

**Minutes  
Throop Borough Council  
Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
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:**

John Musewicz - A

James Barnick - P

Richard Kucharski-**President - P**

Charlene Tomasovitch - P

Wayne Williams - P

Vince Tanana - P

Bob Magliocchi, **Vice President - P**

**Solicitor** - Louis A. Cimini - P

**Mayor** - Frank Shimkus - P

Assistant Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - P

Secretary - Renee O’Malley - A

Chief Clerk/Treasurer -Robin Galli - P

**Announcements:**

Tanana feels the Activity Committee should come up with suggestions and come back to Council to decide what would be good or not. The legalities that Lou brought up we would take bus trips right out.

Barnick: anyone can run bus trips.

Tomasovitch: why do they have to get us involved?

ALL TALKING AT ONCE.

**Work Session/Meetings:**

\* The July mid month work session/meeting will be held on Mon. July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

\* The July monthly work session/meeting will be held on Mon. July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

**Audience comments on tonight's agenda:**

Jim Barnick: On the assessment resolution, This Council should pass it. Will be 50 years in 2018 since it was reassessed. Just went through reassessment with a new home. This is a joke. The way the county does this. Our first value was \$37,000.00. Second one went down to 24. People, our own director of taxes up there, paying 20 on his house in schoolside. His nephew is paying 24 and his daughter is paying 25. Gigantic houses. Needs to be done and needs to be straightened out. Was already started with Cordaro and Munchak back then. They spent over \$7 million. Where is all that mapping and all that gone? They mapped out everything. Do you even know how many properties are not even on the tax rolls to this date. All over this county. There are assessments that are so low its unbelievable. And then some that are so high. Only researched it a little bit. Wait until I get really into it because I am going to the County Commissioners meetings. This is ridiculous. If you know the right person you'll get your taxes down with your assessment. See if the man on the hill is going to pay that. That assessment needs to be up because that was valued at 2 Billion dollars in 1999. This Borough at 5 mills you'd be collecting a pretty good buck.

**1. Motion by Tanana**

**Seconded by Williams**

To accept the monthly zoning reports and the minutes of the May 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 council meetings.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Reports:**

**2. Motion by Tanana**

**Seconded by Tomasovitch**

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"	<b>\$56,101.79</b>
Paid bills:	<b>\$357,172.29</b>
General Fund Revenue Report (includes transfers from GF MMKT TO GF CK)	<b>\$573,035.63</b>
Civic Center Revenue Report	<b>May - \$15,167.11</b> <b>June - \$14,209.10</b>

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**3. Motion by Tanana**

**Seconded by Tomasovitch**

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

**All in favor except, Tomasovitch  
abstained on father & husband,  
Williams on son & daughter and  
Kucharski on granddaughter.**

**Motion carried**

**4. Motion by Tomasovitch**

**Seconded by Williams**

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**5. Motion by Tanana**

**Seconded by Magliocchi**

To accept the Fund Statement, Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 as posted and/or printed on the agenda.

<b>Fund Balances:</b>	
General Fund Checking Account - FNCB	<b>\$59,036.56</b>
General Fund Performance Money Market - FNCB	<b>\$1,283,618.82</b>
Civic Center Account-FNCB	<b>\$969.00</b>
General Fund Petty Cash	<b>\$300.00</b>
Payroll Checking Account-FNCB	<b>\$43,993.44</b>
Sunny Day Fund MMKT CK Acct-FNCB	<b>\$3,355,941.25</b>
Sunny Day Fund CD's	<b>\$4,203,886.51</b>
Liquid Fuels Account - FNCB	<b>\$431,449.87</b>
<b>Fund Statement Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$9,379,195.45</b>

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**6. Motion by Tanana**

**Seconded by Magliocchi**

To pay the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter allotments to the Emergency Services for the Borough of Throop. \$5,906.25 each to all Hose Companies (Hose Co #1, #2 and Volunteers #3) and \$1,500.00 to Dickson City Ambulance.

