

**Minutes**  
**Throop Borough Council**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 28, 2007**  
**following the 6:30 p.m. Work Session**

**The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

*"God Bless Our Troops and the Coalition"*

**ROLL CALL:**

**Members of Council:**

James Barnick, **Vice President - P**

Ray Jarosh - **P**

Thomas Lukasewicz, **President - P**

Tony Chrzan - **P**

George Marushock - **A**

John Musewicz - **P**

Joseph Barone - **P**

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

**Mayor** - Stanley Lukowski - **P**

Assistant Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - **P**

Secretary - Christina Sullivan - **P**

Chief Clerk/Treasurer - Elaine Morrell - **P**

**Announcements:**

- The Annual Children's Christmas Party for the children of Throop will be held at the Throop Civic Center on Sat., December 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Richard Vinansky Memorial 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball Tournament will begin December 1<sup>st</sup> at the Throop Civic Center.

**Schedule of Meetings:**

- Thursday, December 13, 2007 - Special Monthly Work Session / Meeting for General Purposes beginning at 6:30.
- Thursday, December 27, 2007 - Monthly Work Session/Meeting for General Purposes beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, January 7, 2008 – Re-organization meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**Official Comments:**

Council Vice President Barnick: With WBRE TV-28 present, questioned if the news normally covered a budget meeting; did not see them on Channel 61 (for the Scranton meeting).

**Audience comments on the agenda:**

**Bob Bolus, 922 Sanderson Street:** Motion #6, advertising requirements and public comment for the proposed budget, fire company services and allotment.

**Daryl Menichetti, North Street:** Budget and emergency services, the General Fund balance, Sunny Day Fund, INVEST, TAN, property tax for 2008 and anticipated revenue.

**Wayne Williams, Emerald Drive:** Operating costs (Fire Company) and allocations of neighboring municipalities/townships, duplication of services.

**Christine Hartshorn, Dimmick Street:** Fire company allocation and allocations of neighboring townships / municipalities, operating costs.

**Sue Hughes, Olyphant:** Consolidation and costs, paid fire services and costs, coming out for the fires.

**Council President Lukasewicz:** For the record, no other fire companies are here.

**1. Motion by Musewicz Second by Chrzan**

To accept the monthly zoning reports and the minutes of the October 18, 2007 council meeting.

All in favor

Motion carried

**Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Reports**

**2. Motion by Musewicz Second by Barone**

To accept the treasurers' 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>\$88,718.95</b>
Paid bills: \$500,000.00 transferred to Invest Program General Fund Account	<b>\$95,683.26</b>
General Fund Revenue Report	<b>\$196,390.19</b>
Civic Center Revenue	<b>\$9,192.15</b>

All in favor

Motion carried

**3. Motion by Barone Second by Chrzan**

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

All in favor except Barnick, abstain on daughter

Motion carried

**4. Motion by Jarosh**

**Second by Chrzan**

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

On the question:

Lukasewicz: There was a letter that came in today from the District Attorney's office. *Council President read the letter. William Hazelton was chosen as recipient of the 2007 Lights on for Life Highway Safety Award, to be presented Dec. 14, 2007 at the Viewmont Mall.*

All in favor

Motion carried

**5. Motion by Musewicz**

**Second by Barnick**

To accept the Fund Statement, Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement and Loan Balance as of **October 31, 2007** as posted and/or printed on the agenda.

<b>Fund Balances</b>	
General Fund Checking Account	<b>\$772,312.02</b>
General Fund Petty Cash	<b>300.00</b>
Payroll Checking Account	<b>34,725.43</b>
Tax Escrow Account	<b>2,962.59</b>
Invest Program	<b>2,062,911.39</b>
Civic Center Account	<b>576.86</b>
Civic Center Petty Cash	<b>300.00</b>
Sunny Day Fund CD's as of 10/31/07	<b>3,548,897.47</b>
Capital Projects Account	<b>186.50</b>
Liquid Fuels Account	<b>83,275.11</b>
Turnback Program	<b>122,695.21</b>
<b>Fund Statement Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$6,629,142.58</b>

<b>LOANS</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>FNCB - LOAN</b>	<b>\$1,176,567.66</b>
<b>FNCB - TAN</b>	<b>\$2,000,000.00</b>

All in favor

Motion carried

**6. Motion by Jarosh**

**Second by Barnick**

To adopt the 2008 Proposed Budget in the amount of \$ 4,478,480.35 and Liquid Fuels Budget in the amount of \$168,830.97 and to advertise for public inspection.

