

**Minutes  
Throop Borough Council  
Monthly Meeting  
Monday, December 30, 2002  
after the 6:30 p.m. Work Session**

**The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**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 - **P**

**Solicitor** - Attorney Louis Cimini - **P**

**Treasurer** - Lenore Dolan - **P**

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

**Announcements:**

Executive Sessions were held on Tues., Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. with the Ambulance Association and for personnel matters and this evening at 6:15 p.m. regarding legal matters.

**“Throop Borough Officials and Employees would like to wish everyone a Healthy, Happy New Year!”**

**Audience Comments on tonight’s agenda:**

**Jack Dolan, 941 S. Valley Ave., Chairman, Planning Agency** - Discussed Planning Agency’s discussion of bids from a company that puts up towers for cell phones, for telephone companies, for anything. They would come in and they would put a street in, they would put the electricity in, whatever it would take to put their building in and it would be at no cost to the borough. And then the borough would be able to get some kind of monthly benefits out of it too, for the rental.

*Lukasewicz: Yeah, Bob is really up on that. Dolan: Yeah, well he works for the one company that puts up towers. Lukasewicz: I remember having a conversation with him, inaudible, a lot of borough revenue, big bucks. Like he said, they’ll put the road right in there for you. Dolan: If you put it back*

a half a mile, they'll put the road in a half a mile. *Lukasewicz: That's right.* Barone: Yeah, but with the plans that's already set in for the 48 acres, are we going to be allowed to do that? *Lukasewicz: You probably can do whatever you want to do there.* Barone: Who? *Lukasewicz: Joe, you're going to generate money from inaudible.* Dolan: You can probably get some kind of rights from them, producers of the power, for the borough towers also. *Lukasewicz: That's right.* Dolan: Put it right in the same place. *Chrzan: That's a good idea, you're right.* *Lukasewicz: There's money to be made. Newton Ransom did it and they made a lot of money. Few speaking at once.*

**Charles Reed, 125 Dimmick St., Throop Police Department** - Yeah, but while you're looking into the revenue are you looking into the effects of *inaudible*. We have a lead contamination, now you want put magnetic fields around us? It's already proven that they cause cancer. *A discussion took place.* Reed: Another thing, once they put those towers up there's no, you can't control how many antennae's they put on those towers. *Lukasewicz: Oh no, you control that ahead of time.* Reed: Oh no, you can't. *Lukasewicz: Oh, yes you can. You can dictate what you want on.....* Reed: I gave Jimmy Mellody a printout that I took off the internet and..... *Lukasewicz: Let Atty. Cimini check into it and.....* Reed: I'm just concerned about the safety and the health of the residents of Throop, *inaudible.*

Elaine: The Mayor was going to do two presentations tonight for the Best Decorated Homes for Christmas and Mr. Leonard Worobey, in the absence of John Pochas, he went through every home in Throop several times to make the choices and the first choice is Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Obelinas on Short Street and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Muto on Marion Circle. The Muto's had a death in the family and Obelinas, maybe it was because of the weather, maybe we can do the presentation next week and I would contact them. But I'd like to thank Mr. Worobey.

Mayor: We have them here (the awards) and I was supposed to do it today but we couldn't and Leonard (Worobey), he filled in on a moment's notice. John Pochas had part of his lung removed so he's been out of commission. He's done this for years and this has been a successful thing for years and years but Leonard was gracious enough to take the reigns and then go around town and pick out two winners for us. Thank you, Leonard.

Morrell: And I wanted everybody to know this evening so they can see the homes. Sometimes we don't know 'till the end of January and the lights are down and we don't get to see them.

