

**Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Monthly Meeting
Monday, July 28, 2003
7:00 p.m.**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

“God Bless Our Troops and the Coalition”

ROLL CALL:

Members of Council:

Anthony Chrzan - **P**

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**

Announcements:

Tuesday, August 5th - Annual Night Out - Festivities at the Washington Street Park from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Parade at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor’s presentations:

Officer William Hazelton - The Throop Borough Mayor and Council recognize Officer William Hazelton of Throop Police Department for his quick actions at the scene of a bus accident helping to stabilize a chaotic situation.

Patrolwoman Christine Reilly, Patrolmen Christopher Granza and John Wildman - The Throop Borough Mayor and Council recognize Officers Christine Reilly, Christopher Granza and John Wildman of Throop Police Department for their valiant efforts in saving the life of a fellow officer after suffering from a heart attack and rendering him unconscious on August 3, 2002.

Police & Non-Uniform Pensions Quarterly Reports: Ron Yanoski, Merrill Lynch, addressed council pertaining to the 2nd Q, 2003 Reports.

There were no audience comments on tonight's agenda.

Dunmore Street Sanitary Sewer Emergency Repair Project Bids:

Name of Bidder	Address	Amount of Bid
Scranton Craftsmen, Inc.	Throop PA	\$36,900.00
Linde Enterprises, Inc.	Honesdale PA	\$59,500.00
Pioneer Construction Co., Inc.	Sturges PA	\$39,700.00
Sikora Bros. Paving, Inc.	Hunlock Creek PA	\$43,900.00

1. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Chrzan

To accept the bids for the Dunmore Street Sanitary Sewer Emergency Repair Project and to award the project to the lowest responsible bidder.

Four in favor - Barnick, Menichetti, Barone, Mellody
One abstain - Chrzan

Motion carried

No Bids Received: Workers Compensation 8/6/03 - 8/6/04

The State Workers Insurance Fund (SWIF) is the borough's current workers compensation insurance carrier. They do not bid but submitted the renewal rate for the policy year 8/6/03 to 8/6/04. \$96,777.00 with a down payment of \$24,194.00.

2. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Chrzan

To accept the workers compensation policy for the period 8/6/03 to 8/6/04 from The State Workers Insurance Fund (SWIF) at an annual premium of \$96,777.00 and to authorize the down payment as required, \$24,194.00.

All in favor

Motion carried

3. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To accept the zoning report, landfill inspector's reports and the minutes of the June 30, 2003 Council Meeting.

All in favor

Motion carried

TREASURER'S REPORTS:

4. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To accept the treasurer's reports as read or posted and to pay the monthly bills against the borough.

Unpaid bills: "Items for Payment"	\$50,026.40
Paid bills: (6/30/03 - 7/18/03)	\$342,118.75
Grand total	\$392,145.15
Keystone Landfill Credit	\$9,248.52
Home Program	435.76
Revenue Report	\$713,872.25

All in favor

Motion carried

5. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

All in favor

Motion carried

6. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

All in favor

Motion carried

ADMINISTRATOR'S FINANCIAL REPORTS:

7. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To accept the Fund Statement, Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement and Loan Balance for the month of June, 2003.

General Fund Checking Account	\$395,506.74
General Fund Petty Cash	200.00
Payroll Checking Account	2,472.97
Tax Escrow Account	1,784.49
Civic Center Account	250.00
Civic Center Petty Cash	250.00
FNCB Escrow Acct. Throop vs. Gould	201,454.55
Sunny Day Fund CD's	2,333,416.89
Home Program State Grant	1,938.53
Civic Center After School Program	500.00
South Valley Ave. Grant	73,780.85
Warsaw Playground	28,338.79
Liquid Fuels Account	134,482.93
Fund Statement Grand Total:	\$3,174,376.74
(Interest Free) LOAN Balance: Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Inc. (Two payments in the amount of \$262,500.00 each will be paid during the next two quarters, 2003.)	As of June 30th: \$1,925,000.00 Paid \$262,500.00 on 7/21/03 Balance \$1,662,500.00

On the question:

Barnick: Is Doug Blazey done? *The administrator indicated we have the final bill.*

All in favor

Motion carried

8. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To ratify the renewal of the Sunny Day Fund CD # 41-105512-8 \$73,036.22 for one year at 1.65% at the FNCB on July 17, 2003. (First Liberty Bank Interest rate .50% and Penn Star - 1.35%). Also, to ratify the purchase of a new CD - Sunny Day Fund CD# 51-102180-7 - \$362,435.27 matured on July 23, 2003 plus 10 % of the quarterly check \$68,480.22. Total \$430,915.49, new account # 51-301004-8, for one year at FNCB at 1.65 % on July 23, 2003. (First Liberty Bank, Olyphant 1.44 % - Penn Star 1.50 %.)

