

Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Monday, April 11th, 2016
Special 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:

Richard Kucharski - P

Mark Mazak - P

Thomas Lukasewicz, **President** - A

Charlene Tomasovitch - P

David Repchick, **Vice President** - P

John Musewicz - P

Bob Magliocchi - P

Solicitor - Louis A. Cimini - P

Mayor - Wayne Williams - P

Assistant Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - P

Secretary - Renee O'Malley - P

Chief Clerk/Treasurer - Robin Galli - P

Announcements:

Work Session/Meeting Schedule:

*There was an Executive meeting held this evening at 6:00 pm for legal & personnel matters.

* The April monthly work session/meeting will be held Mon. April 25th, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

* The May mid month work session/meeting will be held Mon. May 9th, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

* The May monthly work session/meeting will be held Tues. May 31st, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Official Comments:

Magliocchi: Motion to hire a DPW Employee.

Repchick feels should have the same responsibilities that Dave has so that the civic center has extra help to take care of it.

Tomasovitch added that if you hire someone they go on the truck and someone from the truck comes off.

Repchick: point was to have someone cover the civic center.

Kucharski questioned if the part time people now would have first chance at it.

Tomasovitch: No advertised/interviews.

Musewicz feels should get a hold of Robert and see what qualifications are and what he needs. That's what he did last position.

Magliocchi is putting the motion on tonight to hire.

Kucharski asked if can put to have Robert write up the specifications so that we can advertise.

Attorney Cimini: So you want a motion to advertise for the hiring of a full time DPW Employee.

Magliocchi added that he wants to put another motion on for the same to hire a Borough Manager. Nothing gets done.

Tomasovitch added that really need to think about this because

Repchick: I know we discussed it many times and his opinion is that there should be a job description and there should be a direct person responsible for everybody to report to and then to us. If you have a good borough manager that person will save you his salary by what he saves us.

Discussion took place of Borough Manager/Chief Clerk with reporter.

Kucharski: so in other words Rob Kalinoski who is a manager is supposed to report to Robin who is a Union member.

Tomasovitch: that's how it always was. Reason the chief clerk and secretary went union was because years ago the people there weren't liked by the council. Got them back and the only way to secure their jobs was to put them in the union.

Musewicz added that Dickson City hired a consultant firm to help hire a Chief of Police and would like the same done for the Borough Manager process. Relatively inexpensive from what saw in the paper.

Kucharski: Only here about 10 weeks and been an administrator/management for over 35 years, nothing against anybody but the lack of management structure blows my mind. Total lack of organization here. Have to run it like a business and have someone that is in charge of the day to day operation. Tom is trying to run everything and it's not our job as council to do that - we are overseers. The PSAB can probably get a job description, duties, responsibilities and comparable salaries and if can't can probably give us advice where to look. Has to be a professional person. Experience and knowledge, not a political hack.

Mazak added that have the state to use and at times we are all over the place. That's no ones fault and noone is going to lose their jobs. The police and Robert could use help. People may be redirected too.

Magliocchi added that you don't know who to ask a question too.

Mayor Williams: Back to the DPW guy - do we have something written that we have to advertise for the position. Just because Mr. Novak has been working for the borough for almost a year. He does everything the guys ask him. Why don't we just hire him in as a general laborer into the union and as a position opens up you fill it that way - give a chance to move up that way.

Magliocchi: He can put his application in.

Attorney Cimini - typically we advertise.

Mazak agrees with the Mayor. But will have a grievance.

Tomasovitch: he's a great worker but

Mazak: Nothing to say he isn't going to get the job. Hear good things about him.

Talk of CDL requirement and not using it anyway.

Magliocchi: Last one is would like to have a motion put on to have the engineer get specs together to put out for bid to do the sewer projects on Dunmore St - with the sidewalks, Cypress Street - sewer and sidewalks also, & finish the sidewalks on George St.

Tomasovitch: First of all Dunmore & Cypress are state roads so may have to get the ok from the state.

Repchick: Not for sidewalks you don't.

All talking at once.

Musewicz: will be a costly project.

All talking at once.

Kucharski: Maybe the borough manager can come up with some grants.

All talking at once.

Tape ended.

Talk of sidewalks on the Rinaldi property.

Mazak added that if start the engineering on the sidewalks can be in place for next year. A lot of engineering to do that. Could be 2 years down the road. Get it started now.

Musewicz is ok with it being a part of a 5 year plan.

Kucharski: Civic center - Would like to see the air vents, ducts & pipes in there be cleaned. Would like it done once/year.

Magliocchi - there are companies that can come in and do it.

Musewicz says include it in project.

