

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

Members of the Topton Borough Council met on Monday November 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 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. Jost, seconded by Mr. Gehman the minutes of October 26, 2015 were approved unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

There was a request for a 4 way stop to be considered at the intersection of Penn St. and St. John St., the matter was turned over to the streets department for consideration.

**HEARING OF VISITORS:**

Bob Rauenzahn questioned permitting and fee schedules for permits. He also asked for clarification regarding borough rights regarding right of ways.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

No Report

**Finance Committee – (Mr. Wagaman)**

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

**Property Committee – (Mr. Jost)**

Mr. Jost just gave an update on the Boy Scout Project in the water shed.

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

No Report

**Streets Committee – (Mr. Arndt) –**

Councilman Gehman asked for PA State Police to be notified and informed of parking violations on Centre Ave.

Ordinance 3-2015 was presented for adoption making the intersection of Callowhill St. and Barkley St. a four way stop. The motion to accept was made by Mr. Wagaman, seconded by Mr. Jost and passing unanimously.

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

Council was presented with a first draft of an ordinance relating to water service hardware.

Account #1001B was reviewed after asking for a waiver or adjustment of water and sewer fees in August. No evidence had come to light to suggest that the water had not been used. Council instructed the secretary to proceed with the billing.

Discussed leak on Jefferson St. Water Department will handle in the upcoming weeks.

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

No Report

**Mayor's Report –**

No Report

**Secretary's Report**

- Informed council that the borough has finally received a contact person regarding 30 Klein Ave.
- The Bids were opened on 10/13/2015 for the Ford Pick Up and Leaf Vac (Summary included in the minutes). A motion was made by Mr. Jost to

accept the winning bids. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lorah and passed unanimously.

- Let council know he will be looking at décor for the upcoming holiday.
- BHASD salt agreement is now finalized.

### **Solicitor's Report**

Kevin informed council that East Penn Manufacturing would be submitting plans for a small parking lot.

### **Engineer's Report**

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

It has been well over a year since copper exceeded the permit limit at the sewage treatment plant and now that we are in the cooler months, copper should not be an issue until next summer. Russ will continue to adjust the chemical feed rates in order to keep costs at a minimum.

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

It has been three (3) months since we notified Steve Daniels of Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries that once they obtained a letter from Longswamp Township indicating that they were supportive of the Topton Home becoming a water customer of Topton, the Borough would be willing to meet with Diakon in order to work out the details. To date we have not heard back from Mr. Daniels regarding the status of the Township letter.

#### **3. Birch Alley Sanitary Sewer**

Utility Service Group, Inc. of Camp Hill, PA was in the Borough today performing repairs to sanitary sewer in Birch Alley, between MH 100 and MH 98 and MH 98 and MH 96, from Weiss Street south towards the Borough boundary. On Friday, we learned that it was necessary to have traffic control set up, including three flaggers, so that they could safely access Manhole No. 96 which is in Weis Street. USG expects two (2) days to complete the work; but, it is not known if access to MH No. 96 will be necessary tomorrow; if not, the flaggers should not be necessary. The cost of having three flaggers is \$127.50/hr.

#### **4. Weather Protection for Influent Screen**

We have been advised to proceed in making arrangements for the installation of a pre-fabricated metal frame carport for the influent screen. The pricing for these structures vary from time to time and in August we reported the costs for a 24' x 31' structure with three walls and a total of six windows was \$6,080 plus an additional \$300 for an Engineer's certification. This makes the total price \$6,380 and includes delivery and installation. The structure may be purchased online at [www.carport.com](http://www.carport.com) and a deposit of \$957.

We were attempting to obtain a price for a poured concrete footer and foundation; however, talking with Eric Peterson at Dessco, we are now recommending that the structure be placed on a row of heavy precast concrete blocks which are to be placed on a leveling course of crushed stone. Dessco will be preparing a proposal to install the concrete blocks; however, we have not received their proposal. We have been told that the cost of the concrete blocks will be less expensive than the poured concrete footer and foundation.

**5. Barkley Street Sewer Repair**

Last year while televising sanitary sewer lines in the borough, it was discovered that the sanitary sewer in Barkley Street, between Callowhill and Cherry Streets, was squashed to the point where the camera could not travel. As requested, we have prepared a cost estimate for replacing the sewer in Barkley Street between Callowhill and Cherry Streets; our estimate for construction is approximately \$184,000 which includes also replacing the sanitary sewer laterals within the street pavement. In addition to the construction costs, we estimate that design and construction observance would be about \$20,000 to \$25,000.

**5. Water Meter Issue**

We have reviewed and commented on a proposed ordinance covering the installation of backflow devices whenever new appliances are installed in the customer's home.

**6. 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.

**7. Topton Alleys**

Folk Paving has been awarded the contract and is scheduled to perform the work (weather-permitting) on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business**

Paving requirements for properties on 28 Centre Ave. and 50 Weis St. were investigated. In regards to 28 Centre Ave. a provision was in place with council from 2003, giving the owner 5 years to pave their parking lot. Due to the time elapsed, multiple changes in ownership, and upcoming MS4 regulations council did not wish to pursue the matter feeling it would be unjust at this point. In regards to 50 Weis St. nothing was discovered were a requirement was placed calling for paving or further development.

### **Executive Session:**

On motion by Ms. Lorah, seconded by Mr. Beck council entered executive session at 9:18PM to discuss possible litigation and personnel matters. The motion passed unanimously.

On motion by Ms. Lorah, seconded by Mr. Arndt the council ended the executive session and reconvened the regular meeting at 9:32PM. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Budget:**

Mr. Stauffer asked if there were any additional thoughts on the Budget that Mr. Dolny presented at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Council decided that the budget would include a 4% raise for Mr. Dolny, and the other salary increases would be as he proposed. A full salary listing for 2016 will be available with the adoption of the final budget.

In regards to the Excess Surplus in the Water Fund money will be allotted to attempt to restore well number five and the department will purchase a ToolCat ATV for the water shed.

Mr. Jost made a motion to tentatively adopt the budget to advertise for public review, before official adoption on December 14, 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Beck and passed unanimously.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Council adjourned at 9:50 PM on a motion by Ms. Lorah, seconded by Mr. Arndt.

The next Borough Council meeting will be held on December 14, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Marcus V. Dolny  
Borough Secretary