

**Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Monthly Meeting
Monday, May 31, 2007
following the 6:30 p.m. work session**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

“God Bless Our Troops and the Coalition”

ROLL CALL:

Members of Council:

James Barnick, **Vice President - P**

Ray Jarosh - **P**

Thomas Lukasewicz, **President - P**

Tony Chrzan - **P**

George Marushock - **A**

John Musewicz - **P**

Joseph Barone - **P**

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

Mayor - Stanley Lukowski - **P**

Assistant Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - **A**

Secretary - Christina Sullivan - **P**

Chief Clerk/Treasurer - Elaine Morrell - **P**

*Prior Engagement/Commitment

Announcements:

Thurs., June 14, 2007 - Blood Drive - Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Peckville, 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Executive Sessions - Tuesday, May 29th at 6:30 and this evening at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the DPW Complex.

Official Comments:

Council Vice President Barnick - Proposed no-smoking ban in Pennsylvania in public places; the state should not be regulating smoking and telling owners that pay taxes they can't smoke in their own place. Enough of this communist stuff. Secondly, another slap in the face is for the federal government to compromise the federal minimum wage with the money for Iraq. The democrats took over the Congress and were to stop the funding and get the troops home - not play with a minimum wage and say we got a minimum wage out of this to fund another \$125 billion for Iraqis that are just killing our people.

There were no audience comments on the agenda.

1. Motion by Chrzan

Second by Musewicz

To accept the monthly zoning reports and the minutes of the March 26th , March 29th , April 12th and the April 30th council meetings.

All in favor

Motion carried

Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Reports

2. Motion by Chrzan

Second by Barone

To accept the treasurers' reports as posted and to pay the monthly bills against the borough as posted and/or printed on the agenda..

Unpaid bills: "Items for Payment"	\$63,785.35
Paid bills:	\$90,978.41
General Fund Revenue Report (May)	\$195,729.44
Civic Center Revenue	\$14,408.14

All in favor

Motion carried

3. Motion by Chrzan

Second by Musewicz

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

All in favor except Barnick, abstain on daughter

Motion carried

4. Motion by Chrzan

Second by Musewicz

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

All in favor

Motion carried

5. Motion by Chrzan

Second by Barone

To accept the Fund Statement, Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement and Loan Balance as of **April 30, 2007** as posted and/or printed on the agenda.

Fund Balances	
General Fund Checking Account	\$759,726.63
General Fund Petty Cash	300.00
Payroll Checking Account	12,192.22
Tax Escrow Account	1,877.12
Invest Program	2,010,577.51
Civic Center Account	721.34
Civic Center Petty Cash	300.00
Sunny Day Fund CD's as of 3/14/07	3,641,769.43
Capital Projects Account	344,840.40
Liquid Fuels Account	82,042.69
Turnback Program	120,589.72
Fund Statement Grand Total:	\$6,974,937.06

LOANS	Balance
FNCB - LOAN	\$1,262,675.75
FNCB - TAN	\$2,000,000.00

All in favor

Motion carried

Motion failed:

Motion by Jarosh

Second by Musewicz

To ratify authorization of payment # 8 from the Capital Projects Account to Jerry Ganz, Inc. in the amount of \$29,982.00 for the DPW Garage Project, as per the recommendation of the borough engineer and street commissioner.

On the question:

Barnick: Just so everybody understands, these payments were already made; we're just approving them after the fact but I still will be voting against them even though they're required to be paid, just for the principal of it.

Lukasewicz: I'll be voting to pay item #8. I'm not happy with the way the project has been progressing and the status of some of the work but at this junction in time, it's necessary that we make good on anything that has been approved by the engineer. *A discussion took place.*

Three in favor - Jarosh, Musewicz, Lukasewicz

Three against - Barnick, Chrzan, Barone

Mayor Lukowski against

Tie Vote

Motion failed

Discussion continued. Mr. Barnick requested his vote be allowed to be changed.

6a. Motion by Chrzan

Second by Jarosh

To allow Mr. Barnick to change his vote.

All in favor

Motion carried

Lukasewicz: It's very much justified, I think we're not happy. I voted against many times and at this junction, I think it's in the best interest of the borough that we do pay these payments.

6. Motion by Jarosh

Second by Musewicz

To ratify authorization of payment # 8 from the Capital Projects Account to Jerry Ganz, Inc. in the amount of \$29,982.00 for the DPW Garage Project, as per the recommendation of the borough engineer and street commissioner.

