

February 09, 2010

Tremont Borough Council met for their Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Clay Street School Building..

Council members attending were : Laine R. Mack Jr., Robert Donmoyer, Gene Griffiths, Gerald Fasnacht, and Scott Fisher. Also attending: Secretary Cheryl Mack, Mayor William Allar, Road Supervisor William Mindler, Solicitor Christopher Hobbs, Officer Joseph Kavanaugh and Fire Chief James Koppenhaver. Citizens attending were: Frederick Scheibley and Roger M. Adams.

President Mack opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fasnacht and Fisher motion to accept the minutes of the January 4, 2010 Reorganization Meeting and the January 4, 2010 Regular Meeting. All in favor.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: As a Tremont property owner, James Koppenhaver asked about whether the Borough has an ordinance against citizens clearing the snow from their own property and piling it on someone else's property without permission. Mayor Allar stated that there is an ordinance that prohibits this practice so if you file a report with the Police they will take care of it. Violators can be fined \$ 600.00 as per the ordinance.

COMMUNICATIONS: Donmoyer and Fasnacht motion to enter an agreement with the Tremont Little League for use of the school's baseball field during the upcoming season with the same terms as in prior years. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Donmoyer and Griffiths motion to allow the Tremont Little League to hold their opening day parade along Main & Clay Streets on Sunday, May 2nd beginning at 11:00 a.m. Roll call vote. All in favor. Secretary Mack will secure a road closing permit from PennDOT for this activity.

PennDOT sent notification that the Goodspring Street bridge will be inspected sometime between April and September of this year after which we will receive an inspection report.

An invitation was received from PA DEP for elected officials to attend one of their workshops on Wind Energy Powering America. Two workshops are currently scheduled. The first is on Thursday, March 18th in Altoona and the second is on Friday, March 19th in Wilkes-Barre.

Due to not having an available location to develop, no action was taken on Rep. Seip's notification of a grant opportunity that DCNR is taking applications for until April 21 as the project eligible for funding requires developing open land areas within the Borough to develop parks and conservation facilities.

PSAB submitted information on two scholarship applications that they are currently accepting. The first is the Robert C. Edwards Scholarship grant for high school seniors who are planning to enter college next semester. The deadline to apply is May 4, 2010. While only one \$ 1,000.00 scholarship is granted per each administrative district, Secretary Mack noted that last year's scholarship was awarded to a Tremont resident, Stephanie Koppenhaver. The second scholarship is the new Mahoney/Brungard scholarship for graduate students. The deadline to apply for this scholarship is February 26, 2010. Citizens interested in either scholarship should stop into the Borough office

for applications.

Charles Huntzinger made a request on behalf of the Tremont Historical Society that they be allowed to access the building using the new rear doorway as that side of the building gets the sun so the steps are clear of ice. Donmoyer stated that he spoke with Huntzinger about this issue after he made the original request and explained to him that the rear door does not have outside access. An interior panic bar for emergency exit was all that was installed on that door.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

PUBLIC UTILITY & STREETS: President Mack acknowledged the great job that the two borough workers did on Saturday in keeping the roads plowed open during the snow storm.

PROPERTY: Griffiths and Donmoyer motion to renew Ehrlich contract for vegetation management throughout the town at a cost of \$ 466.00 and the Ehrlich contract for broadleaf weed control at the Laurel Street bridge at a cost of \$ 322.00. Roll call vote. All in favor. The Ehrlich contract proposal for Vegetation management along the stream channels at a cost of \$ 2,211.00 will not be renewed due to budgetary constraints. Last year's contract was paid for with funding from a Stream Cleanout Grant.

Gene Griffiths spoke on behalf of the Tremont Community Organization. The TCO is planning to purchase landscaping paver blocks to build elevated planters around the four Welcome to Tremont signs. Griffiths asked for permission to use the borough truck and driver to pick up the blocks. Council agreed that this is a legitimate worthwhile project that the borough should participate in so approval was given to schedule with Mindler when these blocks need to be picked up. Donmoyer added that the TCO is also planning to purchase a piece of playground equipment for the north side of the Clay Street building. He stated that before this equipment is placed the large spruce tree that is growing against the north side of the building be removed as was discussed in the past. Fasnacht will speak with a friend of his to see if he would be able to cut the tree down.

Fasnacht updated Council on the inspection of the TACC building bell tower that was completed by the contractor that is currently making the repairs to the steeple at St. John's Lutheran Church. Jerry stated that the rubber roof is coming loose in spots and the bell tower is deteriorating and sagging which is pulling some of the seams apart on the roof surface causing the leaks. The contractor will be providing a repair estimate. Griffiths asked whether estimates could be requested of local contractors. Fasnacht said that he will discuss these repairs with some of our local contractors to see if we need to apply for grant funding to preserve historical buildings.

Donmoyer stated that he spoke with employees of SCMA to see if they will do a gas meter test in the tunnel leading to the library to see where the sewer smell is coming from so that the problem can be solved.

President Mack said that he will go to the next Little Cardinal meeting to see about getting the agreement approved for the baseball field improvements.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Allar thanked Dale Marks and Richard and Sally Kintzel for alerting the police that an elderly neighbor was not seen for a long time. The Kintzel's provided a key for Officer Kavanaugh to enter the women's residence where

she was found alive but needing immediate assistance. Mayor Allar stated that Marks and Kintzel's action saved the woman's life. President Mack stated that we should give them a commendation from the Borough. Secretary Mack will look into this matter.

