

The Tamaqua Borough Council held its first Regular Council Meeting for the month of November on Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Tamaqua Municipal Building, 320 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA.

Present were Councilmembers Robert Amentler, Ronald Bowman, Brian Connely, au Hollenbach Jr., Kathy Kunkel, Ritchie Linkhorst and Mary Linkevich. Officials present were Mayor Nathan Gerace, Borough Solicitor Tony Odorizzi, Police Chief Michael Hobbs, Borough Manager Kevin Steigerwalt and Borough Secretary/Treasurer Tonia Collevichio.

The meeting was called to order by President Connely. The invocation was given by Councilwoman Linkevich. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Kunkel. The roll was called with seven councilmembers present.

The reading of the minutes of the first Regular Council Meeting held on November 15, 2022 was ordered suspended; and with no additions or corrections; the minutes were approved as written on motion of Bowman, seconded by Amentler, and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from Kathy Kunkel, secretary of the Tamaqua Civil Service Commission, requesting the reappointment of member Janene Holter to the commission, her term expires as of January 1, 2023 and recommending reappointment for another six year term expiring January 1, 2029. 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, to reappoint Janene Holter to the Tamaqua Civil Service Commission and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from Brian Connely, Chairperson of Tamaqua Area Water Authority, recommending Jack Kulp be reappointed to a five year term on the Tamaqua Area Water Authority beginning January 1, 2023. 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, to reappoint Jack Kulp for another five year term on the Tamaqua Area Water Authority and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from Jack Kulp, Secretary of Tamaqua Borough Authority, recommending John Comisac be reappointed to a five year term on the Tamaqua Borough Authority beginning January 1, 2023. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Boman, seconded by Linkevich, reappoint John Comisac for another five year term on the Tamaqua Borough Authority and unanimously approved.

Communication was received from Tonia Collevichio, Borough Secretary/Treasurer, requesting council make a motion to open up an escrow account for fire insurance proceeds received from Farmer's Insurance for the property at 223 Orwigsburg Street in accordance with the Tamaqua Fire Escrow Ordinance No. 568. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Boman, seconded by Hollenbach, to open the fire loss escrow accounts and unanimously approved.

Manager Steigerwalt reported on the 2023 Street Materials bid results. Manager Steigerwalt stated that there were a total of four bidders and that he provided council with a bid results worksheet. The low bidders are marked in bold type as follows:

400 tons Superpave Asphalt Warm Mix Wearing Coarse (pickup)		
Lehigh Asphalt, Tamaqua, PA	\$29,920	
400 tons Superpave Asphalt Warm Mix Wearing Coarse (delivery)		
Lehigh Asphalt, Tamaqua, PA	\$34,720	
30 tons Superpave Asphalt Warm Mix Any Wearing Coarse(pickup)		
Lehigh Asphalt, Tamaqua, PA	\$2,244	
100 tons Superpave Asphalt Warm Mix Base Coarse (pickup)		
Lehigh Asphalt, Tamaqua, PA	\$5,930	
100 tons Superpave Asphalt Warm Mix Base Coarse (delivery)		
Lehigh Asphalt, Tamaqua, PA	\$7,130	
100 tons PaDOT OK Cold Patch (pickup) New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co, PA	\$14,760	
100 tons PaDOT OK Cold Patch (delivery) Hei-Way LLC, Sarver, Winfield, PA	\$14,000	
100 gallons PG 64-22 (pickup) Lehigh Asphalt, Tamaqua, PA	\$1,500	
50 tons Anti-skid AS3 (pickup) Lehigh Asphalt, Tamaqua, PA	\$11,625	
750 tons Anti-skid AS3 (delivery)Lehigh Asphalt, Tamaqua, PA	\$16,500	
200 tons #57 stone (pickup) R.E. Pierson, Middleport, PA	\$3,200	
200 tons #57 stone (delivery) Lehigh Asphalt, Tamaqua, PA	\$4,550	
100 tons #8 stone (pickup) R.E. Pierson, Middleport, PA	\$1,800	
100 tons #8 stone (delivery) R.E. Pierson, Middleport, PA	\$2,500	

A motion was made by Bowman, seconded by Hollenbach, to award the 2023 Street Materials based on the low bidders as presented by the Borough Manager. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered and unanimously approved.

Borough Manager presented a resolution for approval.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-19
DULY ADOPTED
PRICE ADJUSTMENT OF BITUMINOUS MATERIALS
FOR SMALL QUANTITIES

A recommendation was made to adopt the foregoing resolution duly adopted price adjustment of bituminous materials for small quantities. 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 Amentler, and approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Borough Manager also reported that the demolition at 517 Washington Street is progressing well; also reminded residents to keep three feet wide path clear and fire hydrants and Christmas trees will be disposed of on garbage days or can be dropped off at the borough garage.

