

**Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Monday, July 25th, 2016
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:

Richard Kucharski - P

Vince Tanana - A

Thomas Lukasewicz, **President - P**

Charlene Tomasovitch - P

David Repchick, **Vice President - P**

John Musewicz - P

Bob Magliocchi - P

Solicitor - Louis A. Cimini - P

Mayor - Wayne Williams - A

Assistant Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - P

Secretary - Renee O'Malley - P

Chief Clerk/Treasurer - Robin Galli - A

Announcements:

* Throop Annual Night Out will be held on Sunday, August 7th, 2016. Parade at 6:00 p.m., line up at 5:30 p.m., fireworks at 9:00 p.m.

Work Session/Meetings:

* The August mid month work session/meeting will be held on Mon. Aug. 8th, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

* The August monthly work session/ meeting will be held on Mon. Aug. 29th, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Audience comments on tonight's agenda:

Lukasewicz brought up Tropiak's concern from last meeting and not being able to see the motions before they are added. Stated that to make things work this is what happens.

Denise Brown, Phillips St.: Questioned if could add some sheets for notes.

Lukasewicz: Sometimes things come up and they have to be done tonight.

Kucharski: As Mazak said when he was here, he had made a suggestion, if had a screen up there, as we come up with motions and type them they could see them.

Lukasewicz: It could actually be hooked up to a printer and printed at the same time.

Brown: Or just a sheet of paper.

Denise Brown, Phillips St.: There is a lot of referring and check this and Tom you say Tonight's agenda you are putting \$277,000 for a playground

Lukasewicz: That has been thought about for three years or longer.

Brown: \$8000.00 the police department asked for is on the back burner.

Lukasewicz: The problem is the \$7000.00 is brought up in front of me that I never knew about. I don't spend \$7000.00 that way. I watch how I spend \$.70. Sometimes I get offended when I'm spending \$7500.00 on rubber bullets and a lot of people are going to say it is just for them to play. 90% of the people say maybe it's good to have this training because of everything going on in the world but maybe if I knew about it and could digest it before it is put on as a motion for me to vote on I would be more comfortable with it.

Brown: The same point this gentleman is making you are making general items while we are sitting here. Full circle. Decisions aren't being made.

Repchick: It's not rubber bullets. It's like a paint ball but better. I looked into it and was a firearms instructor for 15 years and Marc Murcko brought this to my attention 2 months ago. I don't want to pick on anybody but it was given to the Mayor over 6 months ago. Tom is right that it was never brought to the attention of everybody. The reason I am hot on it is because I researched it and what it is really doing is giving them a lot of training with someone shooting back at them.

Magliocchi: I don't believe they are playing. As far as I know I don't think these bullets tickle.

Repchick: They hurt. And that's the idea.

Brown: This gentleman came in and proposed something to the board or borough and the borough says ok we'll think about it. You have to make a decision.

Repchick: That's probably true.

Magliocchi: Keith was there and researched it. They should just ask and it be done there.

Kucharski: Sorry It's just another example of a professional manager giving us information that we need to make a decision.

Repchick: I did ask him to give us information for this meeting.

Magliocchi: He had it all.

Brown: The point is I see why things aren't being done. You're not getting a whole lot of information to make decisions so let's have the Attorney look into this for us or let's have Mr. Kalinoski.

Repchick: then it's 3 months, 6 months

Brown: 6 months later you are referring back. And I am reading it in the notes.

Lukasewicz: Spending of \$7500.00 we should now about that a month ahead of time.

Brown: Absolutely.

All talking at once.

Dave Karr, Meade St.: The police chief goes to the borough manager, the borough manager researches it. The borough manager informs Council

Magliocchi: That's the same point and you can go both ways. Tom the CDBG - you wanted

Roberts opinion. We let him leave and therefore it got pushed.

Lukasewicz: He's not going to be able to give you a decision that fast. He has to review things. The point I was trying to make is that if anybody knows more than anybody because we have prior lists, he knows

Magliocchi: With that being said, these gun purchases - Keith knows what he's saying and what he can use, so when he advises. Just using it as an example.

