

The Tamaqua Borough Council held its first Regular Council Meeting for the month of September on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Tamaqua Municipal Building, 320 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA.

Present were Councilmembers Robert Amentler, Ronald Bowman, Thomas Cara, Brian Connely, Mary Linkevich, Ritchie Linkhorst and David Mace. Officials present were Mayor Nathan Gerace, Chief of Police Henry Woods, 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 Amentler. The roll was called with all councilmembers present.

The reading of the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on August 20, 2019 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.

Communication was received from Benjamin Turrano of 1389 Valley Road, Tamaqua, PA expressing an interest in serving as a member of the Citizen's Advisory Committee. A recommendation was made to appoint Benjamin Turrano to serve on the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC). There was some discussion about the following: CAC member qualifications; Tamaqua residency; the CAC has five members and there are three vacancies; there are currently no qualifications or residency requirements; and the purpose of the CAC. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Linkevich, seconded by Cara, and unanimously approved.

Manager Steigerwalt reported that Aquatic Facility Design, Inc. was contracted to prepare a pool feasibility study for the H.D. Buehler Memorial Swimming Pool. A planning and needs survey is available for residents to complete and their responses will assist in providing recommendations for improvements to the pool based upon the community's needs and wishes.

Manager Steigerwalt also reported on the following: a bid opening for the rental of a paver with an operator and a tack coat vehicle with an operator is scheduled for September 9th at 1:00 p.m.; the borough received a copy of the Lehighton's Scavenger Ordinance; the 2019-2020 insurance policy renewal; the Safety Committee was recertified; and the borough is the official owner of the vacant lot on South Railroad Street.

Chief Woods reported on the following: a driver of a stolen vehicle hit police car number 179; and Safer Streets for Tamaqua's Little Feet donated 40 units of naloxone to the Tamaqua Police Department. Chief Woods stated that police officers must be certified first before they can administer the naloxone. A thank you letter would be sent to Safer Streets.

Manager Steigerwalt requested an executive session prior to adjournment to discuss personnel matters.

Under the Parking and Traffic Committee report, a recommendation was made to approve a handicapped parking space application for 549 East Union Street. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Linkhorst, seconded by Cara, and unanimously approved.

Under the Parking and Traffic Committee report, a recommendation was made to approve a handicapped parking space application for 202 Center Street. There was no one from the floor

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

Under the Parking and Traffic Committee report, a recommendation was made to advertise an ordinance establishing a stop intersection for northbound traffic on Market Street at the intersection with Biddle Street. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Linkhorst, seconded by Cara, and unanimously approved.

Chairwoman Linkevich of the ad-hoc Working Woodlands Committee gave an update on the Nature Conservancy Working Woodlands Program. The Working Woodlands Program offers forest landowners with opportunities to ensure sustainable forest management while generating revenue from improved timber management and from the growing carbon market. There was some discussion about the program.

Chairwoman Linkevich of the Recreation and Youth Committee reported that the Bungalow staff and patrons raised approximately \$500.00 to donate to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Mayor Gerace reported on the following: the Fireman's Parade; positive feedback was received about police officers using bikes to patrol during the Fireman's Parade; and he would be announcing the date for Trick or Treat night at the September 17th council meeting.

The meeting was opened to the floor.

Larry Frederick, owner of 12-14-16-18 Mauch Chunk Street, and Larissa Young, manager of Texas Chili-Dog, asked about the status of their request for a 15 Minute Parking Only sign and to add an additional parking spot in front of 18-20 Mauch Chunk Street. President Mace advised Mr. Frederick and Ms. Young that the matter was referred to the Parking and Traffic Committee at the last meeting. Chairman Linkhorst of the Parking and Traffic Committee stated that he did have a conversation with them. There was some discussion about this matter.

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

Under New Business, a public hearing was held to discuss an intermunicipal transfer of a restaurant liquor license from Tomas Corporation (William and Sheryl Beltz) for property in the Borough of Mahanoy City for restaurant facilities within the Borough of Tamaqua to be located at the Wheel Restaurant, 123 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA. Council recognized Savas G. Logothetides and Attorney Shane Hobbs who were in attendance. Solicitor Greek stated that the public hearing was duly advertized and citizens have been given the opportunity to make written or verbal comments on the liquor license transfer. There was no one in the audience in opposition to the liquor license transfer. The following resolution was presented for council's consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-9
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF TAMAQUA, COUNTY OF
SCHUYLKILL, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE
TRANSFER OF RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE NO. R-17541
LID NO. 43172 INTO THE BOROUGH OF TAMAQUA FROM THE BOROUGH OF
MAHANNOY CITY.

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

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 Bowman, seconded by Linkevich, and unanimously approved.

The council meeting was recessed at approximately 7:29 p.m. while council met in executive session.

The council meeting was reconvened at approximately 8:09 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 8:09 p.m. on motion of Bowman, seconded by Linkevich, to meet again at the call of the President.

ATTEST:

Georgia Depos DeWire, Borough Secretary/Treasurer