndt says the issue is when people run the stop sign on St. John. Mr. Dolny will notify state police.

Utility Committee – (Mr. Gehman) –

The Back Flow Prevention Ordinance was tabled pending further revisions.

Public Affairs Committee – (Ms. Lorah) –

Community Caroling and Tree lighting was a big success estimated about 125 people.

Mayor's Report –

Echoed the same sentiment regarding the tree lighting and caroling.

Secretary's Report

- Presented preliminary report for the Ordinance Codification to council and Ms. London for review.
- The 2014 Tax Collector Audit is now available for review.
- East Penn Parking lot plans were presented to council by GVC. Matter will have to go before Planning Commission.

Solicitor's Report

Ms. London presented profession services agreement relating to the use of awarded funds for the Toad Creek Project. Mr. Beck made a motion to enter into the agreement, seconded by Ms. Lorah passing unanimously.

Ms. London presented Ordinance 4-2015 establishing the 2016 tax rate. Mr. Wagaman made a motion to except, seconded by Mr. Jost and passing unanimously.

Mr. Wagaman than made a motion to adopt the 2016 budget as presented and advertised. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lorah and passed unanimously.

Engineer's Report

1. Sewage Treatment Plant Copper Limit

The wastewater plant continues to meet the copper limit and it appears that there should be no problems meeting the limit during the winter months. Russ will continue to adjust the chemical feed rates in order to achieve the most efficient use of chemicals and to keep costs at a minimum.

2. Topton Home Water Connection

It seems that the Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries no longer wishes to pursue connecting to the Topton Water System. Should this change and they express an interest in connecting to the Borough Water System, we will advise Council accordingly.

3. Birch Alley Sanitary Sewer

Utility Service Group, Inc. of Camp Hill, PA completed root cutting and five point repairs in the sanitary sewer between MHs 96 and 98 and between MHs 98 and 100 in Birch Alley for \$9,160.00. The required flaggers resulted in an additional costs of \$1,059.59 bringing the total fee to \$10,219.59.

Previously USG completed repairs to several pipe penetrations by applying a hydrophobic urethane grout for a cost of \$1,681.25.

4. Weather Protection for Influent Screen

We received a proposal from DESCCO to install two rows of 2.5' x 2.5' by 5' long concrete blocks on a 6" stone base in a 30" deep trench for a foundation for the carport structure. This proposal is to be signed and returned to DESCCO. Payment is due at completion of the work.

The carport can be ordered online at www.carport.com. Options should include the following:

Roof: Roof Type – Regular, Color – To be selected

Frame: Frame Width – 24'; Frame Length – 31'; Side Height – 10'; Frame Options – Certified & 12 gauge upgrade

Walls: Wall Style – Closed; Siding Orientation – Horizontal; Wall Color – to be selected; End Style Selection – Front (Open) Back (Closed – Horizontal Orientation color to be same as side walls)

Doors/Windows: Garage Doors – none, Walk in Doors – none, Windows – Front – 0, Back – 2, Left – 2, Right – 2

Options – No Auger Anchors, Free Install

The price for the carport is \$6,380 and a \$957 deposit is required with the order.

5. Barkley Street Sewer Repair

Last month we reported that the estimated construction cost for replacing the sanitary sewer in Barkley Street between Callowhill and Cherry Streets to be approximately \$184,000 and the engineering fees for design and construction services would be about \$20,000 to \$25,000. We will be able to proceed with this project upon receiving authorization from the Borough.

6. Water Meter Issue

We have reviewed the revised proposed ordinance for backflow prevention devices and it appears that our prior comments have been satisfactorily addressed in this latest revision; therefore, we see no reason not to adopt this ordinance.

7. Toad Creek Improvements

Preliminary plans have been submitted to the Borough for review. The Borough and BIA will be pursuing additional Grant funding. BIA has been in communication with the Conservation District and will be supplying them with additional information. BIA is preparing a proposal for Design/Approval Services.

8. Topton Alleys

Folk Paving completed the paving on the alleys.

Old Business

ADJOURNMENT:

Council adjourned at 9:00 PM on a motion by Ms. Lorah, seconded by Mr. Arndt.

The next Borough Council meeting will be held on Jan. 4, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Marcus V. Dolny
Borough Secretary