On the question:

Barnick added that it was brought to his attention that there are companies that don't get out to respond to calls. Heard the one on the Boulevard never responds to anything.

Hegedus: Wouldn't say never get out. Could use some more members. First steps of consolidation. This month spoke of doing something, starting with these 2 companies then talking to the ladder. But between the ladder and the engine the engine gets out more than the ladder does.

Magliocchi: Doesn't the a bad thing right now but future wise. I am all for it. But personally would be against a meeting.

Hegedus real issue is logistics. If were to say hose company 2 & 3 merge don't have adequate room in either building so would still be maintaining 2 buildings unless got rid of a piece of apparatus. Not unique to Throop, a lot of municipalities having a hard time getting people out.

Tax credits are minuscule. Real Estate taxes is it benefits a couple of 50 years olds and plus members that own property. Objective is to get the 18-19 year olds interested or 14 year old level. Doesn't seem to be a quick solution. With respect to Mr. Barnick's feels won't disagree but don't feel should hold any ones money back. Can hold them accountable at the end of the year according to Act 113 when they respond with what they did with their money all year long. At the end of the year report how many calls responds too and we've discussed for the last few years. A lot of conversation has taken place. It can be worrisome at times.

Barnick: Is there 1 making calls and 2 not.

Magliocchi: It's hit or miss. There is a big difference on calls. Ballpark, 125 to maybe 10.

Kucharski: Wayne Didn't you tell me at some point that an Attorney was looking into consolidation.

Williams: Yes. Craig Kalinoski. I haven't heard anything. Was down to give him all the information. Haven't heard back.

Magliocchi: Once you do your end obviously we are going to be a factor in this and then it will be at a stand still.

Hegedus: You will be the major factor. Once the 7 of you make a decision as to whether you are going to continue to fund the non responding companies then that's only going to prolong what's the inevitable.

Barnick: What do you mean prolong it? Consolidate sooner?

Hegedus: I think we are ready to go tomorrow.

Magliocchi: Should've been done years ago.

Hegedus: I think the rescue and the engine are ready to pull the trigger. There would have some things that would have to be done. Audit the books. The assets become assets. That's the easy part. Biggest concern was that if the fire companies are going to need a new facility and the Borough is going to be involved with that then those buildings should become the boroughs assets. If you say close lower throop down and take some of those funds and put an addition on Dunmore St. that may solve the problem.

Tomasovitch questioned if there was room there for an addition.

Hegedus: I would say probably no. We can't go any further towards DeGrazio's because what happens is we are too above the road. Thought was if we could take where the hall is existing and take that off and put 2 bays there we come out at grade and then on the DeGrazio side, talk to him about buying that piece of property that runs all the length of the backyards to the court in the alley and you could put an addition on our fire station that would replace the hall on the right side and maybe make that a 2 story where you could put a hall in there or a meeting room. That's why we had been aggressively going after the Pelock property that was behind us and we made an offer to the bank and unfortunately the bank went with the \$7000.00 less offer than we made. We thought that if we were able to secure that it would've been sufficient parking for that and we could've put the bays right on what we call the corner there. A lot of possibilities. It's not like anybody wants to spend \$2 million dollars either.

Magliocchi: No you go to other towns and I see firehouses that are unbelievable but I look at what we give to all 3 combined we should have a state of art facility. That's a lot of money unless I'm wrong.

Hegedus: I agree with you Bob but I think the bigger thing is that we need firefighters. That's the bigger issue.

Magliocchi: I think that consolidating will give you more.

Hegedus: I think that is where we left it last that it would be based on the percentage of calls that

were made by each company that we would take that pool of money and divi it up proportionately. Tough decisions you all have to make.

Tomasovitch: I think everybody wants to go to one company.

Hegedus: You 7 I think but if you start talking

ALL TALKING AT ONCE.

Magliocchi: Need to become a team and I think we all know there is friction between some firehouses.

