

The Tamaqua Borough Council held its first Regular Council Meeting for the month of March on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 7:04 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Tamaqua Municipal Building, 320 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA.

Present were Councilmembers Ronald Bowman, Thomas Cara, Brian Connely, R. Daniel Evans, Micah Gursky, Kerry Lasky and David Mace. Officials present were Mayor Christian Morrison, Chief of Police Richard Weaver, Borough Manager Kevin Steigerwalt, Solicitor Michael S. Greek and Borough Secretary/Treasurer Georgia Depos DeWire.

The meeting was called to order by President Mace. The invocation was given by Councilman Cara followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilwoman Lasky. The roll was called with all councilmembers present.

President Mace announced that an executive session was held at 6:00 p.m. prior to the council meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues.

The reading of the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 21, 2017 was ordered suspended, and with no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as written on motion of Evans, seconded by Cara, and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from Judith Ann Hadesty, RN, stating she is resigning as the Borough's Health Officer effective April 1, 2017. A recommendation was made to accept the resignation of Judith Ann Hadesty from the Board of Health and to send a letter thanking her for her 47 years of service. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Connely, seconded by Bowman, and unanimously approved. There was some discussion regarding the qualifications, certification and any residency requirements to fill the position of Health Officer.

Communication was received from Robert Boyle, president of the East End Fire Company, stating that the East End Fire Company would be holding its annual block party on June 9th, 10th and 11th. The communication is also requesting permission to close Columbia Street from East Broad Street to East End Alley and to close a portion of East End Alley, as needed in conjunction with this annual event. A recommendation was made to grant the request. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Bowman, seconded by Lasky, and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from Terry L. White of 275 Van Gelder Street stating he presently has two halves of a double lot located at 275 Van Gelder Street and the rear of 275 Van Gelder Street continuing to High Street, of which he would like joined onto one parcel. Mr. White is requesting a waiver to the subdivision and land development section 404A.#3 which states that the sole purpose of the proposed plan is to annex a lot or parcel to an adjacent lot or parcel, the plan shall qualify as a minor subdivision. Mr. White also stated that the waiver would allow for the consolidation of these lots to proceed without additional costs or attorney fees. A recommendation was made to approve the request. There was some discussion about this matter. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Connely, seconded by Bowman, and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from Paul Dodson of the Tamaqua Area Faith Fellowship Network (TAFFN) requesting permission to have a "Tamaqua Walk for Hunger" at 2:00 p.m. on May 7, 2017, with a rain-date of May 21, 2017. The purpose of the walk is to help the needy of Tamaqua Area by donating any canned goods/monies collected to the Tamaqua Salvation Army,

Trinity Church and Primitive Methodist Church food banks. The route would begin and end at the St. Luke's parking lot on Pine Street, walk from the lot south on Pine Street to Broad Street, cross Broad Street and turn left, walk east on Broad Street to the end of the seventh block, turn left and cross Broad Street, walk west on Broad Street to Pine Street, turn right and walk north on Pine Street to the St. Luke's parking lot. The communication also requested the assistance of the Fire Police for this event. A recommendation was made to grant the request and to authorize the Fire Police to assist with the event. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Bowman, seconded by Connely, and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from Darlene D. Dolzani, executive director of Schuylkill Keep It Pretty (SKIP) asking all municipalities within Schuylkill County to help eradicate the roadside waste that has accumulated over the last year. Ms. Dolzani stated that Schuylkill County's Spring Cleanup will be held April 6-9, 2017. SKIP will provide bags, gloves and vests for every volunteer that will work to help clean up the litter.

Council received additional information from James C. Frie of 1413 Valley Road as requested at the last council meeting. President Mace read Mr. Frie's communication from the last meeting where Mr. Frie expressed an interest in serving on the Board of Health. A recommendation was made to appoint James C. Frie to serve on the Board of Health. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Connely, seconded by Bowman, and unanimously approved.

Manager Steigerwalt reported on the following: the closing for the sale of 240 Center Street to Child Development Inc. of Minersville, PA was held on March 3rd; the closing for the PPL streetlight acquisition and LED (light-emitting diode) upgrade project loan was held on March 1st and an increase in the drawdown amount to cover the PPL invoice that was paid; the new truck for the Wastewater Treatment Plant arrived today; keeping the Wastewater Treatment Plant's old truck; the equipment sold on the Municibid online government auction website has been picked up with the exception of the parking meters; and re-advertising the animal pens on Municibid.