In view of the current snow storm. Mayor Allar stated that he was going to declare a state of emergency for the Borough from 8:00 p.m. tonight until noon on Thursday. All vehicles must be moved along the snow emergency routes so that the snow can be cleared from them.

Mayor Allar requested a brief executive session at the end of tonight's meeting to discuss a legal matter.

LAW & ORDER: Chief Michael Conway provided a report for January noting 27 Incidents, 4 Arrests, 2 Court Hearings, and 392 miles put on police vehicles.

Officer Kavanaugh's report for January noted 41 Incidents, 3 Arrests, 3 Court Hearings, and 487 miles on the police vehicles.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Roger M. Adams discussed a Fire Service Seminar that will be held in Schuylkill Haven on April 22 that would provide the Borough with beneficial information concerning securing grant funding to purchase a new truck. Public Safety Chairman, Scott Fisher and President Laine Mack plan to attend if possible.

Fire Chief Koppenhaver reported that the department responded to 6 calls in January.

RECREATION: Griffiths stated that he had nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Fasnacht and Fisher motion to accept the report as prepared by C. Mack. Roll call vote. All in favor.

FINANCE: C. Mack stated that she turned all borough files for 2009 over to Norm Lettich who is completing our annual audit.

OLD BUSINESS: A lengthy discussion was held on the appointment of the engineering firm to handle both the Union Street bridge project and all other Borough engineering projects. Fasnacht made a motion to appoint Alfred Benesch & Co. for everything. Receiving no second to the motion it did not carry to a vote. Fasnacht and Griffiths motion to hire Alfred Benesch & Co. to engineer just the Union Street Bridge project. Roll call vote. All in favor. Griffiths and Fisher motion to retain Light-Heigel as the Borough's engineer for all other projects and code enforcement. Roll call vote. All in favor except Fasnacht who votes no.

Fasnacht and Griffiths motion to enter into the service contract with Potts & Monger that was deferred from last month's meeting for review. Roll call vote. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS: President Mack provided an update to Council on the Act 32 controversy concerning the 16 school districts and the city of Pottsville having a weighted vote on all issues instead of having the fairer, one man one vote.

Donmoyer and Griffiths motion to enter an Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss a legal matter. All in favor.

Fasnacht and Fisher motion to leave the Executive Session at 8:35 p.m.

RECEIPTS: GENERAL ACCOUNT: District Magistrate Carol Pankake: \$ 391.39 Vio. @ Ordinances and \$ 87.02, Vio. @ Veh. Code; Tremont Library: \$ 200.00, rent (Feb.), \$ 967.50, wage reimb., and \$ 327.95 wage tax reimb @ 4th qtr. 09; Diakon Lutheran Social Services: \$ 873.33, rent (Jan.) and \$ 396.79 utility reim. (Nov. & Dec.);

IU-29: \$ 920.00, rent (Jan.) and \$ 179.31, utilities (Dec.); Rep.Tim Seip:\$ 100.00, rent (Feb.); Richard Kintzel:\$ 4,718.18, real estate taxes and \$ 330.00, Per Capita taxes; Schuylkill County:\$ 1,895.00, rent (Jan.); Bonnie Kupp: \$ 375.00, rent @ gym (Jan.), \$ 60.00, rent @ classroom & \$ 9.41, utility reimb.; Handicap Signs:\$ 30.00, renewal fees; Berkheimer: \$ 91.50, delinq. Per capita; Sch. Co. Child Development: \$ 130.00, rent (Jan.); Tremont Senior Citizens: \$ 240.00, rent (Jan. & Feb.); Historical Society: \$ 300.00, rent (1st Qtr. of 2010); Real Estate Transfers: \$ 439.44, taxes; Dumpster Permits: \$ 50.00, fees; Frailey Twp.:\$ 2,850.82, reimb.; Parking Fines: \$ 15.00, collections; Kelly Stine: \$ 50.00, rent gym @ soccer; PLGIT General: YMCA: \$ 37.53, usage fee & \$ 20.99, utility reimb.; Sch. Co. Treasurer: \$ 376.80, reimb ½ @ tax collector supplies; PLGIT General: \$ 25,000.00, transfer; Clerk of Courts: \$ 21.29, vio. @ ord.; NOW Account Interest \$ 5.39 (January);

TOTAL = \$ 41,489.64

PLGIT ACCOUNT: EIT: \$ 5,966.00; LST: \$ 0.00; PLGIT Interest: \$ 2.60 (January);

TOTAL = \$ 5,968.60

PAYROLL: \$ 16,227.08: Transferred from General Account (January); NOW Account Interest: \$.79 (January);

TOTAL = \$ 16,227.87

PLGIT FIRE DEPT. FUND: Interest: \$.60 (January) TOTAL = \$.60

PLGIT HIGHWAY AID FUND: Interest: \$ 2.81 (January) TOTAL = \$ 2.81

PLGIT LANDFILL ACCOUNT: Interest: \$.01, (January) TOTAL = \$.01

M & T STREET RECONSTRUCTION ACCOUNT: Interest: \$.85 (January);

TOTAL = \$.85

PLGIT POLICE PENSION FUND: Interest: \$.00