1. **Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Marushock**

To accept the zoning report, landfill inspectors reports and the minutes of the November 25<sup>th</sup> and December 12<sup>th</sup> 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. The checkbook balance as of Dec. 30, 2002 is \$ 392,889.32. If all items for payment are approved tonight in the amount of \$84,064.03 the General Fund Balance will be \$305,825.29. If all motions are approved tonight in the amount of \$77,061.14 the balance in the General Fund balance will be \$229,506.79.**

**2. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Barone**

To accept the treasurer's reports as read or posted and to pay the monthly bills against the borough. (Items for payment list # 1 and # 2)

Unpaid bills:"Items for Payment-# 1	\$87,064.03
"Items for Payment-# 2	\$ 5,892.23
Paid bills:	\$95,993.35
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$188,949.61</b>

Keystone Landfill Credit: (As of 12/18/02)	\$5,500.97
Home Program	\$9,646.82
Revenue Report *	\$32,250.73

\* Interest received for the year 2002 from FNCB \$13,217.28 (in the General Acct.)

On the question:

**Marushock: For the items for payment for the month of December, 2002, I will voting against the elected officials portion of the Blue Cross/Blue Shield bill. Against the amount of \$6,250 Scartelli Law Firm, against Elliott, Reihner, Siedzikowski in the amount of \$8,869.32, against Gannett Fleming in the amount of \$20,141.90 and I will be abstaining due to a possible conflict of interest regarding the Tom Hesser Ford bills. That is it for the month of December, 2002.**

**Barnick: I'm against Gannett Fleming's bills, I won't be voting for them. Elliot, Doug Blazey, and that group and also the health insurance for council.**

**All in favor except Barnick, Marushock, as noted**

**Motion carried**

3. **Motion by Lukasewicz** **Seconded by Marushock**

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

On the question:

Barone: Do we need to pay Art (Tetreault) anything for the work he's been doing for the borough? (Referencing the work performed on the Civic Center heating system.)

Marushock: I believe there's an invoice....

Ercoli (C.C. Director): Yeah, there's two. He submitted two bills.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

4. **Motion by Lukasewicz** **Seconded by Barone**

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**ADMINISTRATOR'S FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

5. **Motion by Lukasewicz** **Seconded by Marushock**

To accept the Fund Statement & Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement for November, 2002

General Fund Checking Account	\$525,619.76
General Fund CD's	-0-
General Fund Petty Cash	200.00
Payroll Checking Account	4,612.73
Civic Center Account	250.00
Civic Center Petty Cash	250.00
Sunny Day Fund CD's	2,229,817.93
Home Program State Grant	9,746.82
Community Revitalization (20-192-0947)	-0-
Civic Center After School Program	500.00

South Valley Ave. Grant	61,600.00
Warsaw Playground	28,069.57
Liquid Fuels Account	67,450.62
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$2,928,117.43</b>

On the question:

Barnick: I think there could have been more time, more involvement put into this, *inaudible*, I think you're going to see the costs of the police are going to be very high.

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

**6. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Menichetti**

To adopt Throop Borough's Budget for 2003 in the amount of \$3,438,743.89. The Proposed Budget for 2003 adopted on December 12, 2002 was in the amount of \$3,500,343.89. The difference is \$61,600.00. We received \$61,600.00 from the South Valley Ave. Grant, therefore, the income and expenses on the respective lines were adjusted accordingly.

On the question:

Barnick: Pretty much the same thing as last month, *inaudible*, and I won't be voting for it. A discussion took place. *Marushock, Menichetti, inaudible*.

Barnick: Management? Who's going to run the DPW here in the next few months?

Marushock: Inaudible, take the blame.

Barnick: I ain't taking no blame for it. I'd be managing.

Marushock: It's all of our job, really. It's not one individual. It's all of our responsibility's to try and adjust this. Not just one individual.

Barone: Inaudible, next to Robbie is Chucky (Kroptavich).

Marushock: Can we make Chucky an acting supervisor? *Menichetti, Marushock, both speaking at once*.

Chrzan: According to the Borough Code you make him Chief of Police, the Street Commissioner. Right, Mayor? Same amount of pay.

Marushock: We're going to have to bring that up, then, during a.....

Barone: We're going to Chucky now.

