

**MINUTES OF THE
BOROUGH OF TOPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, November 25, 2024**

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Tipton Borough Council was called to order by Council President Haney at Borough Hall, 205 South Callowhill Street, Tipton, PA 19562 at 7:00 PM. Present were Mayor Miller, Council Members S. Arndt, C. Cook, C. Eisenhard, A. Falcone, D. Haney, K. Hassler, J. Pummer, and Borough Manager Stacy C. Milo.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 773 Labor Negotiations - Status

Mr. Haney reported that the Borough received an email with questions from Teamsters Local 773 at 2:00PM and Attorney Boland is reviewing this email.

LSA Grant Application for East Barkley Street Water Main Replacement Project – Resolution for Adoption

Mr. Haney presented Resolution 19-2024 to authorize the Borough to apply for LSA grant funding and to authorize officials to execute agreements and documents. Ms. Cook asked for the amount of the grant and asked Ms. Hassler if this covered the cost of the project. Ms. Hassler referred to the information sent to Council, including the cost estimate and the resolution. Ms. Hassler made a motion to adopt Resolution 19-2024. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2025 Budget – Discussion

Mr. Haney reviewed minor revisions to the proposed 2025 budget, which was on display, including increases to expenses due to estimates of insurance premium increases, and stated the existing cuts remain. Mr. Haney explained his recommendations for budget reductions and suggested moving all reductions to Fund Balance: remove 2% increase in salaries for Union employees, as recommended by Mr. Boland no longevity payments would be increased and remain at the current longevity payment level, General Fund shared equipment purchases, 01-430-740, and equipment purchases, 01-430-750.

Ms. Cook asked about the East Barkley Street Water Main Rehabilitation project's total cost and need to budget funding not covered by the current grant and the grant application.

Ms. Pummer asked Mr. Haney about the health premium amounts included in the draft budget for 2025. Ms. Falcone asked about the health premiums and if the budget is based on current deductibles.

Ms. Cook asked if repairs/replacement of the salt shed is included in the 2025 budget. Mr. Haney stated that it is not included.

Ms. Cook asked about tree maintenance and restoration and said that the Borough received funds designated for a tree and sign. Ms. Cook wanted to know why the budget line item was reduced to \$2,000 from \$20,000. Ms. Pummer stated that \$7,191.46 was donated for a tree and sign.

Ms. Pummer and Ms. Falcone discussed the possible donation from Rotary Club in the future. Mr. Haney will check with the Borough Manager regarding including a match in the budget for this project.

Mr. Haney ended the discussion by stating that there will be a revised budget for display once the Borough Manager returns from vacation.

Hearing of Visitors

Colleen Kristula asked that Council consider pass through taxes, allowed by PA tax code, for libraries and for community activities, including the Topton 150 Anniversary, in the 2026 budget. Ms. Kristula also volunteered to be on the anniversary committee. Ms. Pummer stated that she will ask that the agenda on December 9 include the 150th Anniversary.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:20PM, Mr. Haney stated that the meeting will be adjourned to enter into executive session to discuss employee and labor negotiations with Teamsters Local 773.

Ms. Falcone made a motion to adjourn the executive session and return to the regular meeting at 8:33PM. Ms. Pummer seconded the motions. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cook made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34PM. Ms. Pummer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy C. Milo
Borough Manager/Secretary