

**Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Monthly Meeting
Monday, January 26, 2004
7:00 p.m.**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

“God Bless Our Troops and the Coalition”

ROLL CALL:

Members of Council:

Joseph Barone - **P**

Vice President - Susan Shortz - **P**

Thomas Lukasewicz - **P**

President - George Marushock - **P**

Daryl Menichetti - **P**

Cindy Blanchard - **P**

James Barnick - **P**

Solicitor - Louis A. Cimini - **P**

Mayor - Stanley Lukowski - **P**

Treasurer - Christine Hartshorn - **P**

Administrator/Secretary - Elaine Morrell - **P**

Addressing Council:

Ron Yanoski, Merrill Lynch, Quarterly Police and Non-Uniform Pension Reports

Officer William Hazelton, Throop Police Department, extended a thank you to everyone involved with regard to his automobile accident on January 10, 2004.

Announcements:

An Executive Session was held on Thursday, January 22, 2004 at 6:50 p.m and this evening at 6:30 p.m. regarding Personnel Matters.

Council Comments/Discussions:

Motions to be added to the printed agenda:

-To suspend (starting Jan. 27, 2004) a head monitor from duties at the Civic Center for five days and to attend classes, to be scheduled shortly. -To authorize the Throop Booster Club use of the Washington Street Park for the 2004 Cow Flop with a liquor cutoff of 11:00 p.m. -To adopt Robert's

Rules of Order (and to purchase copies of same). -The enactment of drug testing monthly, three people randomly (Atty. Cimini would research before put on for motion). -To re-hire Chad Rebar at the Civic Center. -To rescind the hiring of Robert Cabets and replace with him Mr. Ron Bukowski, effective immediately. -To rescind the hiring of George Yontos and replace him with Mr. Stan Gongliwski, effective immediately. -To rescind the hiring of KBA Engineering and to retain Frederick C. Spott & Assoc., Inc., effectively immediately. -To hire P.J. LaBelle as Solicitor for the Borough of Throop. -To hire/use Work Med as physicians for the Borough of Throop and Workmen's Comp.

Audience comments on tonight's agenda:

John Green, 132 Pine St. - Expressed his concern with a paper he received on his doorstep, especially regarding the Civic Center, because his child attended the program. He also thought it to be a bunch of political garbage. *Gail Ercoli, Civic Center Director, addressed Mr. Green's concerns, the allegation being false. With a recent yearly inspection by the Commonwealth of Pa., the Civic Center passed with 'flying colors'. In addition, the Center is being considered for a \$10,000 grant from the State. She assured Mr. Green that absolutely nothing transpired along the lines of what was in the paper circulated and contacted the State to ensure there was nothing that she had not heard anything about.* Marushock: If I can address this, Mr. Green, I want to make a public statement. It says, was there an occurrence of abuse and/or molestation at the civic center. Please, if anyone knows of any such activity at that facility or elsewhere in this borough, please contact the Throop Police Department. If you feel uncomfortable contacting our local police department, please contact the Pennsylvania State Police immediately.

Susanne Gallo, Mary St. - I heard rumor somebody wanted to stop the preschool? And I just wanted to say that my daughter goes there and she loves it, all the kids and all the teachers, I know Lauren works there, Gail, everybody is wonderful. And I just wanted to say that I think it would be a bad idea to stop it. I think it's good that Throop has that for the people who live in the town and to be able to bring their kids somewhere where you know that they're close and you know the people in the neighborhood are watching the things up there.

Dominick Rocco, 110 Sanderson St. - Daryl, give us some information on that new solicitor you want to hire. What are you going to pay him and what's the reason for doing it? It sounds like you're going to pay more than the \$35,000 that you're going to pay Mr. Cimini that we have right now. That's supposed to be the reason, to save money. I think Louie's doing a good job for us. *Menichetti: I'm not saying he's not.* I just put the motion on the agenda so we can vote on it, that's what I did, okay? Rocco: Well, I'm against it. And another thing, what's the reason for the door being locked? In the history of Throop, the main door was never locked before a meeting. Why are we starting this now? It's 18 degrees out. *Marushock: There was an executive this evening some things going on that should not be leaving that and that is why we did that. I apologize if things went over a little bit.*

Bob Bolus: I'd like to really try and set a record straight about some of the issues that are going on regarding the appointment of the solicitor. I totally support Mr. Cimini. By the time we change around and get another attorney in here to pick up the slack to do the work that's he's done, it's

going to cost us a heck of a lot more. But because this motion was made, I'd like to present council with a letter that was sent to Councilwoman Cindy Blanchard and Mr. Hegedus. Miss Blanchard has a copy of this letter. The reason I presented this letter, this is a letter that was sent certified mail to Mrs. Blanchard and Mr. Andrew Hegedus. We have sent this out in response to comments made regarding, and I think they're very clear in the letter. It seems that Ms. Blanchard was promised jobs in Lackawanna County for her and her husband by Mr. Hegedus, because Mr. Hegedus is supporting Mr. LaBelle. *Barnick: This is all politics here. What's going on? What is this all about, anyway? What is this all about? I'm skimming over it, this is all politics.* Bolus: Well, if you keep quiet, then I'll finish talking. Thank you. If you read the letter before you open your mouth. Bolus: Hey, Mr. Barnick, if anybody knows politics in Throop, it's you. *A discussion ensued between Barnick and Bolus.* Bolus: This letter was sent and responded to because Ms. Blanchard came to my office and then comments were made that I am conspiring with Mr. Hegedus to remove Mr. Cimini from the seat of solicitor. The purpose I'm here is because this letter went out in total contradiction of those statements and the fact that Mr. Hegedus had even made the statement that Ms. Blanchard follows his lead. Whatever he wants done is done and if Mr. LaBelle gets the job, they get the job. It went to the Lackawanna County Commissioners, they also have a copy of this letter. I believe what you're seeing here is outside politics and it's the work of an individual who can't come face this council and face Mr. Cimini or anybody else about what he's doing. This cannot be done, this is wrong, to discredit someone who's met the criteria, who's done *inaudible*, work here and if he doesn't do his job then you replace him but to play politics as Ms. Blanchard and Mr. Hegedus are doing to run this council, I think it's totally wrong. In fact, it's totally out of order and I ask this council, that's why I'm here tonight, to use their judgement to the benefit of the people and cut the politics out in this town once and for all. *Barnick: You wrote this all up, right? Barnick: Sent to them?* Bolus: I wrote that letter, it was sent to them, that's correct. *Inaudible*, it's related to Mr. Cimini and what's going on in this town. And it's signed, it's got my signature. *Blanchard: It has nothing to do with Mr. Cimini and you know it, Mr. Bolus.* Bolus: It has everything to do with Mr. Cimini, you have the letter Ms. Blanchard. It went directly by certified mail. *Blanchard: Yes, I got this letter from....* Bolus: And it tells you exactly what your comments were and exactly what you and Mr. Hegedus are trying to do. *Blanchard: This is your opinion.* Bolus: No, it's your comments to me and it's in black and white. You can dispute them here publicly and so could Mr. Hegedus. I would ask that this council support Mr. Cimini and support the people in this town and reject that motion.

