

**Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Monthly Meeting
Monday, August 25, 2003
7:00 p.m.**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

“God Bless Our Troops and the Coalition”

ROLL CALL:

Members of Council:

Anthony Chrzan - **P**

James Barnick - **P**

Vice President - Thomas Lukasewicz - **P**

President - James Mellody Jr. - **P**

George Marushock - **P**

Daryl Menichetti - **P**

Joseph Barone - **P**

Mayor - Stanley Lukowski - **A (Death in Family)**

Solicitor - Attorney Louis Cimini - **A**

Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - **P**

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

Mayor’s presentation: presented by Jim Mellody:

**Dr. Gregg’s Dentistry
2003 Valley Petunia League Champions**

Bridget Butash

Diana Butash

Mary Chylak

Melanie Galli

Anissa Krajewski

Kelly McNulty

Nicole Poplawski

Jeanne Rabel

Alyssa Rimosites

Carissa Shihinski

Rachel Shihinski

Coaches: John Butash, Andy Rabel and Joe Krajewski

Announcements:

Sun., Sept. 7th - Throop Borough recognizes Throop Big League Softball 2003 Pennsylvania State Champions. Parade at 1:00 p.m. Following the parade Throop Borough Officials will present a plaque to our State Champions at the Washington Street Park. Refreshments will be served.

Throop Big League Softball 2003 Pennsylvania State Champions

**Jessica Cortazar
Leah Dolan
Brittany Haynos
Alicia Honney
Natalie Kazinetz
Jaelyn Keyasko
Jaime Lewis (Pitcher)**

**Ashley Luchansky
Marissa Mazzucca (Pitcher)
Julie Neri
Margaret Rabel
Gina Rozaieski (Pitcher)
Rencee Rozaieski
Heather Washenko**

**Coaches:
Jamie Cortazar
Phil Rozaieski
Lori Cortazar
Joe Honney**

**League Officers:
President, Jim Caria
V.P. Softball, Lenore Dolan
V.P. Baseball, Frank Galli
Secy./Treas., Rose Kaminski**

**Board:
Jack Dolan
John Musewicz
Bill Shevchik**

Lenore Dolan thanked the Civic Center employees and Elaine and Dave Morrell for their help and efforts in preparation for Sept.7. Canada Dry would be donating banners.

Audience comments on tonight's agenda: None

Bids/Proposals: Borough's Insurance Package

Name of Bidder	Address	Amount of Proposal
Joyce, Jackman & Bell	Scranton PA	\$ 86,721.00 Optional Terrorism \$3,488.00
A. J. Lupas Insurance Agency	Plains PA	\$ 45,871.00* Optional Terrorism \$1,580.00 *Does not include or cover police and public officials liability

1. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Marushock

To accept the proposal for the Borough Insurance Policy for the Period 9/4/03 to 9/4/04 from Joyce, Jackman & Bell at an annual premium of \$86,721.00 and to authorize the down payment as required.

All in favor

Motion carried

2. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To accept the zoning report, landfill inspector’s reports and the minutes of the July 28, 2003 and August 14, 2003 Council Meetings.

All in favor

Motion carried

TREASURER’S REPORTS:

Lenore Dolan, Treasurer, read the treasurer’s reports and the totals of the paid and unpaid monthly bills.

3. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Chrzan

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

Unpaid bills: “Items for Payment”	\$50,553.03
Paid bills: (8/1/03 - 8/22/03)	238,864.25
Grand total	\$289,417.28
Keystone Landfill Credit (08/22/03)	\$9,096.12
Home Program August 2003 Account Closed	-0-
Revenue Report	\$93,678.27

On the question:

Marushock: In regards to the items for payment for the month of Aug.,2003, **I will be voting against the elected officials portion of the Blue Cross/Blue Shield bill, against the solicitor’s fee in the amount of \$6,250.00. I will be abstaining from the Tom Hesser Ford invoice.**

All in favor, Marushock, except as noted

Motion carried

4. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barone

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

On the question:

Marushock: **I will be voting against the \$1,000 per month cost for the borough treasurer, against the \$500 per month fee for the maintenance of the Washington Street Ball Field.**

Barone: If we drop that, who’s going to do this work up the park?

Marushock: I believe the DPW can handle it. *A discussion ensued, both speaking at once.*

All in favor, Marushock, except as noted

Motion carried

5. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barone

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

All in favor

Motion carried

ADMINISTRATOR'S FINANCIAL REPORTS:

6. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Chrzan

To accept the Fund Statement, Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement and Loan Balance for the month of July, 2003.