Tomasovitch questioned why we have to vote on it if it is coming out of his budget.

Lukasewicz: That specific item was not in the budget, just training and any type of training he wants to do he has to come to us first.

ENERGY SERVICE/TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE

1. Motion by Tomasovitch Seconded by Repchick

To accept the Proposal from Commonwealth Energy for the Energy Service/Technology Upgrade.

All in favor

Motion carried

2. Motion by Repchick Seconded by Musewicz

To accept the monthly zoning reports and the minutes of the June 27th and July 11th, 2016 council meetings.

All in favor

Motion carried

Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Reports:

3. Motion by Musewicz

Seconded by Repchick

To accept the treasurers' monthly 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"	\$46,037.59
Paid bills:	\$479,539.55
General Fund Revenue Report (includes transfers from GF MMKT TO GF CK)	\$1,700,845.88
Civic Center Revenue Report	\$14,683.79

All in favor

Motion carried

4. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Musewicz

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

**All in favor except Kucharski
Abstained on granddaughter,
Tomasovitch on husband and father &
Musewicz on daughter**

Motion carried

5. Motion by Tomasovitch

Seconded by Musewicz

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

All in favor

Motion carried

6. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Kucharski

To accept the Fund Statement, Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement as of **June 30, 2016** as posted and/or printed on the agenda.

Fund Balances:	
General Fund Checking Account - FNCB	\$77,716.75
General Fund Performance Money Market - FNCB	\$1,531,708.10
Civic Center Account-FNCB	\$1,418.76
General Fund Petty Cash	\$300.00
Payroll Checking Account-FNCB	\$18,649.97
Sunny Day Fund MMKT CK Acct-FNCB	\$2,801,041.43
Sunny Day Fund CD's	\$4,155,485.64
Liquid Fuels Account - FNCB	\$308,136.60
Fund Statement Grand Total:	\$8,894,457.25

All in favor

Motion carried

7. Motion by Tomasovitch

Seconded by Musewicz

To authorize payment in the amount of \$2,500.00 to D&M Fireworks this is the balance due for Annual Night Out fireworks.

All in favor

Motion carried

8. Motion by Magliocchi

Seconded by Repchick

To authorize Borough Engineer, Jack Scheuer, to prepare specs to proceed with the Schoolside Park, option 1, and to give a cost estimate.

All in favor

Motion carried

Lukasewicz stated that it is a long, slow process.

9. Motion by Repchick **Seconded by Magliocchi**

To get a street sweeper if needed to clean the streets from the storm.

All in favor **Motion carried**

10. Motion by Repchick **Seconded by Musewicz**

To authorize the repair of the turbo for the recycling truck at a cost of approximately \$5,700.00.

All in favor **Motion carried**

11. Motion by Repchick **Seconded by Tomasovitch**

To replace the bucket on the bucket truck.

All in favor **Motion carried**

12. Motion by Repchick **Seconded by Musewicz**

Authorization to issue a check to PA DEP in the amount of \$9,200.00 for fees for Schoolside Estates and the 3 EDU's for Milnerhaus Kennels for the Sewage Planning Module.

All in favor **Motion carried**

13. Motion by Kucharski **Seconded by Repchick**

To authorize Jack Scheuer to complete the mapping of the Sanitary Sewer Systems.

All in favor **Motion carried**

14. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Magliocchi

To purchase a program for the police department that converts the police guns to shoot plastic ammo at a cost of \$7,616.00 for the training of the police officers.

On the question:

Lukasewicz stated will be against it because he just can't spend money finding out that fast.

**5 in favor,
Lukasewicz against**

Motion carried

15. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Kucharski

To have Jack Scheuer, Borough Engineer, oversee the Schoolside Phase II project as permitted by the subdivision land ordinance.

Discussion took place that Jack has already been overseeing it and who will pay for it.

On the question:

Magliocchi said that Bob and Jack are already going up there.

Lukasewicz: They are going to see how the process is evolving. Jack is going on behalf of the planning commission.

Mags, So if they are having him go up there then why are we having him go up there.

Repchick: to make sure the process is being done correctly should there be a future problem.