Ralph Savitski, 23 Pearl Street - I'm here as an employee of the borough and as a resident. On the way home from work today, which I walk, I had a person approach me. I didn't know what in the God's name they were talking about until later this afternoon (regarding the paper/flyer). I am very shook because I am employee (at the Civic Center) and that's accusing me. Boy, I feel rotten. *A discussion took place regarding the paper/flyer.*

Dave Morrell, 315 George St. - I think Louie does a heck of a job and if we've got to pay \$2500. a month whether he does absolutely nothing. That comes out to \$30,000 a year. Then we've got to start paying \$80 an hour after that? That just seems (like) a lot waste when Louie's doing it for \$35,000 to begin with. If this guy doesn't do anything we've got to pay him \$30,000. *Barnick: Dave, I disagree with the \$35,000 - because he was cut so low. The guy does a lot of work here and he was just cut down to \$35,000. It's wrong but he's in dire straights right now and he's got to do it. He's probably between a rock and a hard spot right now and it should be that he's preparing them with*

\$50,000 for a solicitor like that. He's doing hearings, he's doing court.... Morrell: If we're trying to save money, I can't see how this is saving money, and I think Louie does a great job and he gives us 40, 60, 70 hours a week and he doesn't get anything on top of that. That's all I can say, thanks.
Barnick: Sometimes more than that.

John Stoffey, 238 Bellman St. - I just want to say that Louie Cimini did a heck of a job as the lawyer. I had the opportunity to work with him on a lot of different things. the civil service commission because I didn't have a lawyer, inaudible. I think he did a fantastic job.

John Musewicz, 2 Mruck St. - Concerning the Cow Flop, last week at the meeting you had a request by the Booster Club to meet with regard to the Washington Street facility and the fireworks. With regard to eliminating the alcohol at 11:00 p.m., after the fireworks, the suggestion a few weeks ago was to sit down as soon as possible but for some reason it didn't go that way. Issues could be worked on instead of one option, point blank, take it or leave it, that's the way it's going to be. *A discussion took place regarding incidence over the prior years at the event.* That is our main source of income for the youth programs in the borough. That takes us through most of the year. We have close to seven acres down there, we feel it's a lot of work. The cost of running those programs are extremely high and we've always been thankful to the borough for whatever they've done. Not for us, because they don't do it for us. I don't play baseball. They do it for the children, over 200 of them in the program, 16 or 17 teams and brought home the State Title. (He hoped they would be recognized for quite an achievement.) The Cow Flop been held for 15 years. I'm sure there's always room for improvement. The Booster Club Meetings are held the 2nd Sun. of each month, and he extended an invitation to attend to all.

Jack Dolan, 941 South Valley Ave. - Continued on the discussion of the Cow Flop and did not want to see the registration for the children be three or four times of the current rates to cover the expenses of running the club for a year. *John Musewicz said in comparison to other communities, Throop's registration fees are one of the lowest. He did not favor raising the fees but they would have to have the revenue required. The major source of income at the Cow Flop came from the bar.*

Elaine Morrell thanked all the members of the Booster Club for all of the work that they put into the programs. A lot of them don't even have children that even play in the programs anymore. Their children are grown and they've stayed with it. They always need volunteers at the Little League stand and Cow Flop if anybody is ever willing to help. volunteer at the Little League with the stand, I'm sure they can use the help and especially at the Cow Flop. They're always looking for volunteers.

1. **Motion by Shortz**

Seconded by Menichetti

To accept the zoning report and landfill inspector's reports.

Six in favor - Barone, Shortz, Lukasewicz, Blanchard, Menichetti, Marushock

One against - Barnick

Motion carried

TREASURER REPORTS:

Christine Hartshorn, totals of the paid and unpaid monthly bills:

2. Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Lukasewicz

To accept the treasurer's reports as read or posted and to pay the monthly bills against the borough.

Unpaid bills January 2004: Items for Payment	\$106,512.24
Paid bills (January 2004):	\$47,626.46
Revenue Report - January 2004	\$752,222.08
Checkbook Balance as of 1/26/04 (This does not include the unpaid bills or motions for payment.)	\$722,299.07
Keystone Landfill Credit - Jan. 2004	(\$8,959.32)

On the question:

Barnick: Are we looking into sweep accounts? When you get a chance. And then, is everything caught up to date now? You're all trained, everything's done?

All in favor

Motion carried

3. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Shortz

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

All in favor

Motion carried

4. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Barnick

To accept the correspondence as read or posted, including the correspondence from Robert J. Tropiak dated 11/24/03.

All in favor

Motion carried

5. Motion by Barone **Seconded by Barnick**

To approve Scranton Craftsmen's Change Order # 1 January 9, 2004 regarding the Wanda & Line St. Emergency Storm Sewer Repair Project. (Change is + \$300.00.)

Five in favor - Barone, Shortz, Lukasewicz, Blanchard, Barnick
Two against - Menichetti, Marushock Motion carried

6. Motion by Barone **Seconded by Lukasewicz**

To approve the interest payment in the amount of \$15,250.28 to the FNCB for the Loan for the Capital Improvement Projects.

All in favor Motion carried

7. Motion by Barone **Seconded by Shortz**

To replenish the Borough Petty Cash in the amount of \$44.66 and to replenish the Civic Center Petty Cash in the amount of \$240.38.

All in favor Motion carried

8. Motion by Barone **Seconded by Shortz**

To approve \$5,000.00 for the Annual Fireworks Display at the Throop Boosters Cow Flop.

All in favor Motion carried

9. Motion by Barone **Seconded by Shortz**

To grant permission to Jim Caria and Throop Booster Club Baseball Team to use the Washington Street Park baseball field for the 2004 season. (Mr. Caria will schedule the field as he has done in the past.)

On the question:

Barone: Taking care of this field, it has to be worked on over the weekends. That's the time that the field is done so these games could be played. You want the DPW to do it, they can't do it. The field has to be done on the weekends. That's when these games are played and it takes a lot of knowledge to take care of those field(s). I suggest you think about it before that field gets ruined and it's going

to cost you a lot more money. We just put \$250,000 into that park. I suggest you get Jamie back, and Snooky. That's all I have.

All in favor

Motion carried

Motion #10 failed, as follows:

10. Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Menichetti

To amend the Zoning Members salary from \$100.00 per mo to \$50.00 per month effective immediately. (Alternate members to get paid only if filling in; if more than one meeting per month, the fee will be split accordingly, up to maximum \$50.00 per month, i.e., a regular member attended one meeting and an alternate attended one meeting.)

On the question:

Barnick: You've got some people here that are dedicating their time but for \$100 for a meeting, some of them are here for hours. I mean, especially when I walked into the Gould situation that went on here this last year for a non-conforming use, them people sat through hours and hours and hours of testimony, days and days, for \$100 and now you want to make it \$50. I'm sure you get phone calls at home from people, you know, I need this, I need that, but that's all right, it's, I don't think it's right. They dedicate a lot of time to it and then they're also liable for something that goes wrong.

Three in favor - Shortz, Menichetti, Marushock

Four against - Barone, Lukasewicz, Blanchard, Barnick Motion failed

Motion #11 failed, as follows:

11. Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Menichetti

To amend the Planning Agency Members pay from \$100.00 per mo. to \$50.00 mo.

(Amending Ordinance # 6 of 1997)

On the question:

Barnick: Same thing applies to the planning members. There's a lot of time dedicated. You've got time involved with these developments, Tiffany Estates, Schoolside Estates over here getting ready to go and every other combination of minor subdivisions, major subdivisions, involvement with the Eddy Creek Line, the 48 Acres. I mean, hours and hours spent.