Three in favor - Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Mellody

Against - Chrzan\*, Barnick, Marushock, Barone

**Motion failed**

\* See Motion #6a, Anthony Chrzan changed his vote, as follows:

**Four in favor - Chrzan, Lukasewicz, Menichetti, Mellody**

**Three against - Barnick, Marushock, Chrzan**

**Motion carried**

Morrell: We have four against, three in favor. The borough council has a responsibility to adopt a budget by year end. You have to adopt a budget. We can sit here all night if you want to and I will sit with you. You have a responsibility to adopt a budget before the year end and you have to adver.... It's not an emergency, so you can't advertise for a meeting tomorrow. You have to do it tonight.

Menichetti: We had a meeting. We went over this budget, how many times? Nobody changed anything, so this is the way it is.

Lukasewicz: Where do we want to start?

Morrell: We started with work sessions back in September, October, and I have to tell you, I did the best I could and I almost got no help from any of you.

Marushock: Let's start with taking away the Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the council members.

Barnick: I don't agree, Elaine, because I held a couple of meetings with (regard to) the budget when it first started out. I don't agree at all. And don't inform, or tell us that we have to pass a budget because it doesn't have to be passed. You just can't spend any money past the 1<sup>st</sup> (of the year), period.

Morrell: You have to pass the budget.

Lukasewicz: You can't pay no bills come Monday. *Barnick: Exactly.* Lukasewicz: That's right.

Morrell: It's the Borough Code. You have to pass the budget.

Barnick: It's not a requirement.

Lukasewicz: Come Monday, *inaudible, both speaking at once*, the budget, you tell these people that they're not getting a check at the end of the week. Because I'll tell them I did the best I can do.

Menichetti: They won't, they won't clean the streets.

Lukasewicz: That's right, let the town call the four of you guys to clean the streets. *Marushock, inaudible.* Lukasewicz continued: Or pick up the garbage. These guys are going to work for free? Still, it's no way to vote against it. All this way to vote against it.

Mayor: This is going to be a travesty, that's what it's going to be.

Lukasewicz: And we'll have to declare a state of emergency for the Borough of Throop. *Few speaking at once.* We'll probably have to hire outside services to come in and pick up the garbage because it will be a nuisance to be laying there. *Few speaking at once.* Any other motion doesn't mean nothing right now, we've got to... *Menichetti: It failed, the motion failed.* Lukasewicz: Well, I hope the phone rings off the four of your hooks next week because I intended, maybe I didn't put in as much as I should have but I think it's a little late in the game, boys. *Unidentifiable: You can't deny people their pay, I mean.* Lukasewicz: You can't deny the people their services that they pay taxes for.

**Chrzan: All right, I'll change my vote, I'll vote for it.**

**6a. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Mellody**

To accept Tony Chrzan's vote change on Motion #6.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**Note: Back to Motion #6, vote was changed and shows the motion was carried.**

Lukasewicz: Tony, I really appreciate that.  
Morrell: Thank you, Tony.

**7. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Barone**

To authorize payment to Scranton Craftsmen for Application # 3 (EPA Funding) for the S. Valley Ave. Sanitary Sewer Project in the amount of \$44,226.00 as approved by Frederick C. Spott, Borough Engineer.

On the question:

**Marushock: For a matter of record, I will be abstaining to any of these payment applications that have been applied to the South Valley Avenue Extension part of the sewer that was approved at the last meeting.**

**Morrell: Abstaining from or against?**

**Marushock: Abstaining from them if, and this is an if right now, I don't know if this has been completed yet. At the last meeting which I was absent from, council voted to approve an addition to the South Valley Sewer Project down along what we would say is the Ash Street Extension along Dolan's property, I believe? I will be against it.**

Chrzan: What are you talking about? *Few speaking at once.*

Lukasewicz: The state is paying for that, not us.

Chrzan: That state is doing that, not us.

Lukasewicz: The state will foot the bill.

Barnick: What we have to foot, the over and above.

Menichetti: I thought the state wasn't paying for that.

Barnick: \$25,000.

Lukasewicz: The state's giving us \$25,000 for it.

*Few speaking at once, inaudible.*

**Marushock: Against any money being expended on that area, along side Dolan's property there. That part of the project. That's it.**

Chrzan: Jimmy and me went up to Mellow's office and we got a grant coming in. I don't know what this guy... oh, that's a personal thing.

