

**Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Tuesday, November 27th, 2012
Budget Work Session 6:00p.m.
followed by Monthly Work Session/Meeting**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

“God Bless Our Troops and the Coalition”

ROLL CALL:

Members of Council:

Mark Mazak - P
Charlene Tomasovitch - P
Thomas Lukasewicz, **President - P**
Anthony Gangemi, **Vice President - P**
David Repchick - A
John Musewicz - P
Neil Furiosi - A
Solicitor - Louis A. Cimini - P
Mayor - Stanley Lukowski - P
Assistant Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - P
Secretary - Renee O’Malley - P
Chief Clerk/Treasurer -Robin Galli - P

Announcements:

* Saturday, December 15, 2012 from 10 a.m. to noon, Throop Civic Center will hold the Children’s Christmas Party. Santa Around Town starts at 12:30p.m.

Work Session/Meeting Schedule:

- *An executive meeting was held this evening to discuss legal and personnel matters.
- * The Dec. mid-month work session/meeting will be held Monday, Dec. 10th at 6:30 p.m.
- * The Dec. monthly work session /meeting will be held Wednesday, Dec. 26th at 6:30 p.m.

Audience Comments on tonight’s agenda:

Jim Barnick, Adams Ct.: On the last motion regarding 48 acres, Years ago I was all for it but I think it is a bad move with the stock market over the last few years, it’s a lot of money, Police Department will have to watch it, will have to hire someone to maintain it

3. **Motion by Musewicz** **Seconded by Tomasovitch**

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

All in favor except Musewicz abstained on daughter **Motion carried**

4. **Motion by Musewicz** **Seconded by Mazak**

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

All in favor **Motion carried**

5. **Motion by Gangemi** **Seconded by Mazak**

To accept the Fund Statement and Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement as of **October 31st, 2012** as posted and/or printed on the agenda.

Fund Balances:	
General Fund Checking Account (Fidelity)	(\$162,813.44)*
General Fund Performance Money Market (Fidelity)	\$945,797.84
Civic Center Account (Fidelity)	\$536.18
General Fund Petty Cash	\$300.00
Payroll Checking Account (Fidelity)	\$46,629.34
Sunny Day Fund MMKT Ck Acct (Fidelity Bank)	\$5,468,556.18
Sunny Day Fund CD's	\$82,246.10
Liquid Fuels Account (Fidelity)	\$163,129.60
Fund Statement Grand Total:	\$6,544,382.10

*Transferred \$200,000.00 from GF MMKT on November 1st, 2012

On the Question:

Gangemi: Robin, want to explain the negative.

Galli: Transferred on 11/1/12.

Lukasewicz: It's covered?

Galli: Yes

All in favor

Motion carried

15. Motion by Mazak

Seconded by Gangemi

The budget is just a guideline and before any significant monetary purchases or P.O.'s are given a vote of Council should be held.

On the question:

Musewicz: This will be sent to the department heads in a memo.

All in favor

Motion carried

16. Motion by Gangemi

Seconded by Mazak

The purchase of a motorcycle by the Police Department is to be done by vote of Council prior to the purchase.

All in favor

Motion carried

17. Motion by Lukasewicz

Seconded by Gangemi

To allow the aerial topography to be performed at the 48 acres as per the proposal submitted by the Borough Engineer, Jack Scheuer.

On the question:

Lukasewicz: Agrees with Jim to a certain degree. Spent a lot of time, effort, and money over the years. Get the topography done and go back to them with a proposal. Stick a sign on it and sign off on it. I don't want to spend money up there but I don't want to lose the opportunity for green space for everybody. Keep it basic. Do the aerial to get to the next step and say here is our master plan. This is all we can afford. We are strapped like every other municipality. Just want to go a little bit further.

Lukasewicz opened it up to the audience.

Rich Lombardo, 650 Dunmore St: agrees with Jim. Put a sign up, open the gate and let it go as it is. Why spend any money up there.

Lukasewicz: Have to give them a master plan. Part of the bargaining chip when got it.

Lombardo: Over the years no master plan.

Lukasewicz: No we have had a master plan

Attorney Cimini: Let's just correct that. There is a master plan. We have to file an amendment to it.

Gangemi: The master plan is to elaborate.

Lukasewicz can't see losing it. Have 50 some acres of green space. Just can't give it away.

Lombardo spoke of the amount of acres and all the police protection that would be needed. A lot can happen up there.

Lukasewicz added it could happen now. If something happens up there we will have to take care

of it anyway. This is a different kind of park for someday.

Trudy Delawder, Memorial Dr.: spoke of the intent at one point for a skate park and was happy that wasn't an option.