Under Building and Equipment Committee Report, a recommendation was made to approve a lease agreement with Schuylkill County for the District Justice Office at Rear 320 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 Bowman, seconded by Amentler, and unanimously approved.

Under Public Safety Committee Report, a recommendation was made to adopt an ordinance amending chapter 157 of the Borough of Tamaqua Code of Ordinances (Fire Prevention and Protection).

ORDINANCE NO. 735
BOROUGH OF TAMAQUA
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF TAMAQUA, SCHUYLKILL
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 157 OF THE BOROUGH OF
TAMAQUA CODE OF ORDINANCES (FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION).

A recommendation was made to adopt the foregoing ordinance approving the International Fire Code, 2018 edition, as the Fire Code of the Borough of Tamaqua. 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 Amentler, and approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Under Public Safety Committee Report, a recommendation was made to adopt an ordinance regarding the property maintenance code of Tamaqua Borough.

ORDINANCE NO. 736
BOROUGH OF TAMAQUA
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF TAMAQUA, SCHUYLKILL
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA ADOPTING THE 2018 EDITION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE, WITH CERTAIN
ENUMERATED ALTERATIONS, AS THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE OF
TAMAQUA BOROUGH

A recommendation was made to adopt the foregoing ordinance approving the International Property Maintenance Code, 2018 edition, as the Property Maintenance Code of the Borough of Tamaqua. 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 Amentler, and approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Under Parking and Traffic Committee Report, a recommendation was made to approve revising Section A.4. of the Handicapped Parking Space Policy to reflect that renewal applications must be accompanied by a complete, updated medical form which will be available at the Tamaqua Municipal Building, 320 East Broad Street, Tamaqua. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Linkevich, and unanimously approved.

Under Parking and Traffic Committee Report, a recommendation was made to approve changing Section A.6. of the Handicapped Parking Space Policy to reflect that incomplete applications will be denied, and applications will have a 30-day grace period to complete the

application before denial. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Hollenbach, and approved.

Under Parking and Traffic Committee Report, a recommendation was made to approve changing Section A.8. to the Handicapped Parking Space Policy to reflect a \$100 fee for initial applications, a \$25 annual renewal fee to move a handicapped sign if an applicant changes residence, subject to restrictions in Section E. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Linkevich, and approved.

Under Parking and Traffic Committee Report, a recommendation was made to approve adding Section A.8. to the Handicapped Parking Space Policy which will allow for all handicapped parking signs to be numbered for the sole use of the applicant. There was a brief discussion from Edith Travora regarding her handicapped spot and situations where someone else took her spot which led to a further discussion on the numbered signs. The recommendation was denied with three councilmembers for and four councilmembers against via roll call vote.

Under Finance, Wage & Salary Committee Report, a recommendation was made to adopt the 2023 budget. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation was so ordered on motion of Bowman, and seconded by Amentler, and unanimously approved.

Under Finance, Wage & Salary Committee Report, a recommendation was made to adopt the 2023 Tax Ordinance setting the real estate tax rate at 23.75 mills with 22.40 mills for General Purposes, 1 mill for the Building and Equipment Fund, 0.25 mill for the Wabash Improvement Fund and 0.10 mill for the Street Light Fund. There was a brief discussion regarding the increased millage that will be used for strictly for an additional full time police officer and to help keep it low the millage for the Wabash Improvement Fund was reduced.

ORDINANCE NO. 737
BOROUGH OF TAMAQUA
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
2023 TAX RATES

There was no one else from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The recommendation to adopt the 2023 tax schedule was so ordered on motion of Bowman, seconded by Amentler, and unanimously approved in roll call vote.

The meeting was opened to the floor.

Jack Sakusky, Owl Creek, requested some streets to be paved and would like lines to be painted in Owl Creek. There was a brief discussion regarding the request.

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 the 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 Linkhorst, and unanimously approved.

Under Unfinished Business, A recommendation was made to amend the agenda to include a motion to authorize the Civil Service Commission to conduct a Police Officer Exam and prepare a Certified Eligibility List with a minimum of three candidates. There was no one from the floor wishing to address council about this matter. The motion to amend the agenda, as well as the recommendation to authorize the Civil Service Commission to prepare the exam and list were so ordered on motion of Kunkel, seconded by Linkhorst, and unanimously approved.

A recommendation was made to pay all properly approved bills and claims against the borough. 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 Linkhorst, and unanimously approved.

Under New Business, a recommendation was made to advertise the schedule of regular meetings for 2023. 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 Amentler, and unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:37 p.m. on motion of Bowman, seconded by Linkevich, to meet again at the call of the President.

ATTEST:

Tonia Collevchio, Borough Secretary/Treasurer