

**Meeting
Throop Borough Council
Monday, October 24th, 2016
Monthly 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:

Richard Kucharski - P
Vince Tanana - P
Thomas Lukasewicz, **President - P**
Charlene Tomasovitch - P
David Repchick, **Vice President - P**
John Musewicz - P
Bob Magliocchi - P
Solicitor - Louis A. Cimini - P
Mayor - Wayne Williams - P
Assistant Treasurer - Lenore Dolan - P
Secretary - Renee O'Malley - P
Chief Clerk/Treasurer - Robin Galli - P

Announcements:

*** An executive session was held at 5:45 p.m. this evening for personnel issues.**

Work Session/Meetings:

- * The Oct. special monthly work session/ meeting will be held on Mon. Oct. 31st, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.
- * The Nov. mid month work session/meeting will be held on Mon. Nov. 7th, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.
- * The Nov. monthly work session/meeting will be held on Mon. Nov. 28th, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Audience comments on tonight's agenda:

Denise Brown, Phillips St.: Questioned if the Civic Center is losing money. Year to date?

Lukasewicz: It's usually pretty close. It was never anticipated to make a profit. Wanted to bring in what we could to offset but with everything we have in the town, the landfill, we were able to give the people in town something.

Brown: And I love it. Grandson goes there excessively. It seems as though we hire a lot of people to work there. And a lot of times when I'm there it is people sitting around watching TV.
Tomasovitch: We are addressing the Civic Center about stuff that is going on over there.
Brown: Just curious why hiring someone else when, I won't go into dates and times but, when I am there, there is 3 people working that we are paying for sitting watching television. I looked at the expense report out here and it is losing money. Why would we hire more people?
Magliocchi: I can't argue with you at all.
Dolan: The civic center was never built to make a profit.
Brown: I understand that but we are losing money from the landfill. And again I love that civic center and I think it is a wonderful place for the kids to go and play but aren't there better ways to spend the money instead of hiring friends and relatives?
Dolan: Well that would be up to the department head probably.

Joe Tomasovitch, Sanderson St.: Dave put the motion on about the church, doesn't matter to me what happens over there in the long run but the only thing is that Mr. Tropiak isn't here tonight he offered to buy the church. If that was to go through he is going to be very upset over it. If you tear it down you tear it down but the man made an offer to buy it more than once. And you turned it down

Magliocchi: I actually agreed to sell it but nobody else wanted to because they wanted the parking for the civic center so anyway you look at it nobody is-----with that church.

Lukasewicz: Don't we use the parking lot behind it?

Magliocchi: I just said you guys wanted a parking lot. The issue is nothing is going to be done with that church. You of all people should know from the construction business that it is going to cost more money to renovate it that church with high ceilings and heat costs. It is more effective to build a new one. We put money into it to, we heat it there is no reason for it. It just sits there.

Tomasovitch asked why can't get Vasaliko in and see what

Magliocchi: If you are saying senior living it is better to start from the ground up. Doing that you aren't going to get units out of. We've been saying we were going to do something with that church since January. Honestly I don't think anybody is doing anything. Just prolonging it. Tom is saying the budget is down from the landfill me here I would ask for money from the landfill. Doesn't hurt. But nobody wants too. That's my opinion.

1. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Musewicz

To accept the monthly zoning reports and the minutes of the Sept. 26th and Oct. 10th, 2016 council meetings.

All in favor

Motion carried

Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Reports:

2. Motion by Musewicz

Seconded by Repchick

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"	\$63,542.67
Paid bills:	\$199,350.57
General Fund Revenue Report (includes transfers from GF MMKT TO GF CK)	\$1,387,317.09
Civic Center Revenue Report	\$14,515.00

All in favor

Motion carried

3. Motion by Musewicz

Seconded by Kucharski

To pay all the employees of Throop Borough.

**All in favor except Tanana abstained
on his brother, Tomasovitch on husband
& father and Musewicz on daughter**

Motion carried

4. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Musewicz

To accept the correspondence as read or posted.

All in favor

Motion carried

5. Motion by Musewicz

Seconded by Repchick

To accept the Fund Statement, Budgeted Revenue & Expense Statement as of Sept. 30th, 2016 as posted and/or printed on the agenda.

Fund Balances:	
General Fund Checking Account - FNCB	\$183,252.81
General Fund Performance Money Market - FNCB	\$1,360,418.57
Civic Center Account-FNC	\$681.00
General Fund Petty Cash	\$300.00
Payroll Checking Account-FNCB	\$9,242.01
Sunny Day Fund MMKT CK Acct-FNCB	\$2,898,964.91
Sunny Day Fund CD's	\$4,156,641.94
Liquid Fuels Account - FNCB	\$308,717.88
Fund Statement Grand Total:	\$8,918,219.12

All in favor

Motion carried

6. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Musewicz

To deposit \$98,952.54 in the Sunny Day Fund MMKT checking account at FNCB. This represents 10% of the Host Municipal Landfill Fee check received Oct. 2016.