Repchick suggested putting a motion on and getting someone in to do it.

Kucharski: motion to include the cleaning of the heating vents and all the pipes, etc. with the work that is being proposed at the civic center.

Tomasovitch: Questioned when getting someone in for the church.

Attorney Cimini: last meeting letter in packet from ED Pons that he can't do it but recommended 3 architects names who can come into the Church.

Mazak asked that Robin and Renee take care of it.

Dave Magliocchi, Simpson St.: Why don't you sell it.

Tomasovitch added that Mr. Tropiak offered to buy it.

Magliocchi maybe if did sell him the Church can have an easement agreement that we can use the parking lot and we wouldn't have a problem with parking.

Mazak asked Frank Galli about his idea that he told him about what to do with the little league/booster club stand.

Galli: each put \$2500-\$3000 in a fund and then each would share at the end. Galli asked if field will be used soon.

Magliocchi stated that about a month. He spoke to Robert and he want the grass germinated so the kids don't rip up the grass with their spikes.

3. Motion by Magliocchi

Seconded by Mazak

To do sidewalks at the Little League field from the handicapped parking lot to the old concession stand now and to do the concrete around the old concession stand between the end of the season and before the start of fall ball.

On the question:

Musewicz: Can we include in the motion that it be done at the end of the summer season before fall ball season. There is a 2 month period that it can be done. Late July into August.

Magliocchi believes should be done now because there is no handicapped accessibility to the stand.

Musewicz said it is little leagues busiest time of year and they make money on the stand. No problem doing the sidewalk from the bleachers to the stand.

Magliocchi can wait on the concrete around the stand but wants the sidewalk done.

Discussion took place on audience comments on the motions or the added motions during the work session.

Repchick asked for comments.

Denise Brown, 197 Phillips St.: Purchased home in 2004 and pretty much attended every meeting from 2004-2007. The discussion of the borough manager has me concerned. Discussed in 2007-2009.

There was a whole ugly mess here with council. It sounds like a situation that you're disorganized so why are you going to spend more money to see if you can find somebody else.

Repchick It would be someone who can come in and do things and look into. Borough is trying to act in the best for those who agree and disagree the best for the municipality. How Rich put it - what we are looking into & noone has made a decision - you are talking about someone running a \$6 million business. That's what needs to be done. A person for chain of command/structure - our structure is all over the place.

Brown: Questioned if there is an organizational chart.

No.

Repchick: There needs to be that direction to do what needs to be done, to enforce what needs to be done, to look into for the best cost savings for the municipality. That is a the purpose of it.

Kucharski: You talk about disorganization and that is the issue. We need organization and structure and we need an organizational chart. Need someone who is in charge of the day to day operations.

Brown: Asked what happened to the idea of having a borough manager.

Repchick brought it up and Jimmy did too.

All talking at once.

Jim Barnick, 203 Adams Ct: Had a borough manager. That failed. Elaine did the best job. She was the boss and told

Tomasovitch: She ran everybody. Did she or did she not?

Barnick: Yes. Pretty much. We never needed a borough manager when she was here. Spoke of old borough manager, supposed to be inventory list, tracking list of everything we had here. Nothing worked. They put her in the union to protect her. It worked well with her.

Musewicz spoke of an old manager.

Barnick: About the Scranton Craftsmen thing - There is years back where is was not authorized to dump anymore of that concrete. Should be something in history about it. Was stopped from dumping. Involved DEP, Conservation District. His father is part of the conservation district board. You take a letter of credit from him you may spend the next 10 years in court forcing him to do what he is supposed to do. You need to start at the bottom with the code enforcement. Maybe Robert doesn't want to remember but he was zoning officer and code enforcement officer. He was paid more for that also.

Repchick: I remember he had both titles. He was saying the code enforcement part was not All talking at once.

Attorney Cimini: He writes the letters, he goes to magistrate hearings - he knows he is the code enforcement

Tomasovitch: He doesn't do it for everybody

Mazak: So you are saying that it is Bob's job to be up there.

Barnick: with the help of an engineer. Especially with the subdivision and land development Ordinance. An engineer is supposed to advise on anything as far as erosion and sedimentation and all that.

Mazak questioned Barnick if he has seen phase II.

Barnick replied no.

Mazak told him to go and take a look

Barnick: He is going to do it until you let him get away with it. Nothing against the schoolside people but you stop the garbage pick up and you stop the snow plowing. You will force him to do those because we didn't take over the roads. That letter of credit won't do it.

Barnick questioned if there was a church motion.

Tomasovitch: We said that the girls would call people to come in to get

Mazak: we aren't going to hire anyone, we need names.

