

**Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Monday, January 9th, 2017
Monthly Work Session/Meeting 6:30 p.m.**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

“God Bless Our Troops and the Coalition”

ROLL CALL:

Members of Council:

Rich Kucharki - P
Vince Tanana - P
Thomas Lukasewicz, **President - P**
Charlene Tomasovitch - P
David Repchick, **Vice President - P**
John Musewicz - A
Bob Magliocchi - A
Solicitor - Louis A. Cimini - P
Mayor - Wayne Williams - A
Assistant Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - P
Secretary - Renee O’Malley - P
Chief Clerk/Treasurer - Robin Galli - P

Announcements:

* An executive session was held this evening at 5:45 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

* A representative from Lackawanna County Treasurers Office will sell Dog Licenses at the Throop Municipal Building on Wednesday January 11th, 2017, 10:00 am to 3:30 pm.

Work Session/Meeting Schedule:

- * The January monthly work session/meeting will be held Monday, January 30th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
- * The February mid-month work session/meeting will be held Monday, February 13th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
- * The February monthly work session/meeting will be held Monday, February 27th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

There were no audience comments on tonight’s agenda.

Official Comments:

Tomasovitch: Need to come up with a salary for the Police Department

Repchick: 2 positions and I would like to add a minimum of years. I have been doing some research and this actually may be a little low but should be 2000 and 2500. But that's up to you guys. 2 for Sergeant and 25 for Captain. \$2000.00 more a year for Sergeant and \$2500 for Captain. I would suggest to add to this that you should be there at least 5 years to take the Sergeant's exam and 10 years for Captain.

Kucharski questioned other Boroughs.

Repchick: Some do at least 2 for Sergeant and some at least 5 for Captain. It's for full timers. You can't give it to anybody but someone current in the department. But whatever you guys think.

Kucharski: I don't know about the 10 years. I know we have 1 or 2 that possibly have

Repchick: Not counting Keith we have 2 over 10. The others are 6. I do believe you should have X amount of time before

Kucharski: Well sure

Lukasewicz: Does this have to be done this evening?

Repchick: You should at least do the salary because you are already advertising.

Tomasovitch: It's posted.

Lukasewicz: I don't have a problem with 5 years for both of them. Instead of making it so restrictive

Kucharski: I think 10 is a little much.

Repchick: It's fine with me.

Lukasewicz: You can have a hell of a good young guy come in here and at 5 years have opportunity to make advancements. And the salaries I don't have a problem with.

Repchick: Ok then I would like to make that motion.

Lukasewicz: For the audience: In the police department we are considering the positions of captain and Sergeant. We are anticipating to give them a stipend of \$2000.00 and \$2500.00 and have some requirements of how long they should be a police officer before. This is the first public discussion of this so wondering if any audience comments before we make a motion.

Gerald Burns, 404 Schoolside Dr: Do you already have job descriptions for both?

Repchick: 1 yes and 1 is getting finished up. There has to be a job description to go with them.

Burns questioned what supervisory experience is required in a department of your size?

Repchick: Part of this has to do with 1. We wanted someone in charge on each shift. We have no rank in the department other than the Chief. 2. They are also applying to be accredited department. In order to be accreditation you need to have rank.

Tomasovitch: And it is not going to be just given out it will be tested. Oral test.

Repchick: Civil Service test. They didn't require supervisor experience because this is the only supervisor positions. There isn't any.

Joe Tropiak, Phillips St.: What was the 2000 & 2500? I didn't get that.

Lukasewicz: That would be the stipend for the Sergeant (2000) & the Captain (2500). In addition to their pay once they get the rank. Additional monies for performing the job.

Repchick: They will get extra responsibilities that go with it.

Tropiak questioned their salaries now.

Lukasewicz: Average policeman makes about \$60,000.00

Repchick: That's about right.

Jim Barnick 807 George St.: Questioned the years of experience needed. Just thinking back to the service average is 3 years.

All talking at once.

Repchick: That's a good idea.

Lukasewicz: I don't have a problem with 3 & 3. If someone shows the incentive

Repchick questioned Barnick if would recommend a different amount of captain or just leave them both 3.

Barnick: No because they pretty much fell in the same order.

Repchick: You're right. That's exactly right. We'll do 3 years for both.

Lukasewicz: You promote somebody then you have

Tanana: And you'll keep them.

Lukasewicz questioned Attorney Cimini that according to civil service this can just be done by motion?

Attorney Cimini: Yes

5. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Tomasovitch

The salary for the position of police Sergeant is \$2000.00/year and police Captain is \$2500.00/year and must have a minimum of 3 years as a Throop Full time police officer to test for either position.

Barnick: That's a minimum of not being a part timer right?

Repchick: This is only for full timers. Has to be full time.

Lukasewicz: It's a regular civil service position.

Burns questioned if it is full time in Throop.

Lukasewicz: A full time officer in the Borough of Throop.

Denise Brown, 197 Phillips St: Is that 3 years to be Sergeant and then another 3 years to be Captain?

Lukasewicz: No. Either position has a mandatory 3 years as a Throop full timer.

Brown: well generally if you are a Sergeant you have to get promoted to a Captain.

Lukasewicz: But we are going to fill 2 positions.

Dave Karr, Meade St: Does that mean you will have the chief on one shift, Sergeant on another shift and Captain on another?

Repchick: Yes. That was done by a motion before we even got into this.

Karr: So it has to be done that way.

Repchick: Yes.