**Six in favor - Barnick, Lukasewicz, Marushock, except as noted,  
Menichetti, Barone, Mellody**

**One abstain - Chrzan**

**Motion carried**

Barone: You know, one thing I'd like to say is I don't think people should be saying how they're going to vote before the vote comes up.

Chrzan: That's right, Joe, that's right.

Barone: You shouldn't be doing that because you might influence other people. When the vote comes up and it's your turn, you vote the way you want.

**8. Motion by Barone**

**Seconded by Lukasewicz**

To authorize payment to Scranton Craftsmen for Application # 3 (Local Funding) for the South Valley Ave. Sanitary Sewer Project in the amount of \$14,823.00 as approved by Frederick C. Spott, Borough Engineer.

**Six in favor - Barnick, Lukasewicz, Marushock, except as noted  
previously (Motion #7), Menichetti, Barone, Mellody**

**One abstain - Chrzan**

**Motion carried**

**9. Motion by Barone**

**Seconded by Lukasewicz**

To authorize Scranton Craftsmen's Change Order # 2 dated December 23, 2002 regarding the South Valley Ave Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project as authorized by Frederick C. Spott, Borough Engineer. There is no change to the cost.

**Six in favor - Barnick, Lukasewicz, Marushock, Menichetti, Barone, Mellody**

**One abstain - Chrzan**

**Motion carried**

**10. Motion by Marushock**

**Seconded by Lukasewicz**

To authorize Minichi's Change Order # 10 dated December 24, 2002 regarding the Warsaw Storm Sewer project as authorized by Frederick C. Spott, Borough Engineer and Lackawanna County Redevelopment Authority. The Change Order total is \$8,396.45.

On vote:

Barnick: For, but I know Robbie (Robert Kalinoski) had to have some notes on this. I just (had) hoped to take this upon his recommendation too, but there's not much you could do.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**No motion was made for the following:**

**11. Motion by**

**Seconded by**

To authorize payment to Elliott, Reihner and Siedzikowski & Egan (Atty. Doug Blazey) for the sum of \$11,201.01 for the December 19, 2002 invoice.

**No Motion**

**12. Motion by Marushock**

**Seconded by Barone**

To authorize the following zoning refunds:

John J. Monahan - \$78.93

Stanley Laskowski - \$98.97

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**13. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Mellody**

To authorize payment in the amount of \$300.00 to the American Arbitration Association RE: Throop Borough Police Officer's Association Act 111.

On the question:

Barnick: I don't think it should have got this far, no way.

Marushock: Here we are getting ready, we're all complaining. If this, we would have settled this, everything would have been... *few speaking at once, inaudible.*

Chrzan: We had a nice committee and you guys voted us out so there you go.

Lukasewicz: I tend to disagree. I think there was some good proposals made and tossed around and nobody wanted to budge on it and this is where it ended up. *Barnick: I don't agree, inaudible.*

Lukasewicz: There was some fair proposals made.

Marushock: That it had to this far, I agree, but this, inaudible, a year ago..., *inaudible.*

Barnick: This is only the beginning.

Lukasewicz: So you're going to waste \$80,000 here that could have went into the policemen's pockets directly instead of wasting it on arbitration?

Menichetti: Well, we even had a meeting with the insurance and nobody showed.

Lukasewicz: But it was a good effort.

Menichetti: Now, we tried.

**Four in favor - Lukasewicz, Marushock, Menichetti, Mellody**

**Three against - Chrzan, Barnick, Barone**

**Motion carried**

**14. Motion by Chrzan**

**Seconded by Barone**

To authorize payment in the amount of \$441.00 to First Bankcard for the PAL Ski Trip at Montage Mountain.

*On the question, Barnick, inaudible, mentioned his son went on the trip.*

**Six in favor - Chrzan, Lukasewicz, Marushock, Menichetti, Barone, Mellody**

**One abstain - Barnick**

**Motion carried**

**15. Motion by Marushock**

**Seconded by Menichetti**

To accept Ted Warney's resignation as part time maintenance man at the Civic Center, effective December 16, 2002.