Shortz: (For) a lot of boroughs, they are a non-paid position(s) and being that there are months when there are no meetings that's there's very little business and they're in and out, part of the zoning and planning are supposed part of the citizens participation in the government and helping out and I think \$50 is sufficient.

Three in favor - Shortz, Menichetti, Marushock

Four against - Barone, Lukasewicz, Blanchard, Barnick Motion failed

12. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Barnick

To accept the proposal from Rainey & Rainey for the annual audit year ending December 31, 2003 including the treasurer's books and the audit of the pension plans at a total cost of \$4,900.00.

All in favor

Motion carried

Motion #13 tabled, as follows

13. Motion by Menichetti

Seconded by Lukasewicz

To authorize Cathy Reilly to work on an as needed basis in the event of any absences by Christina Sullivan as per the discretion of Elaine Morrell, Administrator. The pay rate will be \$10.50 per hour, the same as Christina's.

All in favor

Motion tabled

14. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Shortz

To increase any and all present civic center monitors pay from the starting rate of \$7.00 per hour to the regular monitor rate of \$7.65 per hour, effective immediately.

All in favor

Motion carried

15. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Lukasewicz

To authorize payment to Wilkes Barre White in the amount of \$2,475.19 for repairs to the packer.

On the question:

Barone: Is that packer back now? *Marushock: It's out for spring repairs and I don't think it's back yet that I am aware of. Inaudible, At a previous meeting I would think we approved it in the range of \$1250. - \$1500. That's why this motion is on tonight, because we went over what was previously approved. It did come back from that repair and had spring problems. I know over the weekend it was down at the spring shop being repaired. Few speaking at once.*

All in favor

Motion carried

16. Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Menichetti

To request that all borough employees sign the receipt of the "Employee Handbook" by February 16, 2004.

On the question:

Barnick: I think some of the employees had some suggestions and different things they wanted to speak about and you never brought them in so, I mean, having them sign something that they want to.. *Menichetti: This is just to sign that they've read it, that's all it is.* Barnick: I know, but some of them would like to see some amendments in there and stuff like that. *Menichetti: It's not to change it or.....* Marushock: I'm sure, Mr. Barnick, that amendments could be put in this over time and this does not, necessarily mean that they're agreeing to it. It means that they have accepted the rules as read. *Barnick: I wouldn't sign it if I was them.* *Menichetti, inaudible.* *Barnick: Unless you sat down and went over it with them.* *Few speaking at once.* Barone: What do you got in mind if they refuse to sign? *Barnick: Then what?* Marushock: I know with my job it's not whether I want to or not, I have to sign it. It's that simple and, again, with that understanding I may not agree with the rules, that is rules presented before me that I have an obligation to conform to. *Barnick: But I'm sure you sat with down with your employer and if you had questions about some of them rules, you..... inaudible, both speaking at once.*

Four in favor - Shortz, Menichetti, Blanchard, Marushock

Three against - Barone, Lukasewicz, Barnick

Motion carried

17. Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Menichetti

To adopt "Roberts Rules of Order".

On the question:

Barnick: I don't know if you have one of these books, Roberts Rules of Order, but it's very in depth, very in depth. It's parliamentary procedures and if you're going to adopt these rules, you need to follow each and every one to the letter, not just because you want to follow it that way or 'cause somebody else wants to follow it that way, it doesn't work that way. It doesn't only apply to one, it applies to all. *Menichetti: I belong to several organizations and we do read (need) Robert's Rules. We don't adhere to every single last one of them but we use them as a guideline, use them as a guideline so that we have....* Barnick: For the benefit of yourself or the benefit of somebody else? So what you're saying is you're going to use them sometimes for me, sometimes we'll use what we want, right? Is that what you're saying? *Menichetti: No, that's not what I'm saying. What I'm saying is that basically that we should adhere.* Barnick: You'd use it as a guideline. *Menichetti: Basic things.* Barnick: We have a guideline right now without the Roberts Rules of Order. We pass motions, we go onto questions, we make point of order, we call people out of order and everything else...*Menichetti: So, we just want to adopt it, that's all.* Barnick: What do you got to adopt it for? You want to buy 15 copies and waste the money. *Both speaking at once, inaudible.* *Menichetti: You put the motion on to buy 15 copies.* Barnick: Sure, and don't you think the rest of the council people need a copy of the Robert's Rules of Order. *Menichetti: Well, inaudible, we'll pass it around.* Barnick: Oh, we'll pass it around, okay? *Menichetti: Well, why not?* Barnick: And maybe in six months we'll all get a chance to read it.

Four in favor - Shortz, Menichetti, Blanchard, Marushock

Three against - Barone, Lukasewicz, Barnick

Motion carried

18. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Shortz

To ratify the acceptance of the loan repayment plan by Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Inc. regarding the borough's proposed 2004 repayment plan on the "No Interest Loan" (total 2004 payment \$700,000).

The payment schedule will be as follows:
On or before April 20, 2004 - \$234,000.00
On or before July 20, 2004 - \$233,000.00
and on or before October 20, 2004 - \$233,000.00

On the question:

Cimini: I believe the 2nd payment should only be \$233,000 not \$234,000.

Marushock: I'd like to thank Atty. Cimini and also the Keystone Sanitary Landfill for working with us in this regard.

All in favor

Motion carried

19. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Barnick

To direct the Police Department to conduct a traffic study on Berks Court in order to determine if Berks Court should have one-way traffic from George St. to Hulse St.

On the question:

Menichetti: You know, they use that street a lot after church and I think that would be a hardship for those people. I notice a lot of people exit that, after church they go down the alley and to make it a one way, I don't think there's that much traffic there that it would warrant it. *Barone: All they've got to do is go down 200' to the stop sign, make a left and go down your street.* Menichetti: But you don't realize when there's church there's cars parked on both sides there and that street isn't that wide to begin with so you're creating another hazard. *Barone: I'm creating a safety problem. There's kids playing down there, basketball, and they could see the traffic coming this way but if they're playing by their garage, they can't see the traffic coming.* Menichetti: Joe, I know everyone that street. There are no kids that even live..... *Barone: I see guys playing basketball there, sometimes, by their garage.* Menichetti: They don't have kids. *Barone: If somebody gets hit, you tell them they don't have kids. Menichetti asked Chief Furiosi if there have been any accidents there.* Chief: I couldn't tell you right off the top of my head, Daryl, I'd have to look. *Barnick: It's only a traffic study. I mean, it's not saying that you're going to do this, I mean if it comes out that it's not needed, it's not needed.*

Four in favor - Barone, Shortz, Lukasewicz, Blanchard

Three against - Menichetti, Barnick, Marushock

Motion carried

20. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Lukasewicz

To direct the Police Department to conduct a traffic study on Line St. in order to determine if Line St. should have one-way traffic from Dunmore St. to Copperneck St..

All in favor

Motion carried

21. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Lukasewicz

To authorize Frederick C. Spott & Associates to continue their work on the Boulevard Project including retroactive for the two (2) hours.