All in favor

Motion carried

Lukasewicz: Thank you to the audience for the comments. Very helpful.

Repchick: It was good.

Audience Comments:

Burns: Questioned what was decided on the roads in SchoolSide. We understood that there were to be some decisions tonight.

Lukasewicz: We have been very careful with the understanding of everything internally with the roads and the storm and sanitary sewers to make sure that we don't take something that is going to make a burdyn on the borough at some point in time. We are the furthest along in the process that we have ever been and we started the process with advertising. So we did the advertisement and this is the official exactly what is going to be taken. If you would like to get a copy we can provide one to you. Maybe you can read it and dissect it and if you have concerns please let me know.

Burns: I will be happy to put it on the Schoolside website.

Kucharski: Perfect. Good.

Lukasewicz: I don't want it to be said that we are deterring anything but we want to make sure that things are done properly. Complete.

Burns: We are just concerned that it is premature especially with the construction that is going to occur with phase II with only one road leading in and out of schoolside to the new construction site. We are concerned about the impact

Lukasewicz: I never thought of that. You bring up a good point because there is only one way in. There is no construction entrance.

Kucharski mentioned that he has probably been accessing a lot of it from his property.

Lukasewicz: He has been accessing it from Chorba's property on the bottom.

Kucharski: We certainly agree. I speak for myself, I think it is premature. Mr. Kalinoski brought up some issues just today that there are still some things that are not finished and things that have been done recently have not been done properly.

Burns: The pave cuts that were done over the summer, have not been sealed at all. They are just there and they are ready for leakage and then for deterioration after that. There are new pave cuts being made now on Schoolside as part of the sewer work that he is doing to get ready for phase II.

Lukasewicz: Thank you for your concerns. I only speak for myself, I want to make sure that this is done right before I accept anything.

Karr: Questioned the Rinaldi's possibly being here.

Lukasewicz: We received a letter from Mr. Rinaldi today and they have expressed that they are moving completely forward with the project and we had some discussion and Attorney Cimini had some discussion with their Attorney's and it seems like it's a very positive thing moving forward but there are a lot of zoning approvals that have to be given because he wants to do different things in there but the bottom line is that it is probably a very good thing for Throop because when you have a developer, you have some medical facilities that want to come there and senior housing and multifamily housing. That opportunity may only come around once in a councilman's lifetime. First time we are so close. He expressed in his letter that until it gets too far cart before the horse he wants to make sure that he is in the process of getting all the plans ready to submit and that entrance ways be properly aligned so that if we put the sidewalks in we don't put them in and have an entrance way go 20 feet further one way. Seems like moving forward and seems there has been some pressure from the medical offices that want to come in there to push the developer. Attorney Cimini is going to try to get us a time frame from him of when we can anticipate him coming into zoning.

Karr: When did he first get that property?

Kucharski: Way back. This is the third attempt to develop it.

Karr: I'm not trying to be sarcastic but what's taking so long.

Lukasewicz: I don't know but I will say in this day and age getting someone to even anticipate coming in and develop something like that is.... you are talking big bucks. So whatever you can do to help that process

(?) It's good for Throop

Lukasewicz: Just hope they move faster than slower.

Barnick: As far as Scranton Craftsmen, we all know from experience that the bonds don't work. Insurance companies never pay up and they never back their bonds so I wouldn't hurry to take over any roads or anything until he is actually done. And make sure that when he does start phase II that he doesn't tear up those roads again. He was supposed to provide that playground area grading.

Lukasewicz: He graded it somewhat.

Barnick: He was supposed to provide so much to the borough for equipment.

Lukasewicz: There are supposed to be some monies coming somewhere.

Tomasovitch: 20,000

Barnick: All that should be acquired before you sign anything.

Lukasewicz: Attorney Cimini if you could send a letter checking on the status of that. The last time they were here that was discussed.

Barnick: I remember him changing from new stuff to used stuff to here we will give you 10 grand.

Attorney Cimini: That's what it is.

Barnick: That's what it is now? It keeps going down. It may be 5,000 next time.

Lukasewicz: You know it's been 11 years since we approved to start picking up the garbage and doing all the courtesies. The bus service and everything. We bent over backwards.

Barnick questioned how long that advertisement of taking the roads over good for because that's another couple grand. Isn't it like 30, 60, 90 days or something that it's good for before you have to act on it?

Discussion took place on how long it needs to be advertised.

Barnick: How long do you have to act on it after its advertised because everyone will forget about it.

Attorney Cimini: Nothing written I would say a reasonable time frame.

Barnick: Nothing has been reasonable with him yet. That's what I am trying to say.

Denise Brown: I would like your opinion on Mandatory recycling in Throop.

Lukasewicz: Mandatory recycling? We have recycling.

Tomasovitch added that she thinks you have to have so many people in your town to make it mandatory.

Galli: We have an ordinance.

Brown questioned where the recycling goes when it gets picked up.

Repchick: The recycling center.

Lukasewicz: If it goes with the daily trash then the landfill.

Repchick: It is a good thing to look in to.

Tomasovitch: I think if we had 6000 people or more than you have to recycle.

Lukasewicz: We have an ordinance but I don't know if it is mandatory. Attorney Cimini check the ordinance. We'll find out.

Barnick: Another thing the out of staters bring it in and it's not recycled.

Brown: The less we put in the landfill the better for us.

The meeting is adjourned.

Meeting minutes by Renee O'Malley
Borough Secretary