Barnick: The topography is needed no matter what you put up there. It needs to be done. I wouldn't have DEP be the one that can pull the strings one day. When does it belong to Throop and DEP has no say anymore. They have to be able to release you. Do you have to follow their order/bid specs if it needs to go out to bid. When do they release the borough. You have to find out.

Mazak: Once they sign off on it (the master plan), it then becomes the boroughs?

Barnick: That isn't releasing you.

Lukasewicz: Would have to propose something that they agree too.

Barnick: Get the topography, put a master plan together and say this is it. It's green space and a walking trail.

Gangemi: That's as far as I would like to go.

Conversation took place in regards to the recent survey and a possible flyover more than 10 years ago.

Lukasewicz spoke of the elevations on the master plan but have changed because of all the earth taken out of there by Gould. There was Contours there. Test borings were done. We spent a lot of money there.

Mazak: Louie so you're sure that if another master plan is done and if it is submitted to the state and it becomes Throop's land and in 10 years from now if the landfill shuts down and the borough of Throop doesn't have any money the state can't come in and take that land.

Barnick: That's what I am trying to get at.

Lukasewicz: That's what you have to get into a legal contract.

Mazak: I have concern of dumping monies up there and then having the state come in

Lukasewicz: That's why you have to have them sign off - closure.

Attorney Cimini: It has to be used as green space.

Lukasewicz: When you earmark it as green space it is green space.

Barnick: Lou how much time do you have to keep it at that?

Attorney Cimini: I think if you ever change it from green space to residential you would have to go back to them.

Mazak: The state has to change it.

Lukasewicz asked Attorney Cimini if there was something in the borough code that says once you earmark something as a park it has to stay a park?

Barnick: Everyone knows things are going to change. Say something happens to the landfill and you have to make it residential to bring the tax base up.

Lukasewicz: If you don't spend a lot of money there developing something that is over above what we need then at that point can give it back and a development can come in. Need a deed that has specifics.

Barnick: Once you establish a park for so many years there should be a release.

Gangemi: They wanted to make sure it is green space.

Mazak commented that only sees red ash there. Nothing green.

Lukasewicz: All you have to do is plant stuff it will grow.

Mazak asked if it does pass what's the next step?

Lukasewicz: Do the topography, sit down and develop a master plan and decide how small we want to go. Come up with a time schedule and give it to DEP.

Mazak: How about the cost factor?

Lukasewicz: You would have to have a cost factor of how you were going to develop it over the years. My game plan is to keep it as low as we can, and all that we can afford. To keep it as green space.

Mazak: Is the solicitor going to see if we could get the land in Throop Borough's name? Are we going to expend any money up there before we find that out?

Lukasewicz: Have to do the master plan with the specifics of what want to do give it to the DEP and ask for commitment.

Mazak: That the deed will be turned over to the Throop Borough?

Lukasewicz: Yes.

Mazak: And if the deed isn't turned over?

Lukasewicz: Then we stop.

Mazak: If the topography passes the next step is to develop the plan, get a cost estimate,

Lukasewicz: Get a cost estimate and a time table and submit it to the DEP and if it wants to be as basic as a sign up there and leaving it as green space, try that. Worst they can say is no or they want a little more.

Mazak: I could vote for this if, if once the plan is developed that Lou goes to the State and asks that the land be turned over to the Borough of Throop so we have ownership of the land so that any monies that we expend up there in regards to a park is ours.

Lukasewicz: That's all I wanted to do.

Mazak: We need to get residents curbs and side walks and we have to get a home for the elderly. That could all be accomplished up there.

Barnick: We tried that.

Mazak: If we get it in our name we can do what we want. I have been talking to people and there are federal and state grants out there.

Musewicz added that a harder look needs to be taken on where want to go and how much to spend. In total agreement of getting the support of the citizens of the Borough if we move forward. This is the only time in 7 years that the aerial survey had to be done prior to the master plan. Agrees with Mark if could get more language from the state.

All in favor

Motion carried

18. Motion by Musewicz

Seconded by Tomasovitch

To advertise the 2013 proposed budget.

All in favor

Motion carried

Tomasovitch wanted to tell Mary Ruth what a great job she did on the Preschools Thanksgiving feast.

Mazak seconded that.

Lenore Dolan, South Valley Ave.: Asked if there was really a meeting the day after Christmas.

Lukasewicz: Have to adopt the budget that night.

Gangemi: We can keep it quick.

Dolan asked if our new state representative will have an office here?

Lukasewicz: Robin write a letter and ask his intentions.

There were no audience comments.

Minutes by Renee O'Malley
Borough Secretary