On the question:

Barnick: What people got to understand is just last year we had some emergencies with sewers, especially Oleckna Street, was very costly - like \$120,000 - the sewer lines were collapsed. We went through the whole budget and the fire departments were last in the cuts. There are no raises, except for what's contracted so, what you've got to understand is all that. Then what happened with Maid Rite and up on the mountain there was extended cost there and several other issues with the trucks, the vehicles. Everything's got to operate. Fire services are very important but, at the same time, so is a healthy person inside of a house when the sewage is running all over their basements. So you've got to understand that too. They've got to be replaced. There's hundred year old sewers here. Thank you.

All in favor

All in favor

**7. Motion by Barnick**

**Second by Musewicz**

To adopt Throop Borough Ordinance # 9 of 2007, an ordinance repealing Ordinance # 1 of 2006 the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax. An ordinance repealing the title and text of Ordinance # 1 of 2006, Emergency and Municipal Services Tax, effective December 31, 2007 at 11:59 p.m. A complete copy of the ordinance is posted and is available for inspection. (PSAB recommended passing to separate ordinances, one repealing EMST and one adopting LST.)

All in favor

Motion carried

**8. Motion by Musewicz**

**Second by Jarosh**

To adopt Throop Borough Ordinance # 10 of 2007, an ordinance establishing a Tapping Fee for the connection to the Eddy Creek Sewer line and extensions to the Eddy Creek Sewer line which provides service to dwelling units and nonresidential establishments.

On the question:

Lukasewicz: This tapping fee will give us a way to get back some of the monies that we've spent to put in the Eddy Creek Line. We've spent upwards of \$670,000 to put this line in with services to the new homes in that area and actually the potential for growth on the Marshwood Road and the mountain in the future. This is something we've talked about doing in the Borough of Throop for many years and finally last year, at a great expense to the borough, had it accomplished and it's very necessary to the Borough of Throop.

All in favor

Motion carried

**9. Motion by Musewicz**

**Second by Barone**

To adopt Ordinance # 11 of 2007, an ordinance enacting a new Local Services Tax, LST. A complete copy of the ordinance is posted and is available for inspection. (Act 7 was passed in June 2007, and the implementation for the Local Services Tax or LST.)

All in favor

Motion carried

**10. Motion by Barone**

**Second by Chrzan**

To allocate \$1,500.00 for the Annual Children's Christmas Party at the Civic Center. The party will be held on December 15, 2007 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All in favor

Motion carried

**11. Motion by Barone**

**Second by Chrzan**

To accept the "Return to Work" to regular duty for Joseph Budzinski effective 12/03/2007 as per Dr. Alan Gillick.

On the question:

Barone: He's completely good to come back, right?

E. Morrell: The doctor's slip does say regular duty.

Lukasewicz: Regular duty. It's actually good to have him back. I believe he's been off for several years.

All in favor

Motion carried

**12. Motion by Barnick**

**Second by Chrzan**

To ratify the Agreement between the Borough of Blakely and Throop Borough amending the Fuel Pump Agreement to change the Administrative Fee from \$0.05 per gallon to \$0.15 per gallon and setting a Key Replacement Fee of \$50.00 for any lost, misplaced or request for duplication of keys. Any damage done to the pumps will be paid by the customer. Effective January 01, 2008.

On the question:

Barnick: It's still cheaper than the one up there.

Lukasewicz: Then going to a regular service station.