Lukasewicz: By instituting this it means that Jack Scheuer has the approval to oversee the entire project. The Borough can have someone oversee the project to ensure that when they are ready to put in the storm or sewer lines, the borough should be notified so could check for elevations

Magliocchi: Questioned if Robert can do it.

Lukasewicz: No. He is not an engineer.

Kucharski: We are trying to prevent.

Lukasewicz: If we have the engineer review it then it is his liability.

Tomasovitch questioned if we had anyone overseeing phase I.

Lukasewicz: Bernoski was.

Tomasovitch Why aren't we liable.

Lukasewicz: Because there hasn't been any monetary problems.

Attorney Cimini: If someone sues the Borough you will find out if you are liable.

All talking at once.

Attorney Cimini: You can't expand the Borough's liability by taking on a responsibility that is the planning commissions. Thinks should be communicating with the planning commission to see what they are doing pursuant to the subdivision & land development ordinance to make sure the project has an inspector. Have they directed Jack to oversee it & is he.

Lukasewicz: However yo want to do it.

Repchick: Do a motion to direct that to the planning commission.

Attorney Cimini: Yes because the planning commission has that authority. And they have taken

that authority.

Lukasewicz: Main concern is that drainage swale somebody watches it and sees that it is constructed properly.

Attorney Cimini thinks should ask the planning commission what they are doing to make sure.

Lukasewicz: Jack is overseeing it to a certain degree but you don't have an actually overseer that is checking everything as it is getting done.

Magliocchi: So you're saying every day

Lukasewicz: At intervals that are important.

Magliocchi: I think he is doing that now.

Repchick: Send correspondence to the planning commission about our concerns.

Lukasewicz: I don't care how it gets done. We are on the question now I had concerns & questions about the inspection of the project and I brought up my concerns.

Dave Karr, Planning Agency: Apparently you guys authorized Jack Scheuer to do an inspection as needed ok. We stopped the project last time because he wasn't putting in the swale properly. He didn't come to the last meeting because there was no work being done. The planning commission is on top of it. We go by the Engineers recommendations before we act and he inspects on a regular basis as needed.

Lukasewicz: That's fine.

Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Kucharski

To table Motion #15.

**5 in favor,
Lukasewicz against**

Motion carried

16. Motion by Magliocchi

Seconded by Repchick

To request that the planning commission revisit the 3 yards that were damaged and make a recommendation.

All in favor

Motion carried

17. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Musewicz

To have the renter inspection ordinance enforced moving forward.

All in favor

Motion carried

do a study.

Kucharski: Voted to have a contract signed. Questioned the status.

Attorney Cimini: New proposal will be sent to the Borough Building.

Lukasewicz: They are going to send a proposal and once they do and it's signed the process will start.

Tropiak responded that as a resident of the town, he doesn't think we need a Borough Manager. No need for it. Less money coming in from the landfill and they can't tell you what to do, you still need to vote on it.

Magliocchi: He's right we still need to tell the Borough Manager. It's the same as management right now. If we have a problem with management, if we start holding them accountable, we won't have this problem.

All talking at once.

Lukasewicz: There is a way for Council to do a lot more without interfering. Stated he used to do so much and doesn't like he used to. Everyone has to take the initiative.

Magliocchi: I am involved a lot. I go on the projects. The problem is when I need something done I get the answer I need 4 votes.

Lukasewicz: I was there to know how everything was going on and when something needed to be done I would bring it back to all of council. If something needed to be done you could call a special meeting. Got to a point where I had faith in everyone that was around us. All the people that are here. You have to micro manage sometimes and you have to give them a rope to hang themselves. Every now and again you have to tighten up the nus. I don't see what is so bad.

Magliocchi: When management doesn't know who is in charge that's an issue.

Tomasovitch stated everyone knows who is in charge. When Robert is out it's Chuck - he's the foreman.

Lukasewicz: Let's save this for executive. Points are being made in all different ways.

Tomasovitch: Then you got to watch then they want their pay.

Magliocchi: just because you change someone's title doesn't mean the money does. You don't have too. You can go like this - you don't like the pay then leave.