Four in favor - Barone, Lukasewicz, Blanchard, Barnick

Three against - Shortz, Menichetti, Marushock

Motion carried

Marushock: Just if I may comment, there are some motions here that I was not aware that would be on tonight's agenda. I know previously that when we would come in that it was with the president's approval that these motions would be on the printed agenda. Just for the record, please. *Barnick: Not with the president's approval. The council has a right to put any motion that they want on. Both speaking at once, inaudible.* Marushock: *Inaudible*, we had to have it approved by the president. *Barnick: No, wrong, wrong.* Marushock: That's what I was told by Elaine. *Barnick: Elaine, never.....* Menichetti: So in other words, you're saying that anybody can walk in here and, any one of us, and we can put..... *Barnick: Any council member can or otherwise you bring it up at a meeting. Very simple. Few speaking at once.*

Motion 21a. failed, as follows:

21a. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Barnick

To pay the two hours of work that was authorized by Council President George Marushock in regards to the Boulevard Project and that them two hours be surcharged to Mr. Marushock for authorizing work on the behalf of the Borough of Throop without the approval of the Borough of Throop council.

On the question:

Shortz: I'd like to know how the previous council, when there three motions passed by all in favor of, by all members of council, that Attorney Blazey was not to do any additional work without prior approval by the council, that there was (he)continued to be assigned work and continued working, his bills were continuing to be paid, *inaudible.* Lukasewicz: *They should be paid, but the decision was made by one person, not by... inaudible, you made your decision. You could have contacted three, four, members of council. You made the decision on your own, you're liable for it.* Marushock: As Mrs. Shortz had said, Mr. Spott did come up and get on board with the Blvd. Project. Spott & Assoc. was notified that the meeting was discontinued and due to a lack of communication in that office, a representative from Spott & Assoc. did show up. Mr. Kalinoski, our street

commissioner, called me on the telephone, explained that both were present. He did say that probably for a smooth transition that it would be best if Spott would bring KBA Engineering up to speed on the borough projects. I agreed with a split-second decision. If you look at the billing for *any* of our engineers, their rates are based on portal to portal. So that means from the time they leave their office till they get here, till they get back to their office, the clock is ticking. It was a split second decision. I stand by my decision as part of the transition. That's all I have to say. Mayor: And as Mrs. Shortz said, this happened with Blazey on a number of occasions. Let's remember that, boys. *Marushock: Major expense, Mayor, major, major, major, and it continues.* Mayor: *Inaudible,* nobody will ever forget what that guy did to this community. *Marushock: That's fine, but then we're going need a motion later on that whoever authorized that, that they be surcharged.* Mayor: Carte blanche is what it was. *Marushock: Exactly.* Mayor: If anything that annoyed me in all my years here, was that Atty. Blazey and the bills he charged this community. In 11 years here, I've never experienced anything like it. Uncalled for, and one of these day there will be some sort of an investigation.

Three in favor Barone, Lukasewicz, Barnick

Four against - Shortz, Menichetti, Blanchard, Marushock Motion failed

Motion 21b. failed, as follows:

21b. Motion by Menichetti

Seconded by Shortz

To request Frederick C. Spott & Associates to submit to the borough any and all information, specs, documents, tapes, etc. that they were working on and/or completed regarding all projects, except for the information regarding the Boulevard Project.

On the question:

Lukasewicz: I believe there's another motion later on to actually continue Spott & Assoc. as the Borough Engineer. I think we should table this one and bring the other motion first, if we can.

Menichetti: Well, we already made the motion. Marushock: Yeah, let's go by the printed motions and let's see what happens after the other motion does pass or fail have a lot of bearing on this later on. Let's go with the continued printed motion. *Lukasewicz: Actually, the other motion would come into play before this motion is the point I'm trying to make.*

Marushock: But depending on the outcome..... *Lukasewicz: If you continue to keep him on, there's no need to have him send everything back. So why do something that you don't have to do? Never mind, go ahead.* Marushock: Depending on how the other motion goes that would void this motion, I'm assuming. *Lukasewicz: Never mind.*

Menichetti: I do have one thing I want to say. We're playing tag with professional people here, you know. I know this is a game to some people, but it's not a game, and I just don't feel that you hire somebody and have them come on board, you introduce them, and then you fire them next week. I mean this is getting a little bit ridiculous. We look like a bunch of idiots, we really do. I am actually embarrassed. *Lukasewicz: I tend to agree with you. This has really gotten out of hand. Before someone makes a motion to hire or fire, there should be thorough thought into doing something. You don't hire someone one week, fire somebody the next week, hire the other person back.* *Menichetti: That's right. You can't keep doing this.* *Lukasewicz: We look like idiots.*

Menichetti: I mean, we did put thought into it when we hired these people. I mean, it's not like.....

Lukasewicz: No, just certain people that didn't. It's not what I'm doing. It's ridiculous. *Menichetti:*

It's making a mockery out of this borough, it really is. I'm embarrassed. *Barnick: Certain individuals are.* Lukasewicz: It's wrong. *Menichetti: Oh, Jimmy, come on.* Lukasewicz: It's totally wrong.

Four against - Barone, Lukasewicz, Blanchard, Barnick

Three in favor - Shortz, Menichetti, Marushock

Motion failed

Motion #22 failed, as follows:

22. Motion by Menichetti

Seconded by Shortz

To direct KBA Engineering to prepare the specs for the CDBG-Meade Street Project.

On the question:

Menichetti: They're the borough engineers. *Barnick: I believe this was started by Spott, the survey and everything, the benchmarks, all that, the sewers, plus what was done on George Street which is going to connect into that.* Menichetti: Who put this motion on? *Lukasewicz: This motion was discussed at the work session because it had to be done to move along with the CDBG Project.*

Barnick: For the County (Lackawanna). Morrell mentioned these motions were discussed at the work session. Menichetti: And this is how it was worded? To have them prepare the specs and you're saying it was done already? *Lukasewicz: It was assumed at the time that KBA was our engineer but, evidently, things are changing fast in front of us.* Menichetti: Well, right now they are our engineers. *Lukasewicz: Well, that's why I thought if we put the motion on that should be put on, we could have stayed away from these that have been done erroneously.* Menichetti: Well, they're not on here wrong. *Lukasewicz: Yes, they are, because there's a motion on to hire a different engineer this evening and we should do that motion and do everything after.* Marushock: I believe I asked today if anyone else has any other motions. *Lukasewicz: All right. I call the question. Can we vote on this motion, please?*

Four Against - Barone, Lukasewicz, Blanchard, Barnick

Three in favor - Shortz, Menichetti, Marushock

Motion failed

23. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Lukasewicz

To review the existing DPW applications and to advertise, if needed, for part time temporary help to work with the DPW crew if the Teamsters Union is in agreement. The pay rate will be \$9.00 per hour.

On the question:

Barone: Don't we have some applications from before, so we don't have to go advertise again? I'd like to change that motion just to eliminate, advertise. *Marushock: I would ask that it would be advertised to give everyone in the borough an opportunity to apply for the job. I think it would be fair to all citizens in the borough by doing such. Can we add that to the motion, that the position be advertised?* Menichetti: What if all those people that have applications in already are employed? *Barone: Then we'll just have to go with this one here but I don't know, there was a lot of applications that came in before and I didn't see anybody getting hired. Barnick/Morrell discussed the motion.* Marushock: Again, my opinion would be to advertise and update our files.

All in favor

Motion carried

Marushock: This is another one that I did not know about. Here it is, a motion:

24. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Barone

Motion #24 Amended From:

To reduce Gail Ercoli, Civic Center Director's pay by \$2,500.00 annually to be comparable to the reductions of the Administrator and Street Commissioner.