All in favor

Motion carried

9. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To combine Sunny Day Fund CD #9001601757, \$133,528.08, interest included (currently at Penn Star) that matures on 7/30/03 and Sunny Day Fund CD # 51-102186-4, \$1,203,493.00, interest included (currently at FNCB) that matures on August 5, 2003 for one year at the best interest rate available. (The CD that matures on July 30th will be transferred into the general fund checking account for six days until August 5, 2003. This is acceptable to do as per Borough Solicitor, Louis A. Cimini.) The new CD will be in the amount of \$1,337,021.08. (Rainey & Rainey, borough auditors recommended combining the Sunny Day CDs.)

All in favor

Motion carried

Motion #10 Withdrawn:

10. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Menichetti

To authorize Marvin Brotter to submit an application for the Home Program Grant at a fee of \$2,500.00.

On the question:

Barnick: I can't see paying the \$2,500.00 for an application that he takes the previous application, copy it, change the numbers and have Elaine resubmit it. Basically, that's all you do. Why pay him \$2,500?

Menichetti: Is that all it needs? Can you do that, Elaine?

Chrzan: That's all it needs. Can you do it, Elaine? If not, call Senator Mellow's office and ask Kushner to do it. They done it for us before when Jimmy and I went up there.

Elaine was not sure if she could do it, she has done the simple ones, the ones that are only a few pages in the past. This was as thick as a book.

There was no motion on #11, as follows:

11. Motion by

Seconded by

To authorize Marvin Brotter to submit an application for a Recreation Grant at a fee of \$2,000.00. (This grant is a 50/50 matching grant.)

There was no motion on #12, as follows:

- 12. Motion by** **Seconded by**
To pay the fees for the mold testing for the Miesko Property on Edgar St. and to direct the solicitor to file a lien or liens for any and all costs incurred by the borough regarding the said property.

There was no motion on #13, as follows:

- 13. Motion by** **Seconded by**
To direct the Zoning Officer to proceed with the demolition of the Miesko Property on Edgar St.

- 14. Motion by Barnick** **Seconded by Chrzan**

To amend the Zoning Ordinance #11 of 2000, Page 93, Article 8, Paragraph (7) and/or Resolution that all non-profit organizations located in Throop will not have to pay a permit fee for signs. (Example: Churches, Hose Companies, Ambulance Association, Booster Club, Scouts or other Sports Groups or Clubs.)

All in favor

Motion carried

- 15. Motion by Chrzan** **Seconded by Barnick**

To adopt Throop Borough Resolution # 15 of 2003 to appoint Walter Saravitz as an alternate member of the Throop Zoning Hearing Board to fill the vacancy of Walter Rakosky. (Walter Rakosky was appointed to fill the open position after the resignation of Larry Hartshorn.) The term expires July 29, 2004.

All in favor

Motion carried

- 16. Motion by Chrzan** **Seconded by Barnick**

To donate \$200.00 to Mid Valley United Soccer League.

On the question:

Menichetti: Where, who is this Mid Valley United Soccer League? *Elaine explained it was the youth soccer program that takes care of the children of Throop, Olyphant and Dickson City.*

All in favor

Motion carried

- 17. Motion by Chrzan** **Seconded by Barnick**

To allocate the \$3,000.00 in the budget for the "Annual Night Out". To issue a check in the amount of \$500.00 to Officer Keith Jones towards the expenses and to pay related expenses upon

receipt of invoice. (Receipts will be submitted to the borough along with any unspent cash.)

On the question:

Barone: I think since our baseball team is doing so good maybe if they get home we could put them in that parade (and get some convertibles somewhere).

A discussion took place with regard to the Throop's District 17 Softball Champions team. If they won the game they were playing this evening they would be the state champions. Mayor Lukowski stated he did not know of any athletic organization in the Borough of Throop that has ever won a state championship. All agreed the team should be recognized.

All in favor

Motion carried

18. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To ratify the \$500.00 donation to the Throop Little League District 17 Big League Softball Champions. The donation is to help defray the costs for the girls to play in the state play-offs.

On the question:

Barnick: I understand they bought a grill and they were cooking hot dogs and hamburgers for them and they went to play a game and somebody stole the grill.

All in favor

Motion carried

19. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To donate \$100.00 to the Mid Valley Activity Club for a full page ad in the Mid Valley Spartan Ad Book.

All in favor

Motion carried

20. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Chrzan

To issue Zoning Refunds to the following individuals:

Paul DeGrazio (8/14/02)	\$ 34.62
Paul DeGrazio (10/29/02)	151.02
Bart & Linda Sacco (10/29/02)	158.05
Stephen & Adrienne Vavrick (10/29/02)	448.43
Frank Grandinetti (4/16/03)	127.16
Scranton Craftsmen (5/14/03)	<u>38.38</u>
Total	<u>\$ 957.66</u>

All in favor

Motion carried

21. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Chrzan

To accept the one year contract from Michael Cummings, Pennsylvania Municipal Pension Services (PMPS), for the administration of the Throop Police Pension Fund. The annual cost is \$3,250.00 to be paid quarterly from the assets of the pension fund and to authorize the first quarterly payment in the amount of \$812.50.

All in favor

Motion carried

22. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Chrzan

To adopt Throop Borough Resolution # 14 of 2003, a resolution to OPT-IN on the Uniform Construction Code.