All in favor

Motion carried

7. Motion by Tomasovitch

Seconded by Tanana

To reimburse Officer Hazelton in the amount of \$247.24 for training expenses.

All in favor

Motion carried

Attorney Cimini: The contract allows you to buy out up to 12 weeks of sick time. Robin bought out 2 weeks last year.

Lukasewicz: Our DPW guys can buy it out if they want.

Magliocchi: That's DPW. We may as well make management union. They get everything they do.

Repchick: I do remember making a motion, roughly 2 years ago, to allow Robert to have the vacation and sick time but don't know if that includes the buy back.

Magliocchi: You are going by a persons word and I do believe Robert is a trust worthy guy but noone keeps track of his time as far as punching in and out. You don't know what time he gets there everyday. He doesn't report what time he leaves. He could've gotten an hour here or there and he may not realize. So we are paying him 68 and he may only have 60. We are just going on his word. There is no oversight here.

Tanana: According to our employee handbook that was passed in 2003 it states that sick time unused at the end of the year may not be carried over to the next year. Employees will not be paid for unused sick leave.

Repchick doesn't think it is valid.

Magliocchi: You change things as you please.

Tanana: It was adopted in 2003.

said it needs to be more specific in the future.

**6 in favor (Repchick said there needs to be something more specific on how this is to be done in the future),
Magliocchi against**

Motion carried

10. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Tomasovitch

To accept the proposal received from Electro-Mech for two scoreboards for the Civic Center at a cost of \$9,390.00.

All in favor

Motion carried

11. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Musewicz

To authorize Joe Duda to do a study on cost of hiring 3 full time officers and what effect to the pension plan if 1, 2 of 3 officers retire immediately or within the next few years and not to exceed \$1,000.00.

Repchick: Totally understand what your trying to find out & I accept what you are trying to do with this. You are trying to keep where the budget should be and that's what you and we all should be doing. All I am going to say is if you don't have guys that put the money in the pension, and I will say it right here, I will not put 3 guys on. That will just kill the borough.

What it would cost, what will come out of the pension but you have to have guys to put money in it. I understand why you doing this. My other fear is what happens when the DPW workers, 5 of them, would go at the exact same time then you someone to supplement it. We are supplementing it as it is to help get us back to solvency.

Lukasewicz: just want to know what the numbers are so if we need to make decisions at least we know what we are up against. My concern was we always wanted part timers because we knew there was no way we could afford more full timers. I know we are having problems.

Repchick: If we hire I will only do it contingent on how many part timers you get rid of.

Lukasewicz: It's all got to be refined.

Tape ended.

Lukasewicz: This part time person has a miniscule job as opposed to a permanent position. This could be really detrimental to the Borough. I just want to know what the numbers are.

On the question:

Tanana: Questioned if there is a cost cap.

Galli: Approximately \$1,000.00.

6 in favor, Magliocchi against

Motion carried

12. Motion by Tomasovitch

Seconded by Repchick

To allow the Mid Valley Teener the use of Washington Street Ball Field for the 2017 spring, summer and fall season. Jim Caria will schedule the field.

All in favor

Motion carried

Lukasewicz would like to see if at some point if decide to do something with the other 2 properties in conjunction with this to at least wait for that point in time before you tear down the church. It costs \$4000.00 to heat the church a year.

Magliocchi: Can use that money for something else.

Lukasewicz: That's \$4,000.00 over a period of a few years until...once those 2 properties are down a decision has to be made this year on what will do with everything there. It won't be prolonged much longer.

Magliocchi: It has been. How long have you owned the church?

Lukasewicz: Several years.

All talking at once.

Kucharski: I think we should at least explore if there are alternative uses however this is only a motion to get a bid.

Lukasewicz: This is a bid to make a motion to tear it down with the other structures.

All talking at once.

Repchick: You have to have a bid first.

Attorney Cimini: You have to solicit bids first.

Repchick changed the motion to read to get a bid to tear the church down.

Kucharski: This is only a bid and could be part of our potential solutions. At least we would know how much it would cost to tear it down. We really need somebody to get in there and take a look at it. There was an architect that was supposed to look at it to give us suggestions.

Tanana: Questioned the condition of the heating system.

Lukasewicz: It needs a new heating system. If going to do something everything needs to be changed.

Tanana: If it blows up this winter we are going to have to replace it. That's not going to be cheap.

Magliocchi: That church went 5 years without heat.

Tanana: Let's drain the water system, everything out of it so the pipes don't freeze.

