

**Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Monday, March 27th, 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 - P

Vince Tanana - P

Richard Kucharski-**President - P**

Charlene Tomasovitch - P

David Repchick, **Vice President - P**

Wayne Williams - P

Bob Magliocchi - P

Solicitor - Louis A. Cimini - A

Mayor - Frank Shimkus - P

Assistant Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - P

Secretary - Renee O’Malley - P

Chief Clerk/Treasurer -Robin Galli - P

Announcements:

- * An executive session was held at 6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.
- * Children’s Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, April 9th, 2017 from 12:00p.m. to 2:00p.m. at Washington Street Park.

Work Session/Meetings:

- * CDBG Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, April 10th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. mid month work session to follow.
- * The April mid month work session/meeting will be held on Mon. April. 10th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
- * The April monthly work session/meeting will be held on Mon. April. 24th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

There were no audience comments on tonight’s agenda.

1. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Musewicz

To accept the monthly zoning reports and the minutes of the Feb. 27th and March 13th, 2017 council meetings.

All in favor

Motion carried

Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Reports:

2. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Musewicz

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"	\$75,508.80
Paid bills:	\$82,845.02
General Fund Revenue Report (includes transfers from GF MMKT TO GF CK)	\$157,609.27
Civic Center Revenue Report	\$14,000.43

All in favor

Motion carried

3. Motion by Tanana

Seconded by Repchick

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

All in favor, Musewicz abstained
on daughter, Tomasovitch on husband
and father, Williams on Todd & Lauren
Williams & Kucharski on Jordan Kucharski
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 Tomasovitch** **Seconded by Musewicz**

To accept the Fund Statement, Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement as of Feb. 28th, 2017 as posted and/or printed on the agenda.

Fund Balances:	
General Fund Checking Account - FNCB	\$64,573.90
General Fund Performance Money Market - FNCB	\$1,424,236.94
Civic Center Account-FNC	\$888.63
General Fund Petty Cash	\$300.00
Payroll Checking Account-FNCB	\$41,509.33
Sunny Day Fund MMKT CK Acct-FNCB	\$3,274,018.04
Sunny Day Fund CD's	\$4,203,886.51
Liquid Fuels Account - FNCB	\$309,675.35
Fund Statement Grand Total:	\$9,319,088.70

All in favor **Motion carried**

6. **Motion by Tomasovitch** **Seconded by Williams**

To donate \$100.00 to Mid Valley for the 2017 yearbook.

All in favor **Motion carried**

7. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Musewicz

To pay the quarterly 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.

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

Motion carried

8. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Williams

To adopt Ordinance #3 of 2017, an Anti-Nepotism Policy Ordinance.

On the question:

Kucharski: I know the Mid Valley School District adopted one & I spoke to a school board member from Mid Valley and it is coming around to shoot them in the foot (their response). They cannot consistently get the people that they need that have the qualifications to fill some of the positions. They used the example that with such a policy you can have a teacher that has 20 years of experience and 2 masters degrees and just because they are a cousin of mine they can't be hired and they have to hire somebody that is fresh out of college with no experience. I think it can relate to the borough. We have some relatives of people on council that work for the borough who are extremely hard workers. I talked to Char about her husband Joe is an extremely hard worker that it would be a detriment to the Borough to not be able to hire a person like that. So that is my only concern with this ordinance. Doesn't feel resigning from position so relative can be hired is an answer either.

Tomasovitch: We hire summer help and some of them are kids of employees and council. What will we do with that.

Magliocchi: If I wasn't on Council and one of my kids wanted a job would they get it? No. That's the way I look at it. I am holding this position not to benefit me, speaking on behalf of me. Personally I wouldn't want my kids working for the Borough. I look at it like if I wasn't sitting here and my daughter came up for a job would she get it? I have different thoughts on that. That's why I'd like to see this passed.

Kucharski: Well the other point I wanted to make too is that the mechanism is that as a member of Council, a member of my family I abstain.

Magliocchi: And everybody has different opinions on it. As far as the school I have to disagree with you on that because I know kids that have been up there and graduated from Mid Valley and they are giving people jobs over them because they do know them.

Tomasovitch thinks our wording is a lot different too.

Tape Ended.

Mayor Shimkus: Feels it comes down to responsible hiring. Thinks for the most part the Borough is very efficient. I don't have the authority but I think you should take a very close look at the wording before you pass something like that.

Magliocchi: Regardless the wording comes down to family it doesn't expand to friends. To be honest with you I don't see how it would come back on the Borough. I don't know if you have more knowledge that you can explain it to me.

Shimkus: There is a big difference in an Anti Nepotism Policy in Philadelphia and Throop where there's a concentrated effort to hire family. Here so many people are related to somebody else it narrows your potential work force tremendously.

Magliocchi: You're really only talking about 7 families.

Shimkus: We have to be really careful not to react to the media. The media doesn't control the Borough.

Denise Brown, Phillips St: Questioned how many generations it goes back.

Kucharski: I know it goes down to cousins and it covers in laws. Defines relatives to include relationships by blood, and by marriage. Read the whole list aloud off Ordinance.