Manager Steigerwalt also reported on the Center Street Streetscape Improvement Project and to request a change to the scope of work. A recommendation was made to request a change to the scope of work for the west side of the 100 block of Center Street from the southwest corner of Spruce Street to the area near Advanced Auto, or as far as we can go north, for the Center Street Streetscape Improvement Project. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Gursky, seconded by Evans, and unanimously approved.

Manager Steigerwalt also reported that he is waiting to hear from Family Dollar about a date to begin work on the installation of the sidewalk and curbing. There was some discussion about this matter.

Manager Steigerwalt also reported on the pool bathhouses and Lincoln Street Wall that is collapsing. Manager Steigerwalt discussed the following: the borough's engineer, Alfred Benesch and Company, looked at two areas of the wall collapse and the cost is approximately \$72,000.00 for engineering services and construction; using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 funds for the Lincoln Street Wall project; and a public hearing and resolution would be needed. A recommendation was made to authorize the Borough Manager

to prepare a resolution modifying the use of CDBG Program Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 funds for a retaining wall project at Lincoln Street. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Connely, seconded by Evans, and unanimously approved.

Under the Borough Manager’s report, a recommendation was made to authorize the Borough Manager to prepare a resolution modifying the use of CDBG Program Fiscal Year 2013 funds for the pool bathhouse renovations. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Lasky, seconded by Evans, and unanimously approved.

Under the Borough Manager’s report, there was some discussion about the detour route for the Broad Street Wabash Bridge Project in the area of South Railroad and Spruce Street, removing a telephone pole with a streetlight and moving the streetlight to an existing pole.

Under the Finance, Wage and Salary report, a recommendation was made to transfer \$48,300.00 from the Street Light Project Fund to the New Revolving Fund to reimburse the fund for payment of a PPL street light engineering invoice. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Gursky, seconded by Cara, and unanimously approved.

Under the Neighborhoods, Downtown and Historic District report, a recommendation was made to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a perpendicular sign on the front of the building facing East Broad Street at 128 East Broad Street. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Cara, seconded by Gursky, and unanimously approved.

Under the Neighborhoods, Downtown and Historic District report, a recommendation was made to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for removal of a wall that has fallen between St. Jerome Church and Parsonage with the following conditions: stones that are not damaged should be salvaged for future repairs needed to other parts of walls located on the property; and submittal of an application and plans for what is proposed to be done with a replacement wall. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Cara, seconded by Gursky, and unanimously approved.

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, a recommendation was made to approve the season and daily pass fees for the H.D. Buehler Memorial Pool for the 2017 season. It was noted that the fees are the same as last year. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Evans, seconded by Lasky, and unanimously approved.

The pool rates for 2017 are as follows:

	<u>SEASON PASS</u>
TAMAQUA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT RESIDENTS	\$ 10.00 per person
OUTSIDE OF TAMAQUA SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$ 100.00 per person
TEMPORARY GUEST PASS	\$ 20.00 per person per week
(Visitors staying with season pass holders)	(2 weeks maximum)
	<u>DAILY PASS</u>
TAMAQUA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT RESIDENTS	
Monday thru Friday (6 years and older)	\$ 5.00 per person
Saturday and Sunday (6 years and older)	\$ 6.00 per person
Pre-school (under 6 years old)	\$ 1.00 per person

OUTSIDE OF TAMAQUA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monday thru Friday (6 years and older)	\$ 15.00 per person
Saturday and Sunday (6 years and older)	\$ 20.00 per person
Pre-school (under 6 years old)	\$ 1.00 per person

The pool applications will be available on April 3rd at the borough hall, Tamaqua Public Library, Fegley’s Mini Mart and Our Family Mini Mart and also online on the borough’s website.

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, a recommendation was made to open the pool on Friday, June 2, 2017 and to close the pool on Sunday, August 27, 2017. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Evans, seconded by Lasky, and unanimously approved.

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, a recommendation was made to advertise for part-time lifeguards and pool clerks for the 2017 season. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Evans, seconded by Lasky, and unanimously approved.

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, Councilman Evans reported that the borough is once again offering Panther Valley residents of Nesquehoning, Coaldale, Lansford and Summit Hill, pool passes at the same cost as the Lansford rates. A motion was made by Evans and seconded by Lasky to approve the Lansford rates for the H.D. Buehler Memorial Pool for the 2017 season. After some discussion, the motion and second were amended as follows: A recommendation was made to approve the Lansford rates for the H.D. Buehler Memorial Pool for the 2017 season and that all proceeds collected from the pool passes be allocated to the H.D. Buehler Memorial Park Fund. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Evans, seconded by Lasky, and unanimously approved.

