

The Tamaqua Borough Council held its second Regular Council Meeting for the month of June on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 7:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Tamaqua Municipal Building, 320 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA.

Present were Councilmembers Ronald Bowman, Thomas Cara, R. Daniel Evans, Micah Gursky and David Mace. Absent were Councilmembers Brian Connely and Kerry Lasky. 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 Councilman Bowman. The roll was called with five councilmembers present and two absent.

The reading of the minutes of the last Regular Council Meeting held on June 7, 2016 was ordered suspended, and with no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as written on motion of Cara, seconded by Bowman, and unanimously approved.

President Mace turned the meeting over to Mayor Morrison. Mayor Morrison read a Proclamation "Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the East End Fire Company". Mayor Morrison presented the Proclamation to members of the East End Fire Company.

Communication was received from Leona Rega requesting the use of the Depot Square Park area, and the long wide sidewalk from Broad Street to the Train Station for the National Night Out event which will run from 6-9 p.m. A recommendation was made to grant 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 Cara, seconded by Bowman, and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from William II and Karri Garber requesting a higher capacity handicapped pool lift, 500-1,000 pounds, be purchased for the Bungalow Pool. President Mace stated that a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) resolution would be presented reallocating \$12,000.00 for the purpose of acquiring the lift.

Communication was received from Ashly McArdle and Jeanette Major stating that Freddie's Pub, LLC is having a motorcycle benefit run for the two girls that were hit by a vehicle on June 1, 2016 in Tamaqua. The communication is requesting no parking on Mauch Chunk Street. The registration for the event starts at 11:00 a.m. and the bike run starts at 1:00 p.m. A motion was made by Cara and seconded by Bowman to grant the request. There was some discussion about the event and that the communication does not list a date for the event. A motion was made by Gursky, seconded by Evans, and unanimously approved to table the pending motion.

Manager Steigerwalt reported on the Community Development Block Grant public hearing held prior to the council meeting. A recommendation was made to adopt a resolution to use approximately \$12,000.00 of Fiscal Year 2014 Community Development Block Grant funds, which was previously modified to be used for street reconstruction, for a higher capacity handicapped pool lift for the Bungalow Pool. The following resolution was presented for council's consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-7
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
TAMAQUA, MODIFYING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

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 Gursky, seconded by Bowman and approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

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

**RESOLUTION 2016-8
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 Gursky, seconded by Evans, and approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Manager Steigerwalt also reported on Schuylkill County Tax Claim Bureau notices as follows: a private sale of a property at 312 Penn Street; a private sale of a property at 301 Biddle Street; and a repository sale of 421 West Broad Street.

Manager Steigerwalt also reported that representatives from County Waste, the borough's new trash and recycling hauler, are in attendance to discuss services being provided and to present proposed changes. Council recognized John Caswell who discussed the following: recycling containers would be provided and delivered to all customers at no cost to the borough; the recycling containers would replace the ones currently being used; newspaper would be picked up curbside; recycling plastics 1-7; recycling instructions are stamped on the lids of the recycling containers; there are two sizes of recycling containers available, but initially the larger sized container would be distributed to customers; customers may contact the company to request the smaller sized container; and a request to eliminate Monday as a trash pick-up day and incorporate the Monday pick-up into the three other days. Council recognized John Sienkiewicz of 215 Bowe Street who asked about placing ashes out with the trash. There was some discussion about these matters, the time schedule for the routes, the proposed changes for pick-up from five days to four days, the distribution of the recycling containers and the service with County Waste begins July 1, 2016. A recommendation was made to approve the distribution of recycling containers. Council recognized Tammy Sienkiewicz of 215 Bowe Street who asked when the recycling containers would be distributed. Mr. Caswell of County Waste stated that the containers would be delivered to residents in approximately one month. Council recognized John Sienkiewicz who asked about the size of the garbage trucks. Mr. Caswell stated that County Waste has various sizes of vehicles to accommodate pick up on various size streets. There was no one else 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.