**4 in favor, Musewicz, Tomasovitch & Motion carried
Kucharski against**

9. Motion by Magliocchi Seconded by Repchick

To adopt Ordinance #4 of 2017, an ordinance requiring any organization requesting funds that is not an exempt organization to provide a financial report and list of officers for the organization.

On the question:

Repchick: That's just from organizations requesting funds right?

Magliocchi: Anything \$500.00 or more. If they don't ask for money they don't have too.

Tomasovitch: So if Bishop O'Hara wants to use the field they don't have too?

Magliocchi: Anyone who we give \$500 or more too.

Question on how much is donated to the VFW?

Galli: \$250.00

Dolan added that the Tax law is \$600.00 or more. Then you have to give a 1099.

Tomasovitch questioned Griffin Pond.

Galli: We give that because we take animals there.

All talking at once.

6 in favor, Musewicz against Motion carried

10. Motion by Repchick **Seconded by Tanana**

To authorize payment totaling \$61,775.00 to the following companies for snow removal services:

- Kruger Pipeline Inc. - \$31,990.00
- Hughes Enterprise - \$11,500.00
- Pine Line Equipment - \$2,640.00
- Custom Concrete & Commercial Maintenance - \$6,160.00
- NC Outdoor Services & Maintenance Inc. - \$9,485.00

**All in favor except Tomasovitch
abstained on NC Outdoors** **Motion carried**

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

To advertise for a request of proposals for the video surveillance system for the Civic Center & Police Department.

All in favor **Motion carried**

12. Motion by Repchick **Seconded by Tomasovitch**

To hire HSA based on the proposal dated 8/3/16 for the design and administration of the contract for the generator to support the Civic Center.

On the question:

Kucharski: We talked about looking into the Police Department.

Repchick: They are not going to be able to operate. Can we include in that

Tanana: HSA would have to

Let's go through with this one.

All in favor **Motion carried**

Discussion took place regarding the next motion.

13. Motion by Magliocchi **Seconded by Repchick**

To authorize Mary Ruth Tanner to fill in the Civic Center Assistant Director position as needed for the period of time needed.

All in favor **Motion carried**

14. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Tomasovitch

To accept the proposal from Rileigh's Outdoor for 20 new Christmas decorations to replace the Christmas wreaths.

All in favor

Motion carried

15. Motion by Magliocchi

Seconded by Williams

To advertise for DPW summer help with a minimum age of 18 years old.

All in favor

Motion carried

Audience Comments:

Dave Karr, Meade St.: Has information on hometown banner program. To honor veterans.

Looking for cooperation from Council. Permission. Banners to be hung by Robert. \$135.00 to buy the signs. Hung on the Poles.

Neighborhood Watch meeting talked about planting flowers around the Welcome to Throop signs. 2019 Quasquicentennial - 125 years old. Need to start thinking about it now. Form committees.

Letter to paper - looking for memorabilia. Committee: Tomasovitch, Kucharski, Mayor Shimkus.

Participating in Arts & Food Festival. Invited all of council to sit in on Neighborhood watch meetings.

Kucharski: Will appreciate everything you are doing. And will support all you are doing. The flags, etc.

Andy Hegedus: Grinavich will honor that agreement. I don't benefit at all from this. He works commercial and I work residential. Thanked everyone for their assistance with the Storm. Everyone did a great job.

Kucharski thanked The Fireman and Hose Co # 3 for their help with the storm. Response time is key to saving lives. Guys were there all day and 2 slept over to make sure they can protect the citizens of Throop. Certainly appreciated.

Joe Tomasovitch, Sanderson St.: Thanked Council for their compliment. Wants it understood that he does what he does because I work with 9 other men. I am only 1 person. The 10 men work together like a fine machine and couldn't have a better group of men; and has a foreman that he respects.

Kucharski Didn't want to single you out. It's the perfect example for the anti nepotism policy.

John Snell, Sanderson St.: Would appreciate if could do the sidewalks on Oleckna St. Saw young women pushing strollers in the mud. Magliocchi: We are holding off to benefit him. But who's it going to benefit if someone gets run over down there. We are letting him push us around.

Kucharski asked that Galli tell Lou to follow up with Rinaldi.

Tomasovitch: We want them (Sidewalks) ASAP.

Magliocchi: If something is not presented to us next meeting we should just enforce it. We shouldn't waste anymore time. Don't want to see someone get hurt.

Snell: The right of way goes to the center of the road in 20 feet. The existing sidewalks that were put in before they had no trouble with Rinaldi. They went all the way down and stopped at the manhole cover. Where did you ever see a sidewalk stop at the end of a manhole cover.

Something has to be done.

Magliocchi: Worse place to stop. It created a hazard.

Repchick & Kucharski agreed.

Kucharski: We had this in the works then Rinaldi came and they are proposing a huge project down there.

Magliocchi: This is the second time he came in. I believe he is just pushing us around. Someone is going to get hurt. I say we need an answer by next meeting and then we need to take action.

The meeting was adjourned.

Meeting minutes by Renee O'Malley
Borough Secretary