

The Tamaqua Borough Council held its first Regular Council Meeting for the month of April on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Tamaqua Municipal Building, 320 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA.

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

The meeting was called to order by President Gursky. The invocation was given by Councilman Cara followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Gursky. The roll was called with five councilmembers present and two absent.

The reading of the minutes of the last Regular Council Meeting held on March 17, 2015 was ordered suspended, and with no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as written on motion of Mace, seconded by Connely, and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from Robert Boyle, president of the East End Fire Company, stated that the East End Fire Company would be holding their annual block party on June 12, 13, and 14, 2015. 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 its annual block party. 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 Mace, seconded by Connely, and unanimously approved.

Communications were received from Debra L. Althouse of 406 Pitt Street, Apartment 117, expressing an interest in serving on the Board of Health and the Tamaqua Planning Commission. Ms. Althouse stated that she is a retired nurse and PA EMT, was also a firefighter and on the Keystone Emergency Response Team with the Allentown Police Department. Councilman Cara stated that there are no openings available on the Board of Health. A recommendation was made to appoint Debra L. Althouse to the Tamaqua Planning Commission. 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 Mace, and unanimously approved.

Manager Steigerwalt stated that a few days prior to this council meeting Councilman Mace contacted him about a making a correction to the names of the councilmembers who made a motion and second in the minutes of the last meeting. Manager Steigerwalt stated that Secretary/Treasurer DeWire was not notified about the correction; therefore the council minutes would need to be reapproved with the correction. The minutes of the last Regular Council Meeting held on March 17, 2015 were corrected to read as follows:

A recommendation was made to award the contract for the demolition of 216 Pitt Street to the lowest bidder, SDL Construction LLC of 325 Eisenhower Drive, Orwigsburg, PA, at a cost of \$22,890.00. 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 Startzel, and unanimously approved.

The minutes were reapproved as corrected on motion of Mace, seconded by Connely, and unanimously approved.

Manager Steigerwalt also reported on amending an ordinance for the Police Pension Plan as follows: changing the member contribution percentage to eight percent; eliminating a killed-in-service provision; and fixing language for military service as recommended by the Office of the Auditor General. A recommendation was made to advertise an ordinance amending the Police Pension Plan. President Gursky thanked the Police Department for agreeing to an increase in member contributions. 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 Mace, and unanimously approved.

Manager Steigerwalt reported that he had a resolution implementing and promoting a Fair Housing Program to present for council's consideration:

**RESOLUTION 2015-4
FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION**

A recommendation was made to adopt the foregoing resolution. 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 Mace, and approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Manager Steigerwalt asked for direction on how to proceed with the sale of a property at 234 Columbia Street. Manager Steigerwalt stated that the property is a vacant lot demolition site and it had been advertised for bids for sale approximately two years ago and that no bids were received. There was some discussion about this matter. A recommendation was made to readvertise for bids for the sale of 234 Columbia Street. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Mace, seconded by Cara, and unanimously approved.

Chief Weaver reported that Schuylkill County Drug Task Force/District Attorney Christine Holman reimbursed the Police Department for the cost to send two police officers to the Pennsylvania Narcotic Officer's Association annual training seminar. The Police Department received a reimbursement in the amount of \$622.00.

Chief Weaver requested approval to send two officers to a Managing the Property and Evidence Room seminar in Abington, PA from April 20, 2015 to April 21, 2015 at a cost of approximately \$590.00. 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 Mace, seconded by Connely, and unanimously approved.

President Gursky recommended sending a letter thanking the Schuylkill County Drug Task Force and District Attorney Christine Holman for the reimbursement to the police department.

Chairman Connely of the Public Safety Committee reported that he had an ordinance establishing minimum qualifications for assistant fire chiefs to present for council's consideration.

**ORDINANCE NO. 678
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF
TAMAQUA CHAPTER IX PART 2 SECTION 32 QUALIFICATIONS AND TENURE OF
CHIEF OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE 648.**

A recommendation was made to adopt the foregoing ordinance. 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 Mace, and approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Under the Public Safety Committee report, a recommendation was made to approve an agreement with the North Central Highway Safety Network Inc. for a DUI Enforcement Project. 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 Mace, and unanimously approved.

Under the Public Safety Committee report, Councilman Cara discussed repainting lines on various streets especially at intersections that have an option for motorists to be in one lane or another. Manager Steigerwalt stated that the state paints center lines and the borough paints turning lanes. Manager Steigerwalt stated that the street sweeper needs to clean the streets before the lines can be repainted. Manager Steigerwalt reported that the street sweeper is currently broken and the borough is looking into renting one.

Chairman Mace of the Recreation and Youth Committee reported that he had a resolution accepting a \$60,000 grant from the John E. Morgan Foundation Inc. for pool operating expenses to present for council’s consideration:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-5
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL, TAMAQUA, PENNSYLVANIA,
REGARDING GRANTS FROM THE JOHN E. MORGAN FOUNDATION, INC.**

A recommendation was made to adopt the foregoing resolution. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Mace, seconded by Cara, and approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, a recommendation was made to approve a Lease Agreement with Salute LLC, 300 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, for the Pool Concession Stand for the 2015 pool season, contingent upon obtaining a personal guarantee for the lease agreement. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Mace, seconded by Cara, 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 2015 season. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Mace, seconded by Lasky, and unanimously approved.

The pool rates for 2015 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
	<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

Chairman Mace of the Recreation and Youth Committee reported that he had a few requests for a temporary guest pass program for visitors staying with a season pass holder. Chairman Mace stated that a guest must fill out an application and a temporary guest pass could be purchased for a

maximum of two weeks at a rate of \$20.00 per person per week. A recommendation was made to approve a temporary guest pass rate of \$20.00 per person per week for a maximum of two weeks. There was some discussion about how the program would be administered. Councilman Mace recommended that the administration of the temporary guest pass program be left to the discretion of the office staff. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Mace, seconded by Lasky, and unanimously approved.

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, a recommendation was made to open the pool on June 3, 2015 and to close the pool on August 23, 2015. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Mace, seconded by Cara, and unanimously approved.

Under the Recreation and Youth Committee report, a recommendation was made to hire Adrian Bumbulsky as pool manager for the 2015 season at the pay rate of \$15.00 per hour. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Mace, seconded by Lasky, and unanimously approved.

Chairman Mace of the Recreation and Youth Committee reported that additional hires for the pool would be made at the next council meeting.

President Gursky stated that the Tamaqua Area Faith Fellowship Network is sponsoring The Second Annual Community Hunger Weekend event on May 2-3, 2015.

Mayor Morrison promoted a benefit concert to raise money for the Tamaqua Community Arts Center.

The meeting was opened to the floor.

Fire Chief Hartz stated that KME is performing the annual inspection of the aerial truck and he informed councilmembers that the truck may need approximately ten new tires.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:31 p.m. on motion of Mace, seconded by Cara, to meet again at the call of the President.

ATTEST:

Georgia Depos DeWire, Borough Secretary/Treasurer