Tropiak: I just want to say - You don't need a Borough Manager. If it takes time - it takes time. Talked of the sewer project that took 10 years on Phillips St. 9 years too long and put his family in harms way for 9 years. You folks should be doing your job. You're doing it fine, sometimes it takes awhile. That man still has to get your votes to do something. Just do it without that person telling you what to do.

Kucharski: I respect your opinion Mr. Tropiak.

Tropiak: Thank you for hearing me.

Kucharski: I've said this before this is a \$6 million business and you cannot run it, Tommy with all due respect, and I know the time you put in, but you work 60 hours a week how can you be expected to run a \$6 million business. Same way with, I'm retired and I can put in more time but I'm not - I know nothing about municipal finance. I know nothing about municipal management - I know management. We need a professional person to run a professional business. It's a \$6 million business and it impacts everyone of us as taxpayers and the residents of this town. That's my

Repchick: I agree with you Rich.

Tomasovitch: I know there is a lot of people that don't want a Borough manager.

Repchick: The majority will decide. That's all.

Tomasovitch: The people could come in and say what they want and what they don't want.

Dolan questioned if someone with that high of a salary would it be put to a vote. The people of

Throop have to vote. Because it's their money.

Lukasewicz: That won't have to be put to a vote by the people of Throop. Council can decide if they want to have a Borough Manager.

Tomasovitch: We lose money from the landfill every quarter. Do you think we need a Borough manager.

Repchick feels the borough manager will be saving exactly what your paying him.

Kucharski: Absolutely.

Repchick: Will be out there getting grants

Kucharski: Will make you money.

Repchick: I have a master degree and minored in public administration and I totally agree with Rich. That's my opinion.

Magliocchi: I don't know much about it but with having so much money how many grants can this borough actually get.

Repchick: Lots

Lukasewicz: Very little. The last big grant we got was the Washington St Park redone about \$300,000.00 about 12 years ago.

Kucharski: How many did we ask for?

Repchick: Exactly. Not many.

Lukasewicz: Not a lot but when we did they say we are financially more stable than

Magliocchi: Let's just say, if we hire a borough Manager, let's just say he can guarantee \$250,000 in grants. So if you take his pay out your roughly \$190,000 to the good but you can't guarantee getting the grants. I'm going to give it to the town that doesn't have before the town that does.

Lukasewicz: When you apply for a grant you have to put all the reasons why you should get this and not some other municipality ans as soon as they see \$4.3 million coming from the landfill

Magliocchi: So besides what we have now is - if he doesn't write the grants - what could he do?

Lukasewicz: He's only going to do what we tell him to do. He can't discipline anybody, he can say employee #69 isn't doing his job and can tell us why

ALL TALKING AT ONCE.

Magliocchi feels we are very slack on management.

Tomasovitch: Well let's get stricter.

Magliocchi: I think we need to and then maybe we could possibly eliminate a Borough Manger.

Sees no authority and thinks the borough manager would have some management to oversee and make sure doing stuff.

All talking at once.

Lukasewicz: We know what we have to do the biggest problem is doing it.

Andy Hegedus, Center St.: Commented that the Borough Manager should be referred to as "they" and shouldn't be referred to as a "he". The borough used to have a controller, for 100 years.

Council could consider bringing it back.

Lukasewicz added that we would have to re-instate the elected position. The controllers job is being done by the auditors and that's why it was eliminated.

Hegedus: Questioned if will advertise or have an auction for the things you want out of there to not delay the demolition project. Doesn't want to see it slowed down.

Hegedus spoke of the 3 properties that had damage by the storm this evening. 29 Ollendike, 428

Cypress and Gangi's Pizza. Gangi's is shut down for now. Had 4 feet of water in the basement. Inspector has be notified tomorrow to inspect the building.

Denise Brown, Phillips St.: Questioned the last meeting on whether an abstention counts as a vote or not.

Lukasewicz: It doesn't count as a vote.

Brown questioned if the Borough Manager motion passed.

Lukasewicz: It started the process. That's all.

The meeting was adjourned.

Meeting minutes by Renee O'Malley
Borough Secretary