

**Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Special Monthly Meeting
for General Purposes
Thursday, January 9, 2003
following the 6:30 p.m. Work Session**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Members Of Council:

Anthony Chrzan - A

James Barnick - P

Vice President- Thomas Lukasewicz - A

President-James Mellody Jr. - P

George Marushock - A

Daryl Menichetti - P

Joseph Barone - P

Mayor - Stanley Lukowski - P

Solicitor - Attorney Louis Cimini - P

Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - A

Administrator/Secretary - Elaine Morrell - P

Mayor's Presentation:

Vincent Cesari, Jr. for 27 years of invaluable service as a Police Officer.

Mayor's Annual Presentations:

**Best Decorated Homes - Christmas, 2002
Karen & Ralph Obelinas & Family - 510 Short St.
Kathy & Ken Muto & Family - 10 Marion Circle**

Congratulations to the Obelinas and Muto Families and thank you to Leonard Worobey for his time and effort in reviewing all the homes in Throop.

Susan Shortz, 909 Franko Street - Relating to the Marjol Battery Site, discussed upcoming Citizens Briefing on the Ombudsman in Washington, D.C. on Tues., Jan. 14, 2003. Last year, the Senate unanimously passed a bill to restore the program back to what it was and now that the Senate is back in session it's supposed to be reintroduced. People from all over the United States would be speaking, including Robert Martin, former ombudsman, and Susan would speak on behalf of Throop.

Dave Morrell, 315 George Street - Discussed the borough lobbying for funds for a DPW garage, salt shed, or whatever was needed while in Washington, D.C. for the Citizens Briefing on Jan 14.

1. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Barone

To re-appoint:

Jerry Barone, Fire Marshal

Maurice Menichetti, Assistant Fire Marshal

Ed Bocan, Assistant Fire Marshal

All in favor

Motion carried

Mayor Lukowski swore in the fire marshal and assistants.

2. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Menichetti

To amend the following motion adopting Throop Borough Resolution #28 of 2002. The signature will be Ellen Juseck, Senior Customer Service Officer, First National Community Bank as per the terms of the settlement agreement for the Escrow Account as per the Throop vs. Gould Settlement.

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.

All in favor

Motion carried

3. Motion by Menichetti

Seconded by Barone

To automatically purchase a Sunny Day Fund CD, quarterly, in the amount of 10% of every Quarterly Host Municipality Benefit Fee Check from Keystone Sanitary Landfill, at the best rate available.

On the question:

Barnick: We don't have a check yet, do we?

Morrell: Explained the motion would be ratified and there was never an approval to do it automatically.

Barnick: Just add to the motion just to do it automatically because it has to go in by Ordinance and the only way to repeal that Ordinance, ever, is by a majority of five.

All in favor

Motion carried

4. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Barnick

To authorize payment to Scranton Craftsmen for Application # 4 (EPA Funding) for the South Valley Ave. Sanitary Sewer Project in the amount of \$48,780.00 as approved by Frederick C. Spott, Borough Engineer.

All in favor

Motion carried

5. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Barone

To authorize payment to Scranton Craftsmen for Application # 4 (Local Funding) for the South Valley Ave. Sanitary Sewer Project in the amount of \$30,330.00 as approved by Frederick C. Spott, Borough Engineer.

On the question:

Barnick: Remember Hart or bringing up about that they used some pavement over at Mr. Dolan's house or they had to re-pave? It should have been explained to her is that was temporary restoration that was in there.

Menichetti: No, I said that they had that left over. They could do what they want.

Barnick: No, I'm saying you were saying they came back with more - well, the original stuff was temporary restoration. They didn't understand that. And the other one is the permanent restoration. Then the top coat goes on there.

All in favor

Motion carried

Motion #6 was tabled, as follows:

6. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Barone

To approve application for Payment # 5 for Minichi, Inc., Warsaw Project, \$24,784.14 from the CDBG Grant as approved by Frederick C. Spott, Borough Engineer, and Lackawanna County Redevelopment Authority.

On the question:

Barone: Is that all finished up there?

Barnick: I've got to check that. *He questioned if Spott signed and was it the final payment.* It seems like there's an awful lot of work that's got to be done up there yet. I'd like to table that until the next meeting just to get it verified.

Morrell explained the county doesn't wait for approval (from council).