The Lansford rates for Panther Valley residents are as follows:

Senior Citizens (60 years+)	\$ 30.00
Single Tag	\$ 55.00
Family of 2	\$ 105.00
Family of 3	\$ 130.00
Family of 4	\$ 155.00
Family of 5	\$ 180.00
Family of 6	\$ 205.00

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, Councilman Evans reported that the issues with the concession stand operator have been resolved.

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, a recommendation was made to demolish the old concession stand and return the area to its natural condition. There was some discussion about the following: additional drainage work; removing dead trees; topsoil and grass; and the roof materials must be disposed of. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Evans, seconded by Gursky, and unanimously approved.

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, Councilman Evans discussed the replacement of the Bungalow pavilion roof with a steel roof for the 2017 season. Councilman Connely stated that if the materials are purchased the labor may be donated.

Under the Parking and Traffic Committee report, a recommendation was made to approve a handicapped parking space application for 725 East Broad Street. There was no one from the floor

wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Lasky, seconded by Evans, and unanimously approved.

Under the Parking and Traffic Committee report, a recommendation was made to approve a handicapped parking space application for 410 Pine Street. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Evans, seconded by Lasky, and unanimously approved.

Under the Public Safety Committee report, a recommendation was made to advertise for part-time police officers with current MPOETC (Municipal Police Officers' Education & Training Commission) Certification. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Connely, seconded by Bowman, and unanimously approved.

Under the Building and Equipment Committee report, a motion was made by Evans and seconded by Connely to upgrade the locks at the aerial building and to approve the purchase and installation of a keypad lock system at a cost of \$4,266.50 from High Mountain Hardware Inc. of McAdoo, PA. There was some discussion about this matter. A motion was made by Gursky, seconded by Connely, and unanimously approved to table the pending motion.

The meeting was opened to the floor.

With no one wishing to address council, the meeting was closed to the floor.

Under Unfinished Business, Councilman Evans discussed the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Rehabilitation Loan Program that was suspended in November 2016. Councilman Evans stated that he has been working with several councilmembers regarding the reinstatement of the loan, sidewalk and borough rehabilitation program in some form. There was much discussion about the following: changing the program focus; loan guidelines, loan terms, loan ceilings, payback and penalties; providing an updated delinquency report and the progress made; five delinquencies and one into a current status; Director of Community Development Linkevich did a lot of work on the collection side and she is working with Solicitor Greek to address some of the delinquencies; loan ceiling amounts; and the possibility of having the borough purchase and rehabilitate a property, and then selling it.

Under New Business, a recommendation was made to approve a letter of support for a CVS Pharmacy grant application by the Tamaqua Police Department for a Drug Collection Unit. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Gursky, seconded by Bowman, and unanimously approved. The Drug Collection Unit will help the police create a convenient, cost-effective and secure way to dispose of unwanted and expired medications, including controlled substances, year-round.

Under New Business, Councilman Bowman asked if there was any projection plan on having the borough workforce do any paving projects. Councilman Bowman recommended that the borough's 1997 Stone Asphalt Roller be put out of service. A recommendation was made to advertise for the sale of the 1997 Stone Asphalt Roller on the Municibid online government auction website. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Connely, seconded by Gursky, and unanimously approved. Councilman Bowman stated that he found a used 2009 Wacker Neuson RD16-90 Roller machine at a sale price of \$13,900.00 at Medico Industries Inc. Councilman Bowman

recommended that the required minimum bid should be \$1,500.00 for the 1997 Stone Asphalt Roller the borough is advertising on Municibid.

Under New Business, Councilman Connely discussed the Community Revitalization Improvement Zone (CRIZ) program as follows: he spoke to Director of Community Development Linkevich about a CRIZ audit; the reimbursement threshold turned out to be higher than one percent for administrative expenses; there is one project going through now and the paperwork is approved; there is good interest in the program and the program is looking for more applicants.

A recommendation was made to hold an executive session to discuss real estate and legal matters. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Connely, seconded by Evans, and unanimously approved.

The council meeting was recessed at approximately 8:29 p.m. while council met in executive session.

The council meeting was reconvened at approximately 8:57 p.m.

President Mace announced that an executive session was held to discuss real estate and legal matters.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:57 p.m. on motion of Connely, seconded by Bowman, to meet again at the call of the President.

ATTEST:

Georgia Depos DeWire, Borough Secretary/Treasurer