All in favor

Motion carried

**13. Motion by Barone**

**Second by Musewicz**

To ratify the purchase of Christmas candy in the amount of \$1,717.32 for the Fire Companies Santa parade. The Santa parade will be held on December 8<sup>th</sup> beginning at noon.

All in favor

Motion carried

*A short discussion took place on the parade.*

*A short discussion took place on Motion #14.*

**Motion #14 Tabled:**

**14. Motion by Barnick**

**Second by Chrzan**

To settle the claim for damages at Rose Gaffney's property at 1101 Marshwood Rd. in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

All in favor

Motion tabled

**15. Motion by Barone**

**Second by Chrzan**

To accept the proposal from Arley Wholesale in the amount of \$3,631.00 for tile, cove base and adhesive and the proposal from Charles Floor Covering in the amount of 2,183.00 for installation of floor covering in the civic center game room. This is the lowest proposal received. Four places were called only two responded.

All in favor

Motion carried

**16. Motion by Barone**

**Second by Musewicz**

To approve Scranton Craftsmen Change Order # 1 in the amount of \$1,750.00 for the catch basin on the Oleckna St Project, as per Robert Kalinoski, the Street Commissioner's approval.

All in favor

Motion carried

**17. Motion by Barone**

**Second by Jarosh**

To authorize Scranton Craftsmen's application for payment # 2 in the amount of \$34,336.13 for the Oleckna Street Sanitary Storm Project as per Robert Kalinoski, Street Commissioner's Approval.

All in favor

Motion carried

**18. Motion by Barone**

**Second by Musewicz**

To approve payment in the amount of \$11,502.29 to J. A. Buratti for the work performed on Bellman Street, as per the detailed invoice and drawing submitted by Joe Buratti, pending Robert Kalinoski's, Street Commissioner, approval.

All in favor

Motion carried

**19. Motion by Chrzan**

**Second by Barone**

To donate \$100.00 to the Mid Valley Basketball Booster Club for the Ad Book.

All in favor

Motion carried

**20. Motion by Musewicz**

**Second by Jarosh**

To approve payment in the amount of \$5,388.26 to Scottsdale Insurance Co. for expenses regarding Snell v. Throop Borough.

On the question:

Barone: Are we supposed to have an appointment with this guy, this insurance man, to talk things over?

Five in favor - Barnick, Jarosh, Chrzan, Musewicz, Lukasewicz

One against - Barone

Motion carried

**21. Motion by Barone**

**Second by Barnick**

To donate \$200.00 to each senior citizens group for the annual Christmas Party at the Civic Center, the Over 55 and the Elite Group.

All in favor

Motion carried

**Official Comments:**

Councilman Barone mentioned civic center maintenance / budget for 2008.

**Audience Comments:**

**Dave Repchick, 629 Edgar Street:** Requested status of Bellman Street Pump Station Project.

**Bob Bolus, Sanderson Street (Hose Company No. 2):** Motion #12: if alternative costs were looked at, this was passing another cost on to the fire department. Inquired if any fuel adjustment for the Santa Parade, fire trucks should be parked and DPW trucks could be used, motion should be passed for charge for fire services, minimum of two hours when the truck goes out the door.

**Wayne Williams, Emerald Drive (Hose Company No. 2): Ordinance** probably not needed to bill for services. As treasurer, would personally make sure operating costs are paid before fuel in the truck, fuel will come last. If the fire truck sits there, fine, as long as there is a building around it and it's insured. Costs to outfit firefighters, new NFPA standards coming out, Hose Co. #1 only one up to par and that's probably just because they don't leave the building anyway.

**Christine Hartshorn, Dimmick St. (Hose Company No. 2):** Booster Club vs. fire department allocations in 2005, be creative with budget, other departments were not cut in half. Biggest no-no, cutting fire services, support, police services, mentioned rumors, HB1350, effective tomorrow, would be billing for services in Throop.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes by Christina Sullivan

Secretary

Throop Borough