Barnick: That's going to be the great white elephant there. Sell it to Mr. Tropiak and cut your losses. Don't put money into this place yet. Develop this place into a nice borough building like Dickson has. Combine with the police department over there and make all of this a parking lot. The church isn't going to get you anywhere but trouble - especially with the house next door. It's a well built church but your wasting a lot of money. Why not start new. You will need to meet every code. Sprinklers, handicapped, elevator. At least on this side you have land. Heated it for over 2 years. All it is doing is deteriorating. All the time the DPW is taking care of it.

All talking at once.

Tomasovitch questioned if could just sell it to Mr. Tropiak.

Has to go out for bid.

Kucharski talked about land for sale on Dunmore St.

Went back to speaking of motion and if John's should be added.

Repchick feels John's should be added.

Barnick: With the planning and enforcement - early 90's had a planning commission they had authority to do whatever they had to do and hire whoever they had to hire. That was abolished when someone wanted a landfill here. So they went to a planning agency which was an advisory to the council.

Magliocchi: add on whatever we have to do to put a motion on to start the process of selling the Church.

Mazak let's stick to the sidewalks first. We have a motion on the floor for the sidewalks.

Frank Galli, 609 Kossuth St: Borough Manager - a lot of talk about it. Borough Manager comes in and makes decisions. You people have the bottom line of what goes on - discipline and everything else. The borough manager can make any decision. Are you members of council going to go with the decision they make. That's been the problem since day 1.

Repchick: That's partially true

Galli: We have too many people up here that are going to say no and do this and that. You're saying you have problems in every department. You have problems all the time and all through the years. My question is what is the job description going to be. Did you talk to the Union about it.

Repchick: We don't have one yet. We don't have to talk to the Union about it.

Galli: Any jobs taken away from Union people

Repchick: We aren't taking any jobs from people - It's a management position

Galli and Repchick talking at once.

Tomasovitch added that has to listen he is a constituent of Throop

Repchick - I don't have to listen

Galli: You listened to everybody else you are going to listen to me.

Repchick: Go ahead

Galli: You have to check with the Union because if you are taking work from people in the union what are you going to pay this Borough manger to do?

Repchick: we aren't taking any work from anybody that is here.

Galli: So what are you going to have the Borough Manager do?

Repchick: We have to come up with a job description to decide what they will do. We aren't at that point of hiring someone yet.

Mazak added that hasn't been a motion put on yet and when it does it needs a second and a vote. Not sure if it will even pass.

Galli: So we are going to put a motion in place that we don't know what we have for a job description.

Repchick/Mazak: We didn't say that.

Kucharski: Recommends what Musewicz spoke of - Dickson had a consulting firm come in to hire a police Chief and perhaps we should do that with respect to the Borough Manager. PA Assoc. Of Boroughs perhaps could be a resource to us to come up with a job description, duties, responsibilities, qualifications. At the point of crawling no where near walking. Feels should explore based on his 35 years of management. Some of your issues with respect to the Union are issues that our solicitor is going to have to look into if we get to that point. Maybe never will.

Galli: Thank you.

Robin Galli questioned if going to add into the motion to do it during the off season.

Magliocchi: Would prefer to do the sidewalks for handicapped accessibility to the stand and the other stuff if they want to hold off on I am ok with that. 2-3 day project from that one section over.

Mazak feels should talk to Robert and see what he wants.

Magliocchi: That's what happens every meeting and why nothing gets done.

Dave Magliocchi, Simpson St: It takes a day for cement to dry.

Repchick: Dave you're not up to speak. Please. Wait until the motion is done and you can speak if you'd like.

Dave Magliocchi: It's like a circus in here.

Repchick apologized to Frank Galli.

Tomasovitch: What do we want the motion to read? Thinks needs to do the sidewalks and ask Robert when he wants to do them.

Musewicz: and when his staff is available.

Dave Magliocchi questioned why everything goes to Robert in this Borough.

Tomasovitch because he is doing the work.

Magliocchi then we need to start having Robert here the entire meeting. This happens every meeting. So we can finally get something done. Nothing is getting done. Getting sick of it.

Musewicz: Pass the motion pending Roberts review.

Magliocchi: Its up to Robert anyway so don't even think the motion matters.

Musewicz: won't do it without a motion.

Kucharski: put the handicapped sidewalk in now and do the other later. Let's put that the motion.

All talking at once.

Magliocchi: Motion that they put the sidewalk in from the handicap parking lot to the stand so these people can access it.

Kucharski and the rest of it will be done after the season.

