

***MINUTES OF THE  
TOPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Monday October 23, 2017***

Members of the Topton Borough Council met on Monday October 23, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. at Borough Hall for a second monthly meeting, primarily for the introduction of the 2018 working budget. The meeting was called to order by Council President Mr. Stauffer with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present Mr. Stauffer, Mr. Beck, Mr. Arndt, Ms. Lorah, Mr. Jost and Mr. Gehman. Borough Manager Marcus Dolny and visitors were also in attendance. Mr. Biltcliff and Mr. Wagaman were absent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Gehman, seconded by Mr. Beck the minutes of October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 were approved unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Dolny shared communication received from First Energy regarding the Transmission Line Project.

**Mayor's Report**

Absent

**HEARING OF VISITORS**

Mr. Rauenzahn questioned when the planning committee meeting was scheduled for. As well he asked for clarification from the previous Council meeting minutes about what information Solicitor London shared with Council regarding the Service Electric cable franchise agreement.

**Solicitor's Report**

None

**Secretary's Report**

Mr. Dolny requested the approval from Council to re-hire one of our seasonal lifeguards to assist with leaf collection as needed since we lost our seasonal employee earlier this year. Mr. Jost made a motion to hire but with only one working at a time. Mr. Arndt seconded this motion passing unanimously.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Public Affairs Committee – (Mr. Stauffer)**

None

### **Personnel Committee – (Ms. Lorah)**

None

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

Mr. Dolny requested the approval from Council to switch our IT Company to Lynx Computers effective immediately. Mr. Beck made a motion to approve Mr. Dolny to make the switch from Omega Systems to Lynx Computers effective immediately. Mr. Arndt seconded this motion passing unanimously.

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

Mr. Jost spoke about issues with street cleaning after the Topton Halloween Parade and the things the possible changes that could be made for next year's parade.

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

Mr. Dolny presented council with the final numbers for the Topton Memorial Pool and the 2017 season closed with a small profit of \$300 for daily operations.

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

None

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

None

## **Engineer's Report**

None

## **Old Business**

None

## **Budget**

Mr. Dolny presented council with the proposed 2018 Budget for review and future consideration to approve for advertisement for adoption.

Key discussion points were:

- .5 Mil tax increase for general purpose.
  - The Borough has not increased general purpose taxes in 6 years, this is simply to offset increasing costs and continue growing services to the public.
- The possibilities of purchasing a larger scale dump truck/ plow from municibid to replace our current one which is now infeasible to repair.
- The hiring an additional employee in the office to expand our recreational offerings, community involvement, communication to residents, and allow other office to focus on new MS4 requirements, managing rental properties , and stricter presence in the community.
- 2018 compensation increases for staff members.
- No proposed increase for utility rates.
- A brief framework for upcoming infrastructure improvements for the sewer department.

Among the points of discussion debate followed on compensation increases, and debate over a new employee being part time or full time. No action was taken as action to advertise a budget for future adoption was slated for the November meeting.

## **Executive Session – Legal**

Entered: 7:51PM on motion by Mr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Jost passing unanimously.

Exit: 8:52PM on motion by Mr. Jost, seconded by Mr. Beck passing unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourned at 8:52PM on a motion by Mr. Gehman, seconded by Ms.Beck.

The next Borough Council meeting will be held on November 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Sherry Palinkas  
Administrative Assistant