

***MINUTES OF THE
BOROUGH OF TOPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, October 24th, 2022***

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Tipton Borough Council was called to order by Council President Lorah at Borough Hall, 205 South Callowhill Street, Tipton, PA 19562 at 7:00 PM. Present were Council Members C. Cook, A. Falcone, M. Kunkel, M. Lorah, E. Polinsky, E. Stoudt, and M. Stoudt, Borough Manager Stacy C. Milo, and Borough Secretary Courtney M. Corona.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOROUGH MANAGER

Borough Manager, Stacy C. Milo, presented Council with a draft of the proposed 2023 budget for the Borough of Tipton. Ms. Milo stated that the presentation in PowerPoint will be available as a document to download on the Borough's YouTube channel with this meeting's recording. Discussion included with the General Fund, Fire Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Pool Fund, and Liquid Fuels Fund. Highlights and discussion points are as follows:

- In the proposed budget, the charge for moving permits was raised to \$5.00 per person and only be charged to tenants moving in and out of the borough. The permit fee should no longer apply to homeowners moving in and out of the borough.
- The Borough Engineers, Barry Isett and Associates, have provided their fee schedule for the year 2023. The Borough does not make revenue from permits or the services Barry Isett and Associates provides; the Borough should be covering its costs from BIA. The Schedule of Fees for 2023 is currently being drafted to match the engineers' fees.
- Per Borough code, approved minutes must be stored permanently in a locked minute book. Ms. Milo budgeted costs to buy the fireproof cabinets and minute books to properly store borough records. Ms. Milo emphasized the need to have resolutions and ordinances in fireproof storage.
- Ms. Lorah stated that she would communicate with the tax collector about sitting hours in 2023.
- Ms. Milo directed Council to the line item in the budget set aside for the perennial stream under Public Works. She explained that this is engineering, survey, design and bidding costs to prepare for maintenance and would help the borough and residents that live along the water course.
- In regards to lawn maintenance, herbicides, and pesticide applications in the park, Ms. Cook suggested that the borough look into new suggestions from the state about how to take care of lawns to eliminate the need for chemical applications. Ms. Falcone agreed that looking into this would be helpful if it would save the borough money on chemical costs. (5 applications during 2023 is proposed to cost \$2,375.00.)

- When speaking about rents received, Ms. Falcone asked Ms. Milo if industrial and commercial waste water rates cover the cost that the borough charges them. Ms. Lorah reminded Ms. Falcone that the industrial and commercial water and wastewater rates are priced differently than residential rates. Ms. Milo informed Council that a study can be done to ensure that the industrial and commercial rates are covering the costs of the borough.
- Speaking on residential water and wastewater rates, Ms. Lorah informed Council that she believes Council should raise wastewater rates because the wastewater treatment plant is not sustaining itself like it needs to be. She reminded Council that the revenue the borough receives from invoices is not covering the costs to supply the services.
- When considering raising taxes, Ms. Lorah suggested to Council that they sit down and figure out what is feasible to get done next year and raise taxes to a rate that will actually be helpful. She continued by acknowledging that there are renovations in town that need to be addressed immediately, but previous Council persons were not preparing for the future like current Council is trying to do.

Mr. Polinsky made a motion to authorize the advertisement the public display and opportunity to review the proposed 2023 budget. Ms. Stoudt seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Ms. Milo reminded Council that further discussion of the proposed budget will continue at the November 14th meeting. The adoption of the 2023 proposed budget is scheduled for the December 12th meeting.

HEARING OF VISITORS

No visitors were present.

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned at 8:39PM by a motion by Ms. Stoudt, seconded by Mr. Polinsky.

The next regular Borough Council Meeting will be held Monday November 14th, at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Courtney M. Corona
Borough Secretary