Robing Galli: Bob made the motion and Char seconded it. Are they still good with it?

Tomasovitch: No I'm not seconding it.

Mazak will second it.

5 in favor, Tomasovitch against

Motion carried

Repchick stated that he officially apologized to Frank.

Jim Barnick questioned if there was audience comments on that one?

Repchick there was audience comments on all of them.

All talking at once.

Jim Barnick, Adams Ct.: Last year when you were doing the park I had suggested taking the money and paving the whole parking lot.

Repchick: Yes you did.

Barnick: There's the \$150,000.00 to pave the parking lot. Get rid of the Church and make it beautiful. Put the sidewalks in.

All talking at once.

Barnick: Planning agency is an advisory. The planning commission is an authority.

Kucharski: So they are advisory.

Magliocchi/Cimini: They make their own motions.

Barnick: They make their own motions but you have the final say in a development.

Musewicz: These issues all center around the water problem.

Mazak: So we are going to give Bob the right, anytime he goes up there and feels he needs the engineer he can call him.

Repchick: That's what you asked for right John.

Mazak doesn't have a problem because something has to be done. Thinks next week when they meet - Isn't the project going to be shut back down.

Attorney Cimini: It is shut down. The letter from the lackawanna county shut it down..erosion and sedimentation not having a plan. That may not be rectified Wednesday.

All in favor

Motion carried

7. Motion by Mazak

Seconded by Kucharski

To authorize Attorney Cimini to review and give recommendations on updating the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance in conjunction with the Borough Engineer, Street Commissioner & Zoning Officer.

All in favor

Motion carried

8. Motion by Magliocchi

Seconded by Kucharski

To review the quotes received for the Washington St Park Ballfield and to award the project to the lowest and most responsible pending favorable review.

Audience Comment:

Leonard Petroliaj, Sanderson St.: Feels NC should get it and it should be done the right way with sod. Magliocchi added that they also did the little league and did a good job.

William Shevchick, Harriet St.: He's right. They gave the 2 bids. When you do the cheap bid you are taking 1/3 of first base out, 1/3 of third base out an the mound out which comes to 1/2 of the field. You're taking out 1/2 anyway with the lower bid for an extra \$3000.00 better half replacing the whole infield.

All talking at once.

Jim Barnick: limitations changed so under the \$19,400.00

Tomasovitch can't make the motion. Her son works for NC.

5 in favor, Tomasovitch abstained due to son working for NC Outdoors Motion carried

9. Motion by Tomasovitch Seconded by Kucharski

To allow the booster club to use the trailer for the Booster Club Cow Flop Blowout.

5 in favor, Magliocchi abstained Motion carried

Tape Ended

10. Motion by Magliocchi Seconded by Mazak

To accept the bid from NewEgg for 2 servers for the Police Department at a cost of \$1740.00

All in favor Motion carried

11. Motion by Magliocchi Seconded by Tomasovitch

To purchase a LAMAR radar recorder for the police department at a cost of approximately \$4500.00.

All in favor Motion carried

12. Motion by Magliocchi Seconded by Kucharski

To purchase the front and back door cameras for the Police Department at a cost of \$800.00.

All in favor Motion carried

All talking at once.

Barnick: Engineering alone, don't forget you will want clean outs in every sewer.

Magliocchi: South Valley was a 1.1 million dollar project. So roughly looking 1.5 million a street.

Have to realize that they are the main streets through our town.

Barnick: And you're going to do that on top of Oleckna?

Mazak: Oleckna's next year. This is down the road.

Barnick: The engineer has to be involved with Oleckna. Whose going to watch his progress through all that time to develop this. It's a great idea. But.

Magliocchi: No sidewalks have been done. So we talk about getting sidewalks done. Would like to start doing some. Even if do one - Dunmore Street for now. Get that going

Musewicz: we're doing one

Tomasovitch: Oleckna we're doing.

Magliocchi: Next year you're doing one.

Tomasovitch: We don't have the money to do it this year. It's not budgeted.

Musewicz: It's not going to happen this year.

Magliocchi: It's not budgeted but we have the money. If that sidewalk is able to go in this year I don't care if it's in the budget or not I would vote for it.

Mazak: It's not going in this year. Never. I can see it next year and what you want the next year after.

All talking.

Barnick why don't you have the engineer give you a cost estimate on how much it would cost to design.

Mazak: Yes that is what he wants. A cost estimate.

Repchick: That's what he was looking for.

**4 in favor, Tomasovitch against and
Musewicz would like to get Oleckna St.
done first - so against**

Motion Carried

17. Motion by Kucharski

Seconded Mazak

To get quotes for cleaning the air ducts and piping at the Civic Center.