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

21. Motion by Kucharski Seconded by Magliocchi

To authorize Mayor Williams to give Butash's a citation thanking them for 66 years of service of providing Pharmacy and Post Office to the Borough.

All in favor Motion carried

25. Motion by Repchick

Seconded by Magliocchi

To rescind Motion #18 authorizing Martarano to install a backflow device at the church.

6 in favor, Lukasewicz against Motion carried
Because feels that backflow should've
been put on and the church heated to
make sure the integrity of the building stays
better than it could be if it is shut off.

Audience Comments:

Andy Hegedus: Since that measure has been taken asked if the Borough would consider selling the pews and wood from the church. Sure people would love to get there hands on it.

All talking at once.

Kucharski spoke of Old Things New.

Lukasewicz: A lot of people would love to have it.

Hegedus said that it is valuable wood. Before it gets further damaged.

Repchick: That's a good idea.

Attorney Cimini added that you can't just sell it. Dealing with Borough Property. There's a process.

Dave Magliocchi, Simpson St.: On the church, you say there is possible mold in there and you guys have the borough workers going in there. Maybe it should be tested for mold before we send our employees in there. Something has been there for 5 years that hasn't been used or heated you're going to have problems with mold. And if it is then we are putting our employees in danger going in & out. Does anyone take care of it?

Repchick questioned if they will be going in and out now.

Lukasewicz: With no heat noone will be going in.

B. Magliocchi: There will be people going in out to winterize it.

Lukasewicz: Have Cocciardi look at it the same way they looked at the Civic Center.

D. Magliocchi: The aerating and seeding for the 4 fields at \$1200.00. Can go to Grand Rental and rent an aerator. You have borough workers taking care of the fields. Why would we sub that work out to somebody else when it may only cost about \$200.00 to rent the machine.

Kucharski: Robert said he would like to have the guy's watch how it's done to be able to do it next year and in the future.

B. Magliocchi: Next year we should start doing it regardless.

Lukasewicz: It is a good recommendation and something to think about.

Magliocchi: Was here about 2 months ago and spoke of the sewer problem on Bruno Dr. Would like to know, Do any of you know 100% if there is a septic tank there?

Repchick: Don't know either way.

Lukasewicz: The sewage enforcement officer went there.

Kucharski: Someone from DEP also?

Attorney Cimini: No the sewage enforcement officer.

D. Magliocchi: He doesn't know. Lokuta told me the owners said they come and suck the septic from inside the house. How do we know that is not just going into a bore hole? Why isn't someone up there looking into something environmentally that you can see physically where that lid should be on that septic and do something about it? It's been going on for a year.

All talking.

Lukasewicz: We are going to correct the problem Dave. We told him what was going on. The sewage enforcement officer gets paid for looking and analyzing it.

Repchick questioned if he gives us a report.

D. Magliocchi: He was up there with Bobby and said he I can't find nothing there is nothing I can do. That's what you're paying this guy for.

Lukasewicz: Then somebody else said they looked at it form the basement. We have a solution.

Attorney Cimini read aloud email correspondence from the sewage enforcement officer.

Repchick would like to see the report.

D. Magliocchi: They don't pay for a sewer bill so therefore you are not hooked up. Called the sewer authority and gave the address and they have not paid a sewer bill since the house was built. The owner said there is a septic there. The neighbors across the street said they never seen a septic truck there since they have been living there for over 35 years. Robert said to Bobby one day well you know there is only 1 lady living in the house. It's going to take awhile for a septic to fill up. You have to empty them by law every so often and have it documented. I feel right now that it can possibly be going into a borehole. It's going on awhile and I know you are looking into it but you're not looking where you should be.

Repchick: There is a solution but not what you just said.

Kucharski: We are putting a sewer in for everybody.

D. Magliocchi: After I had to pay to get one in because noone would help us to put one in.

B. Magliocchi doesn't know why would put a new line in when we have one.

All talking.

Lukasewicz: The engineer is reviewing it and going to make a recommendation. He is looking at it and then we will know for sure. Attorney Cimini contact the Mr. Garvey, sewage enforcement officer and tell him that there is an official concern made by Dave Magliocchi that there is possibly no septic system in that house and to look into it.

Attorney Cimini: I can tell you that the sewage enforcement officer has made the determination that there is no malfunction in the septic. That's his opinion.

Repchick-Lukasewicz: Have him at the next meeting.

D. Magliocchi: To make it even more clear-for the next meeting can he come here with a picture of that septic on the property with the lid and say yes there is? That is the only way someone will prove it to me.

Lukasewicz: Tell him to go up there and investigate it. Let him know an allegation was made that there isn't so it's up to him to prove it.

The meeting was adjourned.

Meeting minutes by Renee O'Malley
Borough Secretary