General Fund Checking Account	\$654,425.61
General Fund Petty Cash	200.00
Payroll Checking Account	6,868.07
Tax Escrow Account	1,786.40
Civic Center Account	250.00
Civic Center Petty Cash	250.00
FNCB Escrow Acct. Throop vs. Gould	201,670.08
Sunny Day Fund CD's	2,284,841.33
Home Program State Grant	1,939.28
Civic Center After School Program	500.00
South Valley Ave. Grant	19,275.17
Warsaw Playground	28,369.11
Liquid Fuels Account	134,626.81
Fund Statement Grand Total:	\$3,335,001.86
(Interest Free) LOAN Balance: Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Inc. (Payment in the amount of \$262,500.00 will be paid in October 2003.)	Balance \$1,662,500.00
FNCB - LOAN	\$1,550,000.00

All in favor

Motion carried

7. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Marushock

To ratify the purchase of Sunny Day Fund CD #50262 Account #51-301006-3 on 08/05/03 in the amount of \$1,337,021.08 at the FNCB for 12 months at a rate of 1.65%. (This represents Sunny Day Fund CD #9001601757, \$133,528.08, that matured on 7/30/03 at Penn Star and Sunny Day Fund CD # 51-102186-4, \$1,203,493.00, that matured on 08/05/03 at FNCB.) (First Liberty rate 1.45%, Penn Star Rate 1.30%)

All in favor

Motion carried

8. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To authorize \$7,259.00 payment to SWIF toward the workers' compensation policy.

On the question:

Barnick: When did this start?

(Aug. 6, 2003. The down payment was made and this is the monthly premium.)

All in favor

Motion carried

9. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barone

To accept the one year contract from Michael Cummings, Pennsylvania Municipal Pension Services (PMPS), for the administration of the Throop Non-Uniform Pension Fund. The annual cost is \$3,250.00 to be paid quarterly from the assets of the pension fund. To authorize the last quarterly payment in the amount of \$833.33.

All in favor

Motion carried

10. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To hire Richard Forbes, Adams Court, Throop, as seasonal temporary help at \$8.00 per hour.

All in favor

Motion carried

Motion #11 Tabled, as follows:

11. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Barone

To purchase 6.33 acres of land from Chorba, Michael E. Etal at price of \$190,000.00:

- 1 remnant .09 acres,
- Easement for storm sewers .31 acre,
- Parcel 1 - 1.43 acres
- Parcel 2 - .88 acres
- Parcel 3 - .88 acres
- Parcel 4 - 1.06 acres
- Parcel 5 - 1.68 acres

Included in these properties are 3 paper streets and 2 alleys:
Hall St. right of way - .54 acres
Oak St. off O'Neill Highway, runs along Tri-County fence - .54 acres
Maple St. - .23 acres
Unnamed Alley - .14 acres
Unnamed Alley - .18 acres
Total 7.96 acres

All in favor

Motion tabled

A long discussion took place and ensued. Council urged that a decision be made with regard to a DPW salt shed and/or garage. Lands of Chorba, Scranton Craftsmen, Rinaldi and the 48.5 acres were discussed.

12. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To build a combination DPW Garage and Salt Shed at an estimated cost of \$400,000.00 provided by the funds that was secured through the loan from the First National Community Bank (FNCB) on the borough's land that was secured from the DEP (48.5 acres) for \$1.00.

Audience Comments:

Dominick Rocco, 110 Sanderson St.: Yeah, I think we ought to go for it. I mean, it's there. Why go and invest \$200,000 somewhere else? You're talking about electric, plumbing or whatever else? You buy this land over here, you buy Rinaldi's, you have to do the same thing.

On the question:

Barone, inaudible. Chrzan: Joe, you're crying that we need a shed. *Menichetti: There's no utilities up there.* Chrzan: So, you put utilities there. *Menichetti: You have to clear the land and you have to build it for \$400,000. Well, what about the other costs?*

Barone: I think it's going to cost a lot more to put those utilities up there and according to Robbie putting all those utilities up there it's going to cost a bundle.

Lukasewicz: You only have to go back a certain distance.

Barone: I don't care. You still have to put the utilities in there. There's nothing up there.

Lukasewicz: The utilities can be put in by the borough. The water lines can be put in by the borough guys.

Barone: I'd sooner see Motion 12 read off first. (Motion 13).

Lukasewicz: It's not that important. If we want to build up there, Joe, we can build up there.

Barone: Is Rinaldi's land a dead issue now?

Lukasewicz: I would assume Rinaldi's land is a dead issue.