Manager Steigerwalt also reported that representatives from the Tamaqua Community Art Center are in attendance to seek approval for the "Tamaqua Has Heart" project. Council recognized Kyle Whitely and Wandie Zammer-Little who stated that the project is a result of last year's "Dear Tamaqua" project and is a public art sculpture initiative hosted by the Tamaqua Community Art Center. The temporary timeframe for display would be from Memorial Day weekend of 2017 through mid-September. Mr. Whitely asked council to consider approving the project and for the borough's help with the installation of the sculptures. There was some discussion about this matter. A recommendation was made to approve the "Tamaqua Has Heart" project, #LOVETamaqua, and public art sculpture display from May to September 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 Bowman, and unanimously approved.

Under the Finance, Wage and Salary Committee report, a recommendation was made to advertise an ordinance approving a franchise agreement with Service Electric Cablevision, Inc. 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 Gursky, seconded by Bowman, and unanimously approved.

Under the Building and Equipment Committee report, a recommendation was made to acquire an equipment trailer from Appalachian Trailers at a cost of \$4,306.62 to be used for the Water and Street Departments and to split the cost between the Water Fund and the Building and Equipment Fund. There was some discussion about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Evans, seconded by Gursky, and unanimously approved.

Under the Parking and Traffic Committee report, a recommendation was made to grant “No Parking”, of approximately 54 feet on the north side of Race Street, to the rear of a property at 217 and 219 Penn Street. 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 Evans, seconded by Bowman, and unanimously approved.

Under the Parking and Traffic Committee report, a recommendation was made to approve “No Parking Between Signs” at the rear of 522 Arlington Street which is on the south side of Mountain Avenue. 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.

A recommendation was made to take the motion to grant a request for no parking on Mauch Chunk Street for a motorcycle benefit run off the table. The date of the event is June 25, 2016. 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.

Under the Parking and Traffic Committee report, a recommendation was made to authorize the use of the Tamaqua Fire Police for the motorcycle benefit event to be held on June 25, 2016. 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 Bowman, and unanimously approved.

Under the Parking and Traffic Committee report, a recommendation was made to approve an extension of a temporary handicapped parking space for 305 Spruce Street for an additional three months. 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 Bowman, and unanimously approved.

Mayor Morrison requested an executive session to discuss personnel matters prior to adjournment.

The meeting was opened to the floor.

Karri Garber of 200 Pine Street asked for an update regarding her concerns about the condition of sidewalks at various properties in the borough and handicapped accessibility. Manager Steigerwalt stated that the matter was turned over to the Code Enforcement Department. There was some discussion about this matter.

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

A recommendation was made to accept and file the various reports of borough officials. 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 Cara, and unanimously approved.

Mayor Morrison stated that the Tamaqua Area Faith Fellowship Network (TAFFN) meeting to discuss the national drug epidemic was a well attended event. Mayor Morrison stated that flyers have been distributed for the Out of Darkness into the Light, Overdose Awareness Candle Light Walk that would be held on July 30, 2016. Council recognized Tammy and John Sienkiewicz of 215 Bove Street who discussed the following: the candle light walk; a Facebook page, Safer Streets for Tamaqua's Little Feet, has been created; organizing a community patrol; educating family and friends; community support; and attended a press conference held by State Senator John Rafferty who supports a Drug Task Force.

Mayor Morrison reported that a Narcotics Anonymous group meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the Tamaqua Salvation Army.

A recommendation was made to pay all properly approved bills and claims against the borough. There was some discussion about the annual allocation of \$8,500.00 to the Tamaqua Chamber of Commerce. 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 New Business, Manager Steigerwalt discussed the Nature Conservancy Working Woodlands Program. There was much discussion about this matter.

A recommendation was made to hold an executive session to discuss personnel matters. 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 Bowman, and unanimously approved.

The council meeting was recessed at approximately 8:45 p.m. while council met in executive session.

The council meeting was reconvened at approximately 9:32 p.m.

President Mace announced that an executive session was held to discuss personnel matters.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:32 p.m. on motion of Evans, seconded by Bowman, to meet again at the call of the President.

ATTEST:

Georgia Depos DeWire, Borough Secretary/Treasurer