All in favor

Motion carried

Discussion on who will get the quotes.

Repchick: Mary Ruth

Magliocchi: She isn't going to know who to call.

Tomasovitch: Ask Robert.

Magliocchi: We have to get someone responsible to get it done because we aren't getting far with the civic center.

Tomasovitch: Well it's either Robert or Mary Ruth.

Repchick: Mary Ruth and if she needs any advice go to Robert or whoever she has to go too.

Audience Comments:

Joe Tropiak, Phillips St.: Spoke of the church and can get support from the Historical society. Organizations that will help with what to do to make it useful. On housing. You need housing in town. On way to tear down rectory and want to put housing all the way to the end. 2 properties next to it that you don't even know about it. Should be working simultaneously in case if they sell. If you buy 1 then there is 2 left.

Repchick - We are stuck on the third one over because the bank

Magliocchi: He's right if we buy the one for \$80,000.00 and we can't get the next 2 we just threw another \$80,000.00 away.

Tropiak: I'm for housing. You have to get them all.

Tropiak: You talked about Fair Market value. Did you buy the 2 for fair market value \$125,000?

Musewicz: Thinks the Diocese gave us a break.

Tropiak still believes the church should stay there and be representative of this town. It can be used.

Magliocchi asked him if he bought back the church what would he use it for?

Tropiak: First of all my offer was to pay the 125 to get everything and now not getting everything. I was going to take it all but your plan is to go with housing and you need the rectory space plus the next place and the next

Magliocchi: If we are considering selling the church and he is willing to take over the rectory than we won't have to pay to rip down the rectory either.

Tropiak: But your goal is to have enough space for housing.

Tomasovitch: We can't get the house next to it. I don't think will be able to do housing without that. Not paying that price for that house.

Tropiak asked where can put the housing.

Tomasovitch has to look around.

Tropiak you are saying the rectory isn't in good shape.

All talking at once.

Joe Tomasovitch, Sanderson St.: New Contract started on March 24th. We are being told we can't do this and not going to be done that way. The contract should be done. We are left in the dark and don't think we should be.

Attorney Cimini: There was a motion last meeting to approve the changes to the contract so the contract has been approved. What you're being told may be something different but the contract is approved. There may be some issues that have to be worked out within the contract but we are telling you.

Kucharski: Should go to the union and

Tomasovitch: Have been and not getting answers there either. More than happy with my job but not fair being left in the dark.

Repchick: Not sure why you should be in the dark. You are answered on this end. So you know.

Len Petroliaj, 230 Sanderson St.: Questioned why Bob Lokuta and Robert aren't here every meeting. Was in a council in Harrisburg and Peckville and always there was a street commissioner and zoning officer. Chief of police too - but that's up to you. They sat the whole meeting.

Magliocchi agrees with him 100%.

Petroliaj questioned what doing to save money out of that \$4 million every year for the people of Throop. A lot of spending. Almost \$100,000.00 spent today. Budgeted or added on.

Repchick replied budgeted.

Mazak: The sunny day fund we talked about putting 30% in but we are only putting 10% in.

Petroliaj: What if that goes away. In the 80's was part of the don't do it. Now it is here. What if it goes away. What happens to the seniors and guys that can't survive. Where's the president? Is he politicking or a personal day.

Attorney Cimini: As long as I've been here I know him to miss maybe this is the second meeting in 15 years.

Tomasovitch added that knows last year he took off to go to Notariani's party.

Mazak: Personally think we should be putting more away.

Petroliaj: If we can't live on 5 million a year there is a problem.

Repchick: Agrees with him. If you look at the budget closely there are things not planned like sewer project - the last one was over \$1 million. Feels same way. Were going to put more in sunnyday fund but there was a reduction in the amount coming from the landfill at the moment.

Petroliaj: You're talking about hiring a borough manager, paying a street commissioner almost 60.

What are you going to pay the manager - 100?

Repchick - No

Mazak - they get about 80.

Attorney Cimini - if you look at classifieds now a borough manager for a decent borough is in the range of 80 to 125.

Petroliaj: Anyway its on the record. Just want to know where Robbie, Bobby and the chief - its up to you.

Kucharski: Bob Lokuta is at training. But I agree with you.

Magliocchi: I agree. 90% of the stuff has to be asked by somebody if we keep him here every meeting we will have an answer that meeting, move forward and be done with it.

Petroliaj: No disrespect but you are paying enough money you should be able to sit here for an hour or two.

Repchick: I agree too.

The meeting was adjourned.

Meeting Minutes by Renee O'Malley
Borough Secretary