Four in favor - Barnick, Jarosh, Musewicz, Lukasewicz

Two against - Chrzan, Barone

Motion carried

7. Motion by Jarosh

Second by Musewicz

To ratify authorization of payment # 9 from the Capital Projects Account to Jerry Ganz, Inc. in the amount of \$69,654.00 for the DPW Garage Project as per the recommendation of the borough engineer and street commissioner.

On the question:

Barnick: Same comments, I'll make the yes vote but I do not, on principal and what I saw, I'm not voting to pay anything else after this, I'm telling you right now.

Mayor Lukowski: That's your prerogative.
Lukasewicz: I understand and I agree.

Four in favor - Barnick, Jarosh, Musewicz, Barone, Lukasewicz
One against - Chrzan
Motion carried

8. Motion by Chrzan Second by Barone

To ratify the order to purchase 200 recycling containers through the COSTARS Program; 100 for newspaper and 100 for commingled.

All in favor
Motion carried

9. Motion by Chrzan Second by Musewicz

To ratify the payment in the amount of \$18,210.00 to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as per the compliance audit reports of the Throop Borough Pension Plans for the period January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2005 for the nonuniform pension plan.

On the question:

Barnick: This is because they cut us some, right, on the state allocation, whatever it was? Now this is something Shimkus should be working on, making sure we get more money in the pensions. *There were errors in the 2004 and 2005 listing, therefore, the allocation was incorrect.*

All in favor
Motion carried

10. Motion by Chrzan Second by Musewicz

To ratify the purchase of a Sunny Day CD in the amount of \$70,028.01 at FNCB for 15 mos. at a rate of 5.15%. This represents the Sunny Day CD that matured on 5/12/2007 at Penn Star Bank.

All in favor
Motion carried

11. Motion by Chrzan Second by Musewicz

To purchase a Sunny Day CD in the amount of \$55,630.92 at the best rate and term available. This amount represents 10 % of the quarterly host municipality fee.

All in favor
Motion carried

12. Motion by Chrzan

Second by Musewicz

To accept Wayne Williams resignation as a member of Throop Borough Planning Agency effective immediately. The resignation is dated May 1, 2007.

All in favor

Motion carried

13. Motion by Jarosh

Second by Musewicz

To approve payment # 10 from the Capital Projects Account to Jerry Ganz, Inc. in the amount of \$184,281.00 for the DPW Garage Project as per the recommendation of Scott D. Allen, SDA, Borough Consultant.

On the question:

Musewicz: Is this final payment?

Lukasewicz: This is our final anticipated payment right now before down to the nitty-gritty and things are going to have to proceed at a different rate.

Barnick: We are retaining how much?

Lukasewicz: \$317,000. After this we'll still have retainage of \$317,000.

Jarosh: Just so the audience knows, the punch list that the architect came up with, the cost to complete those items, we still have that money in retainage.

Five in favor - Barnick, Jarosh, Musewicz, Barone, Lukasewicz

One against - Chrzan

Motion carried

14. Motion by Chrzan

Second by Musewicz

To approve Scranton Craftsmen Excavating Application for Payment # 1 in the amount of \$248,076.00 for the Eddy Creek Sewer Project, as approved.

All in favor

Motion carried

15. Motion by Chrzan

Second by Musewicz

To donate \$500.00 to the Throop/Olyphant/DicksonCity American Legion Baseball for supplies.

On the question:

Chrzan: Olyphant and Dickson already donated \$500 apiece, we're the only ones that didn't.

Musewicz: It's a Teener League.

Audience Comments:

Dominick Rocco: Thought it was only \$200.

All in favor

Motion carried

Official Comments/Discussion:

Council Vice President Barnick: Did surplus have a sale going on with Durango's? #2 has one and if we could get one, the police were looking for a DARE car. Just wondering, funding must be good.

Mary Ruth Tanner, Civic Center Director: Discussed various problems at Civic Center involving the building and the maintenance of the building, including the gym floor, bleachers, lights, floors and walls, ducts, and game room.

One June 16, 2007 a dance will be held for donations for the troops.

Audience Comments/Discussions:

Joseph Tropiak, Phillips Street: Commented/discussed a grant application for Phillips Street and water problem.

Dominick Rocco, 110 Sanderson Street: Branches falling in the river.

Joseph Gerrity, 616 Edgar Street - Concerns with speeding on Edgar Street; has voiced same complaints in the past.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes by Christina Sullivan
Secretary
Throop Borough