On the question:

Barnick: Like I said, many people have quit here before us. What are you doing here? What kind of precedence are you setting? Inaudible, Even you quit once, Daryl, and came back. *Chrzan: Oh, that's a low blow, Jim.* Barnick: I think so, yeah, a couple of years ago.

Menichetti: I never quit. No, I didn't.

Lukasewicz: The only thing, on the question, fair or not fair or whatever, but the place, and now I've been over there, we need some maintenance personnel over there that will respect the *inaudible*, this town and bring it back to the shape it was in a while ago. We need somebody that's going to, *inaudible. Menichetti, inaudible.*

Marushock: In regards to this motion, we're not saying that we're going to bring it out here at a public meeting but the motion is on. I call the question to that motion.

**Four in favor - Lukasewicz, Marushock, Menichetti, Mellody**

**Three against - Chrzan, Barnick, Barone**

**Motion carried**

**16. Motion by Chrzan**

**Seconded by Barone**

To grant permission to Jim Caria and Throop Booster Club Baseball Team to use the Washington Street Park baseball field for the 2003 season. (Mr. Caria will schedule the field as he has done in the past.)

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**17. Motion by Barnick**

**Seconded by Barone**

To adopt Throop Borough Resolution # 27 of 2002, a resolution suspending member contributions to the Throop Police Pension Plan effective January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002.

On the question:

Barnick/Chrzan: *Inaudible, both indicating they never saw this (motion prior to this year).* Morrell: We have to do it every year. It's required. Well, basically that's why I think they do it at the end of the year. In case they had to do contributions, if it had to change in between, but the audit requires that if there were no contributions you have to do a new resolution. *Few speaking, inaudible.*

**All in favor**

**Motion carried\**

**18. Motion by Marushock**

**Seconded by Lukasewicz**

To ratify the Settlement Agreement "Borough of Throop vs. Gould Electronics Inc." dated December 20, 2002 regarding reimbursement of costs in connection with the Marjol Battery Site. As per Section 2a: Payment of Settlement Amount: Gould shall issue a check in the amount of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) payable to the order of "Borough of Throop".

As per Section 2b: Gould shall make an additional payment of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) payable to an escrow account pursuant to the Escrow Agreement. A complete copy is on file in the administrator's office and a copy will be included in the minute book.

On the question:

Barnick: I just want to reiterate, I just hope there's no way that this is going to *steal up* (?) our authority to enforce ordinances and such as the zoning, the nuisance, and any other remedies we have that's under the law to enforce any part of that, remedy, non-remedy, whatever it may be, that's treated (?) down there.

Menichetti: Yeah, *inaudible*, because according to what he said this is not going to affect that and that's the only reason I'm.....

Barnick: Because I don't agree with the wording in the settlement.

Mayor: That wording is....

Barnick: I do not agree with this wording in it. It's not what I originally voted on but I will vote for this provided that it's not going to affect any of our ordinances. I don't know how *inaudible*.

Marushock: I just want to add, maybe you should incorporate in this motion, as suggested by the solicitor, provided by legal counsel. This wasn't the solicitor. By legal counsel.

Mayor: You read this thing, boy, and you read it carefully and it could get *inaudible*, down the road, Attorney Cimini.

Barnick: I just don't feel good about this.

Mayor: I don't either.

Lukasewicz: It appears that we're not giving away any future rights, *inaudible*. It appears that way to me, myself. I'm not a lawyer, but I don't think anyone up here on council would vote to give away any rights now or in the future so I think it's got to be stated for the record, we're doing this with good conscience, taking the advice of our lawyer, *inaudible, few speaking at once*, and we're only lay persons told we're doing the right thing.

**Five in favor - Lukasewicz, Marushock, Menichetti, Barone, Melody**

**One against - Chrzan, Barnick**

**Motion carried**

**19. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Marushock**

To adopt Throop Borough Resolution # 28 a resolution to open the Escrow account at FNCB as per Throop vs. Gould Settlement. The signatures will be the same as all the borough accounts: president, administrator/secretary and treasurer and the vice president signs in the absence of any of the three. Three signatures are required. The terms will be as per the settlement agreement.

