

***MINUTES OF THE  
TOPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MONDAY February 9, 2015***

Members of the Topton Borough Council met on Monday February 9, 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. Beck, Ms. Lorah, Mr. Jost, Mr. Arndt, Mr. Wagaman, and Mr. Stauffer. Also in attendance were Borough Secretary Marcus Dolny, Solicitor Joan London, Ryan Kern, and visitors.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Wagaman the minutes of January 12, 2015 were approved unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Longswamp Learning Center requested a gift Basket for a raffle they are running to benefit our Fire Company. On a motion by Mr. Wagaman, seconded by Mr. Jost and passing unanimously Mr. Dolny will prepare on including some day passes for the pool.

**HEARING OF VISITORS:**

NONE

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

No Report

**Finance Committee – (Mr. Wagaman)**

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

**Property Committee – (Mr. Jost)**

The new lawn tractor is in and the office continues to look into the acquisition of 5500 truck for the road crew. Also Mr. Dolny noted the old sewer plant has been successfully removed and they are looking into painting the old tanks.

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

Office is currently working on the summer program.

**Streets Committee** – (Mr. Arndt) –

Identified alley projects and discussed the possibility of vacating part of Birch Alley.

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

No Report

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

No Report

**Mayor's Report** –

No Report

**Secretary's Report**

- Presented Conditional Use Application for 15 E. Weis Street. On motion by Mr. Arndt and seconded by Ms. Lorah the application was accepted directing to advertise for a public meeting to be held on March 9, 2015 consisting of the planning commission meeting at 6:00PM, followed by public hearing at 6:30PM to be followed by the normal Borough Council Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mr. Dolny presented a new service that will allow the Borough to entertain ePayments and Credit Card Payments for bills. On motion by Mr. Jost and seconded by Ms. Lorah the matter passed unanimously, and Mr. Dolny was instructed to proceed.
- After notification of Blaine Campbell no longer residing in the borough Mr. Wagaman made a motion to declare his to seats vacant, Quality of Life Appeals Officer and Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jost and passed unanimously.
- A letter was presented from Eileen Black-Rodriguez expressing interest in the vacated position of Quality of Life Appeals Officer. Mr. Beck motioned to make the appointment to the vacated position. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lorah, and it passed unanimously.

- A letter was presented from Monica Kunkel expressing interest in the vacant position on the Zoning Board. Mr. Wagaman motioned to make the appointment to the vacated position. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arndt, and it passed 5/0, Ms. Lorah abstained.
- Mr. Dolny noted that he was still working on information requested by the Centennial Committee
- Mr. Dolny was granted permission to attend the 2015 Borough's Conference on motion by Mr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Wagaman and passing unanimously.
- Updates were given in regards to Grant projects and opportunities involving the park system and Toad Creek.

### **Solicitor's Report**

- Joint Planning Commission – Joint Comprehensive plan: Waiting on final draft and expecting a joint public meeting in the future.
- Zoning Ordinance: Revised Tables and Maps were added to the document and presented to the county for comment.
- Borough Recycling Ordinance: target implementation date May 1, 2015
- Police Union Suit: Preliminary Objections to be argued April 6, 2015
- Pool Litigation: Scheduling meeting to address finalizing matter.

### **Engineer's Report**

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

Russ continues to tweak the dosing rates of the Mastercat products as well as magnesium hydroxide from Process Masters in order to minimize the chemical costs and still have an effluent in full compliance with the permit. All parameters are within the permitted limits with the copper being between 0.010 and 0.012 mg/l during the past month; the permitted copper level is 0.025 mg/l.

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

On Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, we met with representatives of the Topton Home. The Home wishes to get out of the water supply business and become a customer of the Topton Water System. The meeting was a very productive meeting in that the Home was informed that the Borough is interested in serving the Home with water and is willing to negotiate the terms for providing that service. It was noted that the Home must obtain any necessary approvals from Longswamp Township before the Borough will supply water directly to the Home.

Currently there are a couple of emergency interconnections between the Borough System and the Home's system and there is also a 12" water main which runs across the Home's

property; these facilities could be utilized in providing full time water. There was also some discussion about the Borough acquiring a well from the Home; however, more information is needed in order to determine if it is in the best interest of the Borough to acquire the well. Preliminarily, it appears that acquiring the well may not be feasible.

### **3. DRBC Docket**

The annual effluent monitoring report as required in DRBC Docket (NO. D-2001-041 CP-2) was submitted on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.

An Emergency Management Plan is to be prepared and submitted to DRBC by **March 10, 2015**. Russ has provided a copy of an Emergency Response Plan which was dated January 21, 2011. This plan can be updated and submitted to the DRBC as required.

### **4. Annual Wasteload Management Report**

Last week, I contacted Aaron Baar at DEP and asked about his pending comments on the corrective action plan which was submitted on December 12, 2014. Mr. Baar explained that the DEP's determination of an organic overload was in error and therefore, the corrective action plan is not necessary. He apologized for not notifying us earlier of that we did not need to submit a corrective action plan.

The 2014 Annual Wasteload Management Report is due by March 31, 2015.

### **5. Influent Screen**

Last Friday, upon arrival at the sewage treatment plant, Russ found that the influent screen was froze up and out of service. Upon thawing the screen, he contacted Barry Hoffman to trouble shoot the electrical wiring and found out that there were some wires not connected properly. In short the thermostat was not getting a signal; therefore the heat trace on the water line was not working. Russ was able to repair the water line and all appears satisfactory now.

### **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. Attended the 2/3 meeting coordinated by Berks County Conservation District.

### **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.

## **Old Business**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Council adjourned at 8:30 PM on a motion by Ms. Lorah, seconded by Mr. Arndt

The next Borough Council meeting will be held on February 23, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Marcus V. Dolny  
Borough Secretary