Motion #24 Amended To:

To re-allocate the Borough Administrator and Street Commissioner's salaries and to amend the budget accordingly for 2004 to conform with non-discrimination

On the question:

Lukasewicz: I think what's being done is they're trying to make a point that certain heads of the departments were cut and certain heads of departments weren't cut. And (it's) unfair and it's actually some discrimination involved and I'd like to see the guys that made this motion, I'd like to see them make a new motion that the two heads of departments that were cut the \$2500.00 would be given the \$2500 back and there's no reason to cut anybody. *Barnick: Either way, whichever one works. I just want it to be fair, that's all.* Barone: I'll vote for that. *Lukasewicz: I don't see the reason for cutting.* Marushock: Do you want to change your motion, Mr. Barnick, to read as such? *Barnick: Yes.* Lukasewicz: Nothing's going to happen to the civic center. The other two would be given back their salaries. *Menichetti: Well, the motion reads to reduce.* Lukasewicz: But they're changing their motion. The civic center's name won't even be on there anymore. *Barnick: I'm agreeing, we'll amend it the way it is.*

Morrell: I would like to say that there were a couple of other pay cuts. I don't know if it makes a difference, but the asst. directors over at the civic center, they work very hard and they do a lot of work over there and they do most of the reports. Their pays were also cut.

Barnick: Right now, the department heads, you've got a lot of years here, too, it wasn't right.

Shortz: I'd like to just go on record that the reason for dropping the salaries has nothing to do with their borough *inaudible* jobs or any *inaudible* that they're not doing their jobs. We're finding between other boroughs in the area, and looking at their salaries that are paid out, our salaries on those two particular positions are more than doubled than what the other boroughs in the area are paying. I don't think there's very many people in the town of Throop that are commending those types of salaries and benefits. At the present, I think it's a hardship on the borough with taxes, etc.

Barnick: I don't see where it's a hardship on the borough with taxes or whatever. I mean, you've got to cut back in some areas but you don't take it off of the most experienced people and the ones that are running the show up here, geez, you don't (take that) away from them. *Marushock: If I can add to that. Another community budget that I've looked at, they have actually two secretaries in the amount of about \$34,000.* Barnick: It's got to be Jessup. *Marushock: Mrs. Morrell's salary alone, one individual....* Barnick: And what's their budget? *Shortz: Dickson City's is comparable to ours and D.C.'s a far larger area, they have a mall, they have a lot of other issues going on in their town as well, and their secretaries are being paid.....inaudible.* Barnick: And they also had borough managers, all kinds of things going on down there. Same thing.

Four in favor - Barone, Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Barnick

Three against - Shortz, Blanchard, Marushock

Motion carried

Motion #25 failed, as follows:

25. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Barone

To schedule Gail Ercoli, Civic Center Director's hours from 6:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Monday through Friday.

Barnick: I'd like to make that motion but I'd like to amend that to state 6:30 to 10:00 a.m., Mon. through Friday and then after that, whatever hours are needed to work over there. At least the program is covered in the mornings. *Ercoli: And you need me there between 2 and 3. Well, just do the, I know when I have to be there, just do the 6:30 to 10:00.*

On the question:

Menichetti: Why do we need to schedule her hours? We don't, I mean, she's the director over there and I feel we should trust her judgement as far as when she's needed. When do we need to be, make it necessary between these hours? *Barnick: Well, with some of the problems associated with what's been going on over there, I think it's only proven that we need to put to have the director in charge in the mornings when often when this stuff is going on and there's people coming in and out of there and that's why I wanted to do it that way. If it fails, it fails, oh well.* Lukasewicz: Can we look at just possibly doing this on a short term, like a week or two, Gail, are you agreeable to this? *Ercoli: No, no. No. But I don't know if that really matters, if I'm agreeable or not.* Lukasewicz: It does matter, what you're agreeable to. You have a right to.... *Gail: I do? Well, if I have a right, no, I'm not agreeable to it.* A discussion took place. Working 6:00 to 10:00. *A discussion took place.* Menichetti: Joe, what do they do any different than anybody else there? *Barnick: Well, I don't know, Jennifer does all the billing.* Marushock: Roll call. *Ercoli: Roll call on what? On my schedule being, what are you doing roll call on?* Marushock: On the motion as printed. *Ercoli: I mean, I don't even know, I'm..* Barnick/Menichetti: 6:30 to 10:00. *Barnick: That's what I put down.* Morrell: And then whatever hours after that.

Two in favor -Barone, Barnick

Five against - Shortz, Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Blanchard, Marushock Motion failed

Lukasewicz: There will be, if you're not there, there will be... *Ercoli: An asst. director there? Both speaking at once.* Pesavento: *Asked to speak.* Marushock: Hold on, please. *Marushock: Next motion, please.* Barnick: You let her go. *Menichetti: No, we'll give her a chance.* Barnick: Come on, you're discussing the asst. directors, maybe she's got something... *Marushock: Stay on the meeting, stay on the agenda.* *Barnick: Wow.*

26. Motion by Shortz

Seconded by Menichetti

Motion to suspend a head monitor from the civic center for five days and to attend training classes (to be scheduled shortly).

On the question:

Barone: Are you going to give all these people that schooling? *Few mentioned this was discussed.*

Five in favor - Barone, Shortz, Menichetti, Blanchard, Marushock

Two against - Lukasewicz, Barnick

Motion carried

27. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Lukasewicz

To authorize the Throop Booster Club to use the Washington Street Park Complex for the 2004 Cow Flop, with the beer tent vacated at 11:00 p.m., for June 20, 2004.

On the question:

Marushock: I'm against having alcohol at that event. Over the past few years, there have been major incidences where things have gotten out of control. Our Throop Borough Police will no longer staff that event because of the problems that have developed in the past. I believe for the 2003 event, the County Sheriffs, I believe, were there. To the best of my knowledge, they don't want to be back because of the problems that develop, fights, things along that line. Somewhere, I'm having a rough time putting family and alcohol together on the same line. I feel a good event could be held by all for the benefit of everyone in the Borough and it's well attended by the Borough. I don't think alcohol needs to part of that picture. *Barnick, inaudible, discussed quiet order, and stated as President of Council, you're not supposed to divulge or whatever, you're not supposed to state what side you're going to be on when you're voting on this stuff.* Marushock: I didn't state how I'm voting. *Barnick: You said you're against the liquor. I mean, right there you just said it. So follow your Robert Rules of Order or don't. One or the other.* Marushock: I am. *Menichetti: On the question, I, also, I realize that you get a lot of your revenue from you know, selling the liquor and I understand that, and I spoke with a lot of people who did attend it and they seem to think that the problem arises later in the evening. So I think cutting it our earlier might be the answer, John, really. And I hope you'll stick to it.* Mayor: Not only 11:00 p.m. but as they do in Dickson City, you have to remind them, 11:00 this is it. Start doing this about 10:30 or so. This is it.