Hegedus: I wouldn't say its friction. It's not like its been the last couple of years. There may be a feeling that a certain company wants to continue to operate under their own entity, the issue is they are, but they are not a fire company anymore. There is a million dollar piece of apparatus that doesn't get out.

Magliocchi: If you all want to be a team you should all be for consolidating.

Hegedus: Your theory is correct but that's not the way they want it.

Tomasovitch: If you need the ladder truck one of your drivers should be able to go over there.

Hegedus: The last 3 structure fires we didn't get our ladder out.

Tomasovitch: I know that's why somebody should be trained to run that truck.

Hegedus: They are their own company. They own that asset. Your idea is spot on. It's their toy and they are not going to let anybody play with it.

Kucharski: Well let's crawl before we walk. Why don't we call Craig Kalinoski and see if anything can be done. If we get #2 and #3

Magliocchi: I think we are going to need a meeting.

Hegedus: Here is where we left it between both companies, there are 3 trustees from the volunteers hose company and there are 3 trustees from Hose company #2. They're the representatives for each company. Certainly we are going to have it a t public meeting but it can't be that free for all. Wayne and I had discussed when we talked early on that at this point of the discussions/negotiations we certainly want #1 to be invited to be a part of this. Because if we don't do that then they will say they don't want to do that because you excluded us. So that's why before we've sat down at the table we said that we would extend to talk to them. By all means we want them to become a part of it. It's only going to benefit the town if we are under one roof. It will be financially and from a life safety perspective it's the right thing to do.

Magliocchi: Let's plan a meeting.

**All in favor,  
Williams abstained on #2**

**Motion carried**





**14. Motion by Magliocchi**

**Seconded by Tanana**

To accept the proposal from Yesalavage Rug for the Civic Center restroom floors at a cost of \$7640.00

On the question:

Tomasovitch: Would like to wait.

Barnick: These floors going in these are the ones they have

Magliocchi: Seamless, waterproof. The basement gets wet with the tile there. That's how much water seeps through those tiles. The job was not done properly. Not doing it to waste money.

We did everything properly in that building.

Barnick questioned what is going down?

Magliocchi: Marnoleum. The tile that is there now is getting ripped up. Doing everything with the seamless. Maintenance free. It's in hospitals. Operating rooms. Will last probably 20 plus years.

Barnick: I never seen it unless I just didn't notice.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**15. Motion by Tomasovitch**

**Seconded by Tanana**

To advertise for a Public Hearing for July 10, 2017 at 6:00 pm for Burke Stone for a citizen request for an amendment to the zoning ordinance.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**16. Motion by Magliocchi**

**Seconded by Barnick**

To put out for bid to demolish the 3 buildings on Sanderson St.

On the question:

Tanana: Do we have to do the asbestos removal first?

Kucharski: Yes.

**4 in favor, Tomasovitch  
& Kucharski against**

**Motion carried**

**17. Motion by Barnick**

**Seconded by Tomasovitch**

To adopt the Resolution requesting the County Commissioners tax reassessment

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

**18. Motion by Tanana**

**Seconded by Tomasovitch**

To switch the phone provider for the Borough Building and Civic Center to Comcast.

On the question:

Magliocchi: Just checking, I know the power surge was bad was that the problem with the phones?

Galli: That was when the phones and internet was out but every time we get a heavy rain the phones go out.

Magliocchi: That's fine.

Barnick: Why do you want to change?

Galli: Our phones, every time we get a heavy rain, we have Level 3 and the Civic Center and we always lose service.

Tomasovitch: The phones go out.

Magliocchi: It's terrible. I was just curious because of the power surge.

Galli: It was the lowest bidder. We go through Verizon lines now so you don't want to go with Verizon and Vonage you have to change over everything.

**All in favor**

**Motion carried**

Audience Comments:

Trudy Delawder, Memorial Dr.: Thanked Council for making a final decision on something.

Len Petroliaj, Sanderson St.: Thanks for all those who voted to take it down.

The meeting was adjourned.

Meeting Minutes by Renee O'Malley  
Borough Secretary