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

**Motion carried**

**20. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Barone**

To authorize Art Tetreault, Assistant Zoning Officer, and Jim Barnick to attend the Building Code Enforcement course at Lackawanna College, \$600.00 each plus materials.

**Six in favor - Chrzan, Lukasewicz, Marushock, Menichetti, Barone, Mellody  
One abstain - Barnick**

**Motion carried**

**21. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Menichetti**

To invite Patricia Acker (Engineer brought in by Lackawanna County) and Thomas Hundt (President, Atlantic Environmental Consulting Services) to attend the proposed Marjol meeting, to request them to attend at no charge and to request Gannett Fleming to attend the meeting at no charge.

On the question:

Barone: This no charge for the, we have to pay for Acker to have a guy, right?

Morrell: Well, we're requesting Pat Acker and Tom Hundt to come at no charge and also Gannett Fleming to come at no charge.

Barone: What happens if they say no?

Barnick: Is that who you want there or is that who you need there? Who set this up and what's going on?

Lukasewicz: Isn't this who Susan wanted?

Menichetti: This is the meeting that Gannett Fleming would come and they would bring out all these things that have never been out. I don't know, *inaudible*.

*Lukasewicz inaudible, few speaking at once.*

Morrell: This is where Gannett Fleming would give the presentation of their findings to EPA.

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

**Motion carried**

**22. Motion by Barone**

**Seconded by Lukasewicz**

To authorize payment to Scranton Craftsmen, Inc. in the amount of \$417.50 which represents the retainage from the emergency sewer project at 310 George Street (05/31/02).

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

**Motion #23 failed, as follows:**

**23. Motion by Marushock**

**Seconded by Lukasewicz**

To obtain another appraisal of the 3.5 acres of property owned by Greenview Development, Anthony Rinaldi.

On the question:

Marushock: Do we have an idea of the cost of this appraiser? *Morrell: It was a few hundred dollars for the last one. About \$400.* Barone: You know, we've playing around with this guy long enough. We're going to keep screwing around and he's going to get, *inaudible*, and he's going to say, that's it, you're done. *Marushock: What we're doing, Mr. Barone, is trying to..* Barone: I know what you're trying to do. You're trying to screw the whole works up. The guy gave a perfect appraisal. *Menichetti: But Geddy, he wants \$100,000 for the property. I mean, What does it matter, how many appraisals you have? This is what he wants.* Marushock: Because we have two different appraisals that vary quite a bit in their appraisals. *Menichetti: Yeah, they do but you're going to get a third and they're going to be in the middle. Then what?* Marushock: I believe by hiring one independent, then, let's see where that other one is. *Menichetti: Well, suppose you get one for \$50,000...* Marushock: You've got to make an adjustment then. *Menichetti: But he wants \$100,000 for that.* Barone: I'm going to call him up tomorrow and I'm going to say, look it, just forget about it already. *Marushock: Oh, that's not the answer.* Audience member: He's only charging \$75,000. He's giving \$25,000 back. *Menichetti: Yeah, that's right, it's \$75,000.* Lukasewicz: To me it's down to lots. If you sell lots, they're \$30,000 a lot, *inaudible.* *Menichetti: It's almost four acres of land.* Barnick: Just one thing I want to point out on that appraisal. He does not have preliminary approval for any lot. *Lukasewicz: That's right.* Barnick: He lost that a long time ago. *Marushock: You're right.* Barnick: So I don't know where the appraiser got that from. That approval is long gone. *Few speaking at once.* Marushock: There's a lot that has to be... *Mayor: So, what does that mean, then?* Barnick: It's an undeveloped piece of land, that's what that is over there. One big hunk. *Marushock: He's got to start before the planning.* Lukasewicz: That's right. So we can't compare it to the land that's over in Tiffany Estates, it doesn't have that value. Barnick: That's just one big hunk over there. *Everyone speaking at once, inaudible.* Barone: *Inaudible*, the lands, the homes, and everything else around there, *inaudible.* This guy's taking all that into consideration. The other guy didn't because if he did his appraisal wouldn't have been so low. Vote on it, go ahead. If you lose it.....