Barnick: Still, if we don't agree with it we have a right to go back to the county and say we didn't agree with paying them.

Menichetti: Well, if they don't need our approval why is this done?

Morrell explained that council wanted it on.

All in favor

Motion tabled

7. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Mellody

To advertise for part time temporary DPW help at a rate of \$9.00 per hour, CDL preferred but not required, maximum hours of 30 per week.

Barnick: I'd like to see Throop residents preferred. I think it's important.

Mayor: You can't put that in there, though.

A short discussion took place.

All in favor

Motion carried

8. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Barone

To obtain appraisals for the damage on the Ford F350 from a Ford dealer and Reid's Garage.

On the question:

Barnick: What does the insurance require? Two, three?

Morrell indicated when she called the insurance company she had asked if the borough used a specific company and she told her we did not. The insurance company told Elaine if we used one company we would need the one appraisal and if not, get two appraisals.

All in favor

Motion carried

9. Motion by Barnick **Seconded by Menichetti**

To send a letter to Representative Gaynor Cawley requesting funds for the purchase of land for a DPW salt shed and garage and defibulator.

All in favor

Motion carried

10. Motion by Menichetti **Seconded by Barone**

To apply for a child care grant for the Civic Center.

On the question:

Barone: What is that?

Morrell: Gail had talked about starting a Day Care Program over there. If you start a new program or add more children to your existing program, you can apply for a Child Care Grant.

Barnick: I just think it's too early to start anything new with that. They need to get their system in order as it is over there.

Three in favor - Menichetti, Barone, Mellody
One against - Barnick

Motion carried

11. Motion by Barone **Seconded by Barnick**

To authorize Charles Kroptavich to assume Road Supervisor duties temporarily at an additional rate of \$3.00 per hour based on a 40 hour work week, effective immediately, Monday. Any overtime or double time will be calculated as per his normal rate. This is in agreement, as per the letter received by the Teamsters Local #229.

Three in favor - Barnick, Menichetti, Barone
One against - Mellody

Motion carried

12. Motion by Barnick **Seconded by Barone**

To request a grant from Governor Rendell in the amount of \$75,000 for the cost of a DPW Garage and Salt Shed.

All in favor

Motion carried

13. Motion by Barnick **Seconded by Menichetti**

To authorize travel expenses for the Citizens Briefing in Washington, D.C. on Tues., Jan. 14, 2003.

All in favor

Motion carried

Council Comments:

Barone discussed the possibility of the DPW workers getting hurt because of the icy conditions, Barnick thought residents should have some compassion when they place their garbage at curbside, to try to make it as easy as possible for pickup. He complimented the DPW on the job they've done and do with the roads and discussed some streets that need patching, Simpson, Oleckna, and Pancoast Street. He discussed the "take back" of George Street. The borough is paying for permits, plowing, salting and taking care of everything on the street and then he shortly discussed the Agility Program. PennDOT had asked for a list of discrepancies which should have been done several months ago. He thought the engineer should just get it done and Elaine explained to him the engineer would not do that unless it was directed by council and authorized by motion

Audience Comments:

Dave Morrell, 315 George St - Wanted to know if an opportunity to ask for funding came up in Washington, D.C. if it would be okay with council.

Larry Hartshorn, 125 Pancoast St. - Mentioned he went around down the Boulevard with his own plow truck and almost hit a lady coming down over the hill on Oleckna Street because the sidewalks weren't done. He asked if the storm sewers could be opened up. He had opened them up because one day when it rained the water was coming down the Pancoast Street hill so fast and was rolling right down his driveway. *Morrell explained the DPW was out opening them up but she did not know what areas.* He asked if there was any news on Leeward and knew that Robert (Kalinowski) was sick and a meeting that was supposed to take place with the solicitor would have to be rescheduled.

Larry Hartshorn, Sr., 140 Dimmick St. - Discussed Rinaldi's land, indicated he owed the borough money and asked if the land could be condemned. He discussed the appraisal on the land and wanted to know who would take the land back.

Jim Barnick questioned the status of the George St. turn-back from Penn Dot. Council said to call John Szczepaniak

Motion by Barnick
To adjourn

Seconded by Menichetti

The meeting was adjourned.

Elaine Morrell, Administrator/Secretary

Minutes by Christina Sullivan, Asst. Secretary