Chief Furiosi: I feel the exact same way. It was discussed about the 11:00 p.m. curfew. The question I had, John, is will you give notice at 10:00 or 10:15 that is last call and that everybody has to be out of the bar by 11:00 p.m.? Now, I know somewhere there's going to be a problem if you tell the people that you have to be out at 11:00. I just want to let it (be) known up front that if there's repercussions, we are going to arrest. I'm not going to pull any punches. We will charge, we will arrest. Whether it's people from out of Throop or if it's the people from the Borough. I've really had it. I have nothing against the concept, I think it's a great idea, but I've got to agree with Daryl. It seems to be later on in the evening when it gets to be a real beer bash. *Chief Furiosi discussed the fact that it was hard for him to have someone he knows, residents, come up to him bombed out of their minds. It was hard for him to turn his head because he would not be doing his job but if he turned around and enforced and did his job, he would be the bad guy. I just want it understood that at 11:00 p.m. the bar has to be completely emptied.*

Shortz: I think it's not even so much maybe the time but I think there should be some control for people who have had too much to drink because there have been people that have been intoxicated coming over to the John's, threw up all over, went back and were given another pitcher of beer. I think just like in the bars today, if somebody has had over their limit, they need to be asked to leave, regardless of the time. I don't think they should be served until they're to the point of causing problems. *Chief: That's a law. If somebody's at the bar and they're intoxicated and the bartender sees it, there are required by law not to serve them.*

All in favor, Marushock, for, as noted

Motion carried

Audience Comments:

Marushock: Before we move on I need audience comments, please, on the other motions which we have before us. I apologize, I missed audience comments on those other ones that were added to the printed agenda. The one I have here, *Barnick: You did them all.* Lukasewicz: We had audience comments. Morrell: All the motions were noted prior to audience comments. *Marushock: Because some of these motions got reworded as printed on the agenda.*

Menichetti: Does anyone in the assembly have a problem with any of the motions that we've done so far that you didn't have a chance to comment on?

Maria Pesavento, Martarano Dr. - I'd like to address Ms. Menichetti. First of all, I'd like to know who informed you that the assistant directors do the same work as the monitors? Who gave you that information? I see you're looking at Gail, but see Gail tells us that we..... *Menichetti: What exactly, no, what exactly are you talking on?* Pesavento: You said that the assistant directors or the head monitors do the same work as the monitors. *Menichetti: Correct.* Pesavento: Right. Who gave you that information? *Menichetti: Well, what exactly do you do different?* Pesavento: We do a lot more work than the monitors do. As you can see, first of all, Jennifer got suspended for being the asst. director or the head monitor at the time when this incident took place in the day care, right? Jennifer does the billing. If you want me to list everything that the asst. directors do, I will. *Menichetti: Inaudible, no, go ahead.* Pesavento: Jennifer does the billing. *Menichetti: Uh hum.* Pesavento: Anne Marie does all the paperwork. When I'm there on the weekends, I do the time cards. We take care of any disciplinary action that goes on in that building when we are there when the director is not there. I got in heat last night because I had to call a parent. We do a lot more work than the monitors, and we don't only oversee the monitors so I just wanted to set that straight with you because obviously you got other information. *Ercoli: And it did not come from me, Maria.* Pesavento: Okay, well just.... *Ercoli: It did not come from me.* Pesavento: Because we do a lot more work than the monitors. *Ercoli: I'm telling you, Maria, but it did not come from me.* Pesavento: And our pay got cut \$1.04? We're only getting paid .60 cents above the monitors, which okay, but if you're going to change our title and everything else, at least you know what we do. *Menichetti: Would you do me a favor? Would you list your duties for me?* Pesavento: Yes, I will. *Menichetti: Thank you.* Pesavento: And I'll have the other assistant directors list theirs, too. *Mayor, inaudible.*

Motion #28, Lack of Second, as follows:

28. Motion by Barnick

No Second

To purchase 15 copies of Roberts Rules of Order.

Everyone speaking at once.

Barnick: We've got it adopted and nobody asked what they're about.

Menichetti: There's a copy at the library. I have two copies at home, you could have one.

Barnick: Okay, we'll pass the book around.

Marushock: The next one, I believe, is being tabled to get further information: to have three people drug tested every month at random. (Note: Since there was no second, there was no need to table.)

29. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Lukasewicz

To put Chad Rebar back on as a monitor at the Civic Center.

On the question:

Barnick: You're sure he wants to get (put back) on? You said he was going out looking, right? You're sure he wants to be on, right?

Barone: Well, he just finished college. He's looking for some hours and if he goes to another job, that's it, but he's good with the kids. I'd like to see him back until he leaves.

All in favor

Motion carried

Motion #30 failed, as follows:

30. Motion by Blanchard

Seconded by Barnick

To rescind the hiring of Mr. Robert Cabets and replace him with Mr. Ron Bukowski, effective immediately.

On the question:

Barnick: The only reason I'm doing this is because one is certified, the other one isn't. I mean, until they are certified and at least go get certified. If you want to send them to school, vote to send them to school but you get certified before you send them up there and cause a liability on the borough.

Three in favor - Barone, Blanchard, Barnick

Four against - Shortz, Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Marushock Motion failed

Motion #31 failed, as follows:

31. Motion by Blanchard

Seconded by Barnick

To rescind the hiring Mr. George Yontos, effectively immediately, and replace him with Mr. Gongliewski.

On the question:

Barnick: Same repeat (as Motion #30). You need to get him into school and get him certified. They're not certified. The Host Municipality, the State, will not pay the \$10 an hour or the ½ of the salary for them inspectors at this point until they are certified. I mean, you need to do something here. You've got a liability sitting up there. You've got employees up there that are not certified.

Menichetti: They are certified. They're not re-certified. Barnick: They are not certified. *Menichetti:*

They're not re-certified. Barnick: That's why they're not paying the ½ of the salary. Wake up.

Marushock: And they are currently receiving only ½ of their salary. Their pay has been adjusted until we get the state subsidy. Barnick: Until they get certified. Marushock: Correct.

Three in favor - Barone, Blanchard, Barnick

Four against - Shortz, Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Marushock Motion failed

31. Motion by Blanchard

Seconded by Barone

To rescind the hiring of KBA Engineering and reinstall Frederick Spott & Assoc. as the borough engineer, effectively immediately.

Blanchard: Well, we can't have two of them at the same time when we're trying to save money in other ways.

On the question:

Menichetti: I feel that KBA is very qualified. I'm sure they can become very well acquainted with every project in the borough at this present time. I don't see the need to keep seesawing back and forth and hiring and firing and hiring and firing. I think they're on board, and we should have the respect of these people and we should keep them and that we should just work with them as best we can instead of fighting every inch of the way. Barnick: *Inaudible*. Compared to all the projects that Spott did in this borough, throughout the borough, they know this borough like the back of their hand. Menichetti: *That's beside the point, they're engineers.* Barnick: Can I finish? Menichetti: *I'm sure they could do the same thing that Spott's doing.* Barnick: Could I fiinisssh? Are we on Robert's Rules here, or what? What are we doing? Menichetti: *No, this is Barnick's Rules.* Marushock: *Go ahead, Mr. Barnick.* Barnick: Are we applying them here or whaaatt? Well, Spott's done a heck of a job around here. I mean, from the 48 acres, the whole Blvd. Project, which they're currently still working on, *inaudible*. It takes a lot to get another engineering firm up to date on what's going on in this borough, what sewers are involved, what sanitary lines, I mean, it's massive. And you're going to waste a lot of money trying to get them initiated into what's going on. You're going to blow a lot of money in a transition like that. Menichetti: *The fact that Mr. Szczepaniak, unfortunately, passed away, but he was the one that really worked with our borough and since he isn't here, I don't feel that closeness to Spott & Assoc., I don't even know the other people that represent their organization. And I don't know the people who represent this organization either, but I mean, it would be the same difference as far as I'm concerned. I mean, he starting from scratch.* Barnick: I would hope they would come back on board. I mean, if it passes I just hope they come back on board. Marushock: *Just for record again, as everyone knows we did lose a very valuable, not necessarily a borough employee, John Szczepaniak, he probably knew this borough like he did the back of his hand. And with his untimely passing, this was for the betterment of the borough and also a budgetary issue. We try (we're trying) to bring our costs in line. I understand that there is going to be a transition, yes, both are going to have to communicate and bring each other up to speed, primarily Spott bringing KBA. Mr. Szczepaniak's absence is a big doing. I don't think anyone else or KBA knew the operations of this borough as Mr. Szczepaniak did.* Barone: I think Mr. Szczepaniak, being a good engineer, his company is well informed. Barnick: *Yes, they are. They did the whole Blvd. Few speaking at once.* Menichetti: Well, that's your opinion. Barone: That's right, I'm entitled to it. Menichetti: *That's right, and I'm entitled to mine.* Barone: Well, you're entitled to yours. Let's put it to a vote. Put it to a vote.

Four in favor - Barone, Lukasewicz, Blanchard, Barnick

Three against - Shortz, Menichetti, Marushock

Motion carried

Motion #32, Lack of Second, as follows:

32. Motion by Menichetti

No Second

To hire P.J. LaBelle as the Borough Solicitor, as per his proposal.

33. Motion by Menichetti

Seconded by Shortz

To use Work Med as the Borough Physicians and for Workmen’s Compensation claims, effective immediately.

On the question:

Barnick: Who contacted them and isn’t Dr. Majernick our borough doctor, or did that change? *Morrell stated Dr. Barrett in Throop was being used also.* Barnick: Is he with this company?

Morrell: I don’t know anything about Work Med. Menichetti: This Work Med is run by Allied and they have facilities down there to do x-rays and everything. They don’t have to be sending you to different places. I thought it would be easier to have it all in one place. There’s sufficient parking there, it’s really a very nice place. *Barnick: Where is this located at?* Menichetti: In Dickson City, The Lackawanna Executive Park. *Shortz: And they also have therapists right there and the doctors are certified and working these comp. cases.* Barnick: But you mentioned in there that you wanted it for the workers comp. but I think the insurance company has to direct that. *Menichetti: No. Few speaking at once. A discussion took place with regard to setting up an official panel, of which a number of physicians are needed. The Borough did not currently have a panel.*

Six in favor - Shortz, Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Blanchard, Barnick, Marushock
One against - Barone
Motion carried

Motion #34, Lack of Second, as follows:

No Second

34. Motion by Barone

To increase Atty. Cimini’s pay from \$35,000 to \$50,000.

(A discussion ensued.)

Audience Comments/New Business:

Larry Hartshorn, 140 Dimmick St. - Being that Mr. Barnick’s making all this *inaudible* to give this money back, how about the treasurer? Why don’t you give her a little raise? *Barnick: They said they could get it done for \$6,000 - why did you get rid of the last one?* Both speaking at once, inaudible.

35. Motion by Menichetti

Seconded by Shortz

To increase the treasurer’s salary from \$6,000. to \$8,000.

Menichetti: Since we increased what we gave the other people, I think we have to do that also.

Barnick: Wow.

On the question:

Lukasewicz: Christine accepted the position knowing the job qualifications, and she accepted knowledgeable of what she would be paid, and I think we should give her a little bit of time to get

a grip on it and see if the pay is sufficient. And at that point if it needs to be upped for any reason or whatever, then we do it then. To do a *inaudible* like this now is.. *Menichetti: Well, everybody else is doing it so I thought...* Lukasewicz: No, the only thing that we did was we re-affirmed the positions to the salaries prior to their cut because they still have the same duties that they had prior. Give her a chance to get in and see how it is and if it's more complicated, which I believe it is, and everybody assumed it would be, then accordingly we will adjust it. *Menichetti: Well, I'm going to stay by my motion.* Barnick: I agree totally, I mean, nobody realized the amount of hours that Lenore was putting in here. Now you're starting to see it. I'm sure Christine realizes how many hours she's got to get into this job so until it's all worked out and the transition period is finished with, let's see what happens. You said the last time the \$6,000 that you're saving was going to be her training. That was the quote, exactly. Shortz: And she's already training, doing the job, and since all of you were in agreement with job *inaudible*, which worked at Lenore Dolan's on..... *Barnick: What are you saying cousin? You're the ones that replaced her. Lenore was doing a job.* Shortz: And nobody said she wasn't but nobody's saying. *Lukasewicz: I think it would be proper if Christine came back in a certain period of time and said, I've developed the job into a certain classification, I feel that I'm doing so much work and I should be compensated accordingly. And when that time comes, then we act on it, but until she gets a complete grip on it, she's only been there two weeks.* Barnick: *Inaudible*, accept it for what the proposal was. I mean, you're in the paper saying we saved all this money.... *Shortz: Well, you just took it all back, so...* *Few speaking at once.* Lukasewicz: Christine, do you feel like you need more money at this time, are you? *Morrell: Tell him the truth.* Christine: I have put in a lot of hours. *Lukasewicz: How many have you put in, no, this is good, everybody listen. How many hours have you put in?* Barnick: Yeah, I'd like to hear that. *Christine: Oh, about 25-30 hours.* Barnick: In a week, right? *Menichetti: But she's training now. Once she gets trained it's not going to take her that...* Dolan: She was told it takes three hours a week. *Barnick: Is that right?* Dolan: That's what that girl was told. And was also told she was getting hired for \$10,000, not \$6,000. *Menichetti: No, we never told her...* Dolan: Well, ask her. *Menichetti: No.* Barone: I heard that she was told that the job was a snap and that they were going to give her \$10,000. *Dolan: three hours a week, she was told. Few speaking at once.*

Six in favor - Barone, Shortz, Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Blanchard, Marushock
One against - Barnick
Motion carried

Audience Comments on Motion #35:

Lenore Dolan, South Valley Ave. - I think she should get more. It's a lot of hours. She's still don't *inaudible*. I bet you she didn't touch half yet. I bet you the civic center isn't even half touched. And I could bet that and I don't even know what she did but I would bet that. I would bet she got all the money in one lump sum. And I'll bet you she has no way of putting it in a computer yet. She did one program to another program. *Barnick: You probably didn't realize the deposits she has to make and everything else.* Dolan: Wait till you see all the hours she's going... She's been (going to) put a lot of hours here, a real lot of hours.

Audience Comments:

Larry Hartshorn, Jr., 125 Pancoast St. : I'm only here for one reason tonight and you all know why I'm here. My yard, my fence, my sidewalks, *inaudible.* *Atty. Cimini: That meeting was supposed to be on the Jan. 20th but it was postponed and the engineer....* Hartshorn: This is ridiculous already. I can't, nobody can walk in the front of my house, they're going to fall, somebody's (going to fall), I'm going to get sued. The sidewalk is slanted from it sinking. *Marushock: It is being worked on, Mr. Hartshorn. I know actually the borough did some improvements on our own that we had to. The project is still not being completed. Meetings are being done, scheduled. Hopefully, when the weather breaks that the improvements that should be taken care of are going to be done, I know you've heard that.* Hartshorn: I've heard it three times. I've been with Robbie, God Bless Robbie, Robbie's been helping me out, Mr. Cimini's been helping me out but when it comes down to it, okay, here I am another winter without no sidewalk in front of my house. *Marushock: I think Mr. Cimini can verify that there is progress being made and I apologize for the long, drawn out delay that it is. Hopefully, you're going to see some changes there.* Hartshorn: I just don't want people to tell me later on I didn't complain. *Marushock: No, it's well documented, your complaints. Barnick: Larry, he just informed me that it was supposed to have been Jan. 20th. Being that KBA was brought in and stuff like that, it got postponed. Mr. Cimini said he's going to push to get him back in here as quick as possible.* Larry: Well, like I said I don't want it done in the winter. I could wait till the spring when the weather.... I just want it done. They promised me that they would repair everything they destroyed, and so far I've had nothing. Other people have, not me.

Paul Legos, Cypress St.: I have a question. Art got laid off, right? *Marushock: Correct.* Now, that man, I think he was doing a good job, plus he brought money into the borough, right? I think that's money that's being lost because, you know, who's taking care of that? *Marushock: Mr. Kalinoski* Legos: That's fine. Robbie's a good man, don't get me wrong. The last time he was doing two jobs, I don't think he could do it. *Barnick: He was overwhelmed.* Legos: He has enough problems with his job right here. I think Art should have stayed because he was bringing money into this borough and with all this stuff going on now, I think he should have stayed. *Barone: You're right. Robbie's backed up already. Barnick: Not only that, Paul, what they didn't realize is he's probably the only certified residential inspector in the borough at this point. He went to the school and got certified. He got grandfathered in by the Dept. of Labor & Industry. Few speaking at once. He was handling a lot of the nuisance. People don't like him. Yes, there's a lot of cars and stuff that were in people's yards. He went after them, that's it, that's his job, code enforcement. I mean, it happens.* Hartshorn: Certain people. *Barnick: No, it wasn't certain. Few speaking at once. Barnick: Just gets the cars out. If it's abandoned, get it out, what's the problem, what? You want to keep junk in the yard and make the town look like crap, is that it? Get it out if it's junk.* Larry Hartshorn, Sr.: If it's junk. *Barone: He got that abandoned house torn down, too, on Edgar Street.* Hartshorn: He done a good job there. *Barnick: You remember the first couple years I was here? I pushed and then got some cars out of there. There was vans being used for storage of wood and stuff like that, coal, vans in the town.* Hartshorn: Get them out of there. *Barnick mentioned amendments for zoning so it conformed to the properties in the non-conforming areas and the zoning office getting behind with no assistant.*

Charlene Tomasovitch, Throop P.A.L. : Discussed the PAL Budget for 2004 and stated there were

more kids calling and signing up because of the fact they are hearing it is free. *Marushock verified \$3,000 was in the Budget, the same it was for 2003.* Tomasovitch thanked council. I

Frank Galli, 609 Kossuth Street - What I'd like to know is what is the drug policy in the borough of Throop? Is there any drug policy for council members? *Marushock: I am not aware but I think probably we should all be...inaudible, across the board.* Galli: I think council should have to be made to take the drug test, too. Cause I want to make sure that as a taxpayer in this town, that everybody is not on drugs. *Barnick: I'm behind that all the way.* *Marushock: I agree with you, it's a good question, good statement, and I feel that we, as council people, should be held accountable to do that also.* Galli: Well, hopefully, you will act on that. The other question I have is the Washington Street Park field. I know that council cut that money out *inaudible*. There's games up there during the weekend and everywhere else during the day. That field was being taken care of by Jamie Shevchick. The grass was being cut, the field was being tarped, everything was being done on that field. I cannot see how the borough is going to keep that field in the same shape as it's been kept for all these years. *Barone: It take 5 men just to put the tarp on it.* Galli: A couple of years ago, the mayor made a statement that the Washington Street Park baseball field was the best looking one around. You made that statement. *Menichetti: It's January, what's the date, the 26th? Why are you worrying about the field now?* *Barnick: Because it's only two months away, what are you talking about?* Shevchik: If it's not safe, we're not putting them on that field. We pulled teams off that field three years ago because it was unsafe. *Menichetti: What do you mean by safe? I don't know.* Shevchick: People getting hurt. *Menichetti: Buy why?* Everyone speaking at once. *Shevchick: I'm going to explain it. Three years ago we pulled our team and played on the road. We played in Olyphant, we played in Dickson. Then we got together with council and the mayor, something should be done. Robbie Kalinoski said they can't handle that field on weekends. You'll pay \$20 something dollars an hour to the DPW. 90% of that field is used on weekends, Saturdays and Sundays. When the water goes on, the water has got to come off. When the dirt gets hard, you've got to put new dirt on. It's more than like Mr. Hartshorn said, getting on a lawnmower and cutting the grass. There's a lot more to it than that. You've got to weed (clean) it, you've got to drag it and that tarp. A discussion took place.* Galli, *inaudible*, continued on the discussion of the fields and mentioned cell phones in council chambers. The Mayor said it was very annoying.

36. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Barnick

To authorize Jamie Shevchick to perform the maintenance at the Washington Street Park Ball Field, from April to October, 2004.

On the question:

Menichetti: Inaudible. I thought it was always the council that inaudible, employ people from the borough. *Barnick: What are you talking about? Whoa!* Shevchik: Where's the director live? *Everyone speaking at once.* Ercoli: Wait a minute, they hired a director and she left crying in three months and they called me because they were in a pinch. *Dolan: Wait a minute, that's not true, we had interviews.*

Audience Comments on Motion #36:

Dominick Rocco: I'd like to see him hired back.

George Yontos: Snooky lives in the borough, he'd be able to handle that.

Larry Hartshorn: He's been taking care of it all this time, he's done a hell of a job down there and let me tell you, we used to take care of it and that's a job by itself down there.

Menichetti: Well, let's put a motion on to hire him. Barnick: The motion stays. You guys want audience comments and then I'll call the question.

Stoffey: I just think you should get somebody to maintain that. They did good a job when they did maintain it.

Menichetti: It cost \$7500 last year and the year before.

Shevchick: That's because you had a bunch. If you put money into the field or you didn't put money, it went bad. Now, when you spend money on the batting cages and whatever else you want up there... That's all that is. All that is, is a budget. If we don't use the money, it goes back to the borough.

John Musewicz: Inaudible.

Larry Hartshorn: All your DPW workers from Throop? No.

Four in favor - Barone, Lukasewicz, Blanchard, Barnick

Three against - Shortz, Menichetti, Marushock

Motion carried

Continuing on Audience Comments:

John Musewicz, Mruck St. - Just one thing on the civic center. It was a good idea with when you were talking to Maria concerning the duties and asking (for) the duties of certain individuals. I really think you probably should include all the employees over there, you should, the duties and responsibilities. Not only you (council), everybody should have them in front of them, the duties and responsibilities of every employee over there. That should be a must, a top priority. That would alleviate a lot problems over there with who's supposed to be doing what.

Motion by Barnick

To adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Elaine Morrell, Administrator/Secretary

Minutes by Christina Sullivan, Assistant Secretary