**Three in favor - Lukasewicz, Marushock, Mellody**

**Four against - Chrzan, Barnick, Menichetti, Barone**

**Motion failed**

**24. Motion by Chrzan**

**Seconded by Barone**

To accept the letter of retirement (resignation) from Vince Cesari, Jr. from the Throop Police Department after approximately 27 years of service, effective Jan. 1, 2003.

On the question:

Barone: I called this guy a couple of times and boy, he's Johnny on the Spot, *inaudible*. That's all I got to say.

Barnick: I think he did a good job. It is my brother-in-law. I didn't know he was doing it until this afternoon.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**25. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Chrzan**

To advertise that the Throop Borough Council meetings for 2003 will be held, as follows:

a.) Special Work Sessions/Meetings will be held the second Thursday of every month beginning at 6:30 p.m. (beginning with the work session, the meeting will follow).

b.) the end of the month regular monthly meeting will be the last Monday of the month beginning at 7:00.

c.) Work session on the preceding Thursday (of the regular monthly meeting), beginning at 7:00 p.m.

On the question:

Barnick: I just hope we get something done here.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**26. Motion by Chrzan**

**Seconded by Barnick**

To appoint Dick Fuhr as part-time maintenance at the Civic Center at an hourly rate of \$9.29 an hour, effective immediately.

On the question:

Barnick: What are you going to do over here?

Chrzan: Who do you call it will be coming back shortly, you said, right?

Morrell: He should be coming back soon. Let's hope so.

Barnick: But what's soon? *Few speaking at once, inaudible. A discussion took place.*

**Five in favor - Chrzan, Barnick, Lukasewicz, Barone, Mellody**

**Two against - Marushock, Menichetti**

**Motion carried**

**27. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Barnick**

To transfer the following from the 2002 Budget:

\$180,000 from the Road Department

\$ 63,000 from Sanitation

\$243,000 Total

Transfer to the General Government Expenses

Actual Marjol Expense

\$ 16,000 from Emergency Services, \$12,000 into the Police Department  
4,000 to Recreation.

**All in favor, Marushock, except against transferring to Marjol Expense  
Motion carried**

Elaine asked Council what they had decided to do with the Sidewalk Ordinance and if it was just on hold at present. Council request a reminder be put in every few packets so it would not be forgotten and indicated a decision would have to be made.

Gail Ercoli, Civic Center Director, asked council if they discussed the closing of the civic center in the event of bad weather. Lukasewicz said it was up to her. Chrzan said close it if it was real bad. *The tape was changed here.*

**28. Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Marushock**

To allow the Civic Center Director to close the Civic Center in the event of inclement weather (at the discretion of the director).

On the question:

Barone: I think she should use her own discretion. If the weather is getting bad like the storm we had and nobody can get out, then I agree. But if the weather's not that bad...

*Marushock, inaudible.*

**Six in favor - Chrzan, Lukasewicz, Marushock, Menichetti, Barone, Melody**

**One against - Barnick**

**Motion carried**

**Audience Comments:**

**John Stoffey, Bellman Street (PAL Board Member)** - Discussed money allocated by council to the Police Athletic League (PAL).

29. **Motion by Lukasewicz**

**Seconded by Chrzan**

To allocate the 2002 and 2003 budgeted amounts to the Police Athletic League (PAL), in and for PAL to delegate an accounting for it at the end of the year to Throop Borough. (The 2002 budgeted amount will transferred in 2002 and the 2003 budgeted amount will be transferred in 2003.)

**All in favor except Marushock, for  
the 2003 amount only**

**Motion carried**

**Dominick Rocco, 110 Sanderson St.** - Complimented council on the nice meeting and wished it could continue. He then wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**Dave Morrell, George St.** - Asked if Council was going to send someone down to Washington, D.C. for the upcoming meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Elaine Morrell, Administrator/Secretary

Minutes by Christina Sullivan, Asst. Secretary