

***MINUTES OF THE
TOPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2014***

Members of the Tipton Borough Council met on Monday November 10, 2014 at 7:31 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, and Mr. Stauffer. Also in attendance were Borough Secretary Marcus Dolny, Solicitor Joan London, and visitors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Jost, seconded by Mr. Beck the minutes of October 13, 2014 were approved unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS:

East Penn Manufacturing communicated a concern regarding the poor quality of the intersection at Main and Jefferson St. The Borough will meet with engineers to review.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Mr. Rauenzahn revisited the matter regarding excess water usage at his residence. Requested a credit of \$43.45 however, council felt the number was not accurate. Ms. Lorah made a motion to credit Account #1629 \$28.90, the motion was seconded by Mr. Arndt and passed 4 to 1 with Mr. Stauffer voting No.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel Committee – (Mr. Stauffer)

Pension Compliance Audit was completed and is available for review.

Also Applications are currently being reviewed, interviews to follow before the next meeting.

Finance Committee – (Mr. Wagaman)

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

Property Committee – (Mr. Jost)

On motion by Mr. Jost the old sewer plant will be removed. Seconded by Mr. Arndt and passed unanimously.

Borough Office will look into acquiring a fork lift for the STP

Parks & Recreation Committee – (Mr. Beck)

NO REPORT

Streets Committee – (Mr. Arndt) –

Mr. Arndt was asked to look into parking on Barkley Street by Post office.

Utility Committee – (Mr. Gehman) –

Sewer line to be televised from Cherry to Callowhill, so Engineers can start working to develop action plan.

Public Affairs Committee – (Ms. Lorah) –

NO REPORT

Mayor's Report –

On motion by Mr. Jost, seconded by Mr. Arndt, the Borough of Topton accepts the disillusion agreement of the Berks Lehigh Regional Police Commission. The motion passes unanimously.

On motion by Mr. Jost, the Borough office is authorized to pay any miscellaneous disillusion costs. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lorah and passed unanimously.

Mr. Jost made the motion to authorize the Borough Office to pay the pension shortfall. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lorah and passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report

- Mr. Dolny reported a winning bid for the Heavy duty trailer auctioned for the second time to be Nelson Nash at \$2,225.00. Motion to accept the bid by Mr. Jost, seconded by Ms. Lorah and passed unanimously.
- Our WWTP Operator used video to discover root masses in the main line and laterals on West Franklin St. Should it be needed, corrections of the laterals will be at the home owners' expense as applicable.
- Mr. Dolny presented council with the two bidders for the borough's auditor's account (Mallie, RKL) and will set up meetings with both before making a recommendation.
- Mr. Dolny also informed that the Borough will be returning to a Modified Cash Basis for 2015.
- Presented Resolution 12-2014 Adoption of representation in Berks EIT / TCC Agreement. On motion to accept by Mr. Beck and seconded by Ms. Lorah the motion passes unanimously.
- Mr. Dolny presented the 2015 Budget and after discussion a motion to advertise for the December meeting was made by Mr. Jost. The motion was seconded by Mr. Beck and passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report

- The Recycling Ordinance was tabled until December after suggested revisions from DEP and the county.

Engineer's Report

1. Sewage Treatment Plant Copper Limit

Below is an update on progress in reaching a resolution to the copper limit issue at the sewage treatment plant:

1. The lab results of effluent samples which were collected during the full plant trial run, when TR-50 was being added for copper removal, during a one week period from October 1st thru the 6th did not show any effective removal of copper.
2. Based on research, it was discovered that the chemical used for phosphorus removal, DelPAC 2000, may be preventing adequate precipitation of copper in the treatment process; therefore, an alternative method of phosphorus removal was sought. Process Masters of Kutztown was contacted about a product they have that has been successful

for phosphorus removal. On October 10th, Process Masters performed a series of jar tests using their chemicals, known as MasterCat 4230 and MasterCat 4244. The jar tests provided encouraging results that this product will perform phosphorus removal without inhibiting the copper removal process. A full plant trial run was recommended by Process Masters.

3. On October 21st, a meeting was held with representatives of DEP to discuss what has been done over the past couple months and what the plans are for achieving permit compliance for copper limits. DEP was notified of a plan to conduct a 30 day full treatment plant using the MasterCat products for Phosphorus removal and monitoring the effect this product has on copper removal.
4. On November 6th, the full plant trial run for the MasterCat products began. Early indications is that the plant is getting proper phosphorus removal since Russ has a test kit which he can use for phosphorus tests. Russ is unable to test for copper; therefore, samples are being sent to the lab to be analyzed and results are not yet available.
5. Corrosion Control by the addition of a blended phosphate in the drinking water remains as a last resort. This is the option that DEP seems to like.

2. Sewage Treatment Plant Influent Screen

DESSCO did return and insulate the water service line and redid the heat tracing; therefore, it appears that everything has been completed for influent screen and a Certificate of Completion will be sent to DEP. DEP may wish to inspect the installation. In any event Russ will keep a close eye on the unit over the few months and if any problems develop we will contact the DESSCO or the Manufacturer for a resolution.

3. Bacteria Kill at Sewage Treatment Plant

On September 18th, we meet with the Topton Home and they promised to furnish Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for all of the chemicals that they use. To date, these MSDS have not yet been provided.

4. Grease Blockage in Sanitary Sewer Lines

A couple of weeks ago, Russ was performing his semi-annual flushing and cleaning of the sanitary sewer immediately downstream of the Topton Home Connection and experienced problems due to the heavy buildup of grease which resulted in some sewage backing up into a nearby residence. He has been flushing and cleaning this line twice every year in hopes of avoiding the kind of blockage that he recently encountered. We suggest that we take a look at the agreement with the Topton Home in order to see what provisions are in place which would limit the amount of fats, oils and grease in the Homes sewage discharge. We recommend that this re-occurring problem be corrected at the source and not rely on frequent flushing and cleaning the sewers due to excessive amount of grease being discharged into the system.

5. DRBC Docket

We provided a copy of the DRBC Docket (NO. D-2001-041 CP-2) to Russ so that he is aware of the all conditions including the monitoring and reporting requirements for certain parameters as well as the need to prepare an Emergency Management Plan by March 10, 2015.

6. Annual Wasteload Management Report

As reported last month, DEP determined that the treatment plant is organically overloaded; therefore a corrective action plan is required to be submitted by December 12, 2014.

DEP's determination is based on a new spread sheet that DEP came up with a few months ago and the results of an organic overload is caused by data from up to 4 years ago. We will work with Russ in preparing the corrective action plan which will basically conclude that those high reported values from year's past were inaccurate and that no action is required.

7. Toad Creek Improvements

Preliminary plans are being prepared and will be submitted to the Borough for review.

8. Zoning Ordinance Update

The updated Zoning ordinance is being finalized and reviewed at the November Planning Commission meeting.

Old Business

Updated council on joint comprehensive rezoning and comprehensive zoning ordinance.

Executive Session

- ~ At 9:46 on motion by Mr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Jost, passing unanimously council entered into executive session to discuss possible litigation.
- ~ At 10:21 council reconvened regular meeting on motion by Mr. Beck and seconded by Mr. Arndt passing unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Council adjourned at 10.23 PM on a motion by Ms. Lorah, seconded by Mr. Jost

The next Borough Council meeting will be held on December 8, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Marcus V. Dolny
Borough Secretary