On the question:

Barnick: This is going to be a costly and it goes in effect Jan. 20 (2004). It's going to affect every resident, everybody that does any alternations to their homes. Everything's going to be followed by state codes, everything's got to be inspected, additions's to homes, everything. There's a lot involved with it. If you planned on doing an addition, take out a permit now. It's good for two years. Do it now.

Chrzan: So if you need a permit, you better get it now.

All in favor

Motion carried

23. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Chrzan

Not to accept the terms of negotiations regarding the police contract as stated by Attorney Dick Goldberg as of July 24, 2003.

Three in favor - Chrzan, Barnick, Barone

Two against - Menichetti, Mellody

Motion carried

24. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barone

To issue a check in the amount of \$25.00 to the Lackawanna County Council of Governments for the 2003-2004 "Road Salt Program".

All in favor

Motion carried

25. Motion by Barone

Seconded by Chrzan

To accept the proposal in the amount of \$575.00 from Joseph J. Vidal & Sons, Inc. to illuminate the Centennial Monument at the Washington Street Park as per their proposal. A 30% deposit (\$172.50) is required and balance due upon receipt of Contractor payment request.

On the question:

Mellody: Robbie called today, I think the light on the flag, a girl got burned on them. My suggestion was that however wide the lights are, should we consider something *(to avoid this type of situation)*.

Morrell: Robert did find out that the sensor was broken off and that's why the lights were still on.

Barone: Put some kind of fencing on (around) them.

A short discussion took place about placing cages on the lights so they could not be touched and to check with Vidal to see if there was a remedy.

All in favor

Motion carried

26. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Chrzan

To accept the proposal in the amount of \$1,920.00 from Commonwealth Roofing Co., Inc. to repair the municipal building roof as per their proposal. One half down \$960.00 and balance of \$960.00 due upon completion of work.

All in favor

Motion carried

27. Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Chrzan

To approve the following applications for payment submitted by Scranton Craftsmen as approved by Spott & Associates, Borough Engineer and Robert Kalinoski, Street Commissioner. **To authorize payment for retainage and change order, upon approval of Spott & Assoc., Engineer, and Robert Kalinoski, Street Commissioner.**

Application # 7 - S. Valley Ave. Sanitary Sewer Project - \$54,582.75 (EPA/Boro)

Application # 7 - S. Valley Ave. Sanitary Sewer Project - \$50,928.30 (Borough)

Application # 2 - S. Valley Ave. Curbs & Sidewalks Project - \$28,032.30 (Boro)

On the question:

Discussion with Mark Kozik, Scranton Craftsmen, Inc.

Barnick: I'd like to add to the motion to include the payment for retainage and change order upon approval of the Engineer (F. Spott & Assoc.) and the Street Commissioner, Robert Kalinoski as long as everything is worked out that needs to be.

Four in favor - Barnick, Menichetti, Barone, Mellody

One abstain - Chrzan

Motion carried

28. Motion by Chrzan **Seconded by Barone**

To replenish the petty cash for the borough in the amount of \$128.23.

All in favor

Motion carried

29. Motion by Barone **Seconded by Barnick**

To allow Olyphant's Queen City Days Committee to place a sign at the corner of Cypress and Sanderson Street to announce Queen City Days to be held August 22-24, 2003. Sign to be placed upon the recommendation and approval of Robert Kalinoski, Street Commissioner.

Two in favor - Barnick, Barone

Three abstain - Chrzan, Menichetti, Mellody

Motion carried

Council Discussions:

Property with regard to a DPW shed (Rinaldi's, Scranton Craftsmen's and Chorba's), signs/billboards, the police contract and the Uniform Construction Code.

An announcement was made that Throop's team won the District 17 State Championship.

Audience Comments:

Dominick Rocco, 110 Sanderson St. - Stated that at the last meeting the Zoning Officer/Street Commissioner asked for more help for the DPW because he's short on help. He wanted to know if council was going to act on that tonight and if there was any status on anyone out for a long term. Also, if the prisoners were requested this year (river cleanup). A discussion took place.

Bill Fuhr, Edgar St. - Asked if there was anything to worry about with Motion #14 (reference to the church) being amended.

John Skutnik, Copperneck St. - Requested an explanation on Motion #22 (Uniform Construction Code opt-in) and asked if council was going to wait until January. In addition, he stated Rinaldi's property has been on agenda for a long time. He also wanted to know about alleyways that have not been paved and wanted to know why council did not consider opening them. A discussion took place.

Dave Morrell, 315 George Street - *Verified that the girls did win the state championship* and discussed the Night Out, the parade, and hoped everyone attended, the help is needed. All borough officials are invited to be in the parade which will be at 7:00 p.m.

30. Motion by Chrzan

Seconded by Barnick

To donate \$500.00 for Throop Little League, District 17 towards their recognition.

All in favor

Motion carried

Motion to adjourn by Chrzan

Elaine Morrell, Administrator/Secretary

Minutes by:

Christina Sullivan, Assistant Secretary