Three in favor - Chrzan, Barnick, Lukasewicz

Four against - Marushock, Menichetti, Barone, Mellody Motion failed*

*Motion #17, To allow Joe Barone to change his vote on Motion #12, passed. Therefore, Motion #12 passed, as follows:

Four in favor - Chrzan, Barnick, Lukasewicz, Barone

Three against - Marushock, Menichetti, Mellody

Motion carried

A discussion took place and ensued with regard to the 48 acres.

13. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Chrzan

To withdraw the motion to purchase land from Rinaldi.

Six in favor - Chrzan, Barnick, Lukasewicz, Marushock, Menichetti, Mellody
One against - Barone
Motion carried

Lack of Second on Motion #14

14. Motion by Menichetti

Seconded by

To reimburse James Mellody Jr. for Blue Cross coverage as per letter dated July 22, 2003.

15. Motion by Marushock

Seconded by Barone

To advertise for bid the "Street Paving Project 2003". The bids will be opened at the Special Monthly Meeting on September 11, 2003.

All in favor

Motion carried

16. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Marushock

To send a letter to the Throop Booster Club requesting the status of the restrooms and expansion of the concession stand at the Throop Little League Complex. (Throop Borough Council gave two (2) checks in the amount of \$10,000 each, total of \$20,000, in March, 2001. One check for \$10,000 was for the expansion/new concession stand to be erected to cover all three fields and the other \$10,000 check was for the construction of new restrooms, to get rid of those already in existence and not functioning, build something suitable for the area and hook into the sewer system on the road.) Throop Borough Council is requesting an accounting for the \$20,000. dedicated for these projects.

On the question:

Barnick: *Inaudible, discussed speaking to the contractor who told him everything was confused because there was nobody that knew what was going on. He was mainly concerned with getting restrooms down there that are hooked to legal sewers, that was what the money was for and the contractor said that was not included.*

Marushock: Do you have a copy of the original motion where the money was rewarded, Mr. Barnick?

Barnick: No, I don't, but I'm just saying we need to get restrooms with legal sewers down there, okay? Legal sewers.

Lukasewicz: Do you want to include in the motion to make sure that the money is expended as per

council's wishes, that we allocated them the money, and properly hooked up to the sewer system? That was our main concern. *(No response was heard.)*

Barnick: That was the biggest concern.

Lukasewicz: Just as long as it's done properly, that was our only concern when we gave the money. To make it more healthy for everybody down there. *The tape was changed here.*

Marushock: Because this is over two years now.

Five in favor - Barnick, Lukasewicz, Marushock, Menichetti, Mellody
Two abstain - Chrzan, Barone Motion carried

A discussion ensued and took place again with regard to the 48.5 acres with respect to the DPW garage and/or salt shed.

17. Motion by Chrzan Seconded by Lukasewicz

To allow Joe Barone to change his vote on Motion #12

Audience Comments:

Dominick Rocco, 110 Sanderson St. - I'm just glad he changed his mind. It's time to do something.

On the question:

Barone: I was still against this but the way it's looking now we're not going to get any land. *Few speaking at once.*

Four in favor - Chrzan, Barnick, Lukasewicz, Barone
Three against - Marushock, Menichetti, Mellody Motion carried

18. Motion by Lukasewicz Seconded by Chrzan

To have the Borough Engineer, Fred Spott & Assoc., attend a Special Work Session on Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the entire 48.5 Acres Project to get it started.

There were no audience comments on Motion #18.

Six in favor - Chrzan, Barnick, Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Barone, Mellody
One against - Marushock Motion carried

Councilman Lukasewicz thanked Councilman Barone for bending with regard to the 48.5 acres and wanted to go on record to commend Mr. Barone. He appreciated it and would never forget it because it was for the betterment of Throop.

Audience Comments:

Robert Hegedus, 303 George Street - Addressed council on behalf of Junior's place, in particular, PennDOT recommendations from March 8, 2001, to have the borough enact and enforce parking restrictions, by Ordinance, to maintain the sight distance between Clinton Court and State Route 2007. The zoning hearing, variances previously granted, zoning issues and the idea of widening the existing driveway 8' were all topics of discussion. Hegedus stated, "We can't do anything until the borough starts enforcing the 15' parking ban. So, if you could do that, just make that part of the record tonight." A lengthy discussion ensued and took place.

Council Comments:

Barone discussed a previous motion he thought was passed by council that all department heads attend the monthly meeting. He thought their presence was necessary in case any questions needed to be answered.

Lukasewicz agreed the department heads should be here in case there were concerns by officials or audience members. People in the audience take time out from their day to be here (at the meeting).

The meeting was adjourned.

Elaine Morrell, Administrator/Secretary

Minutes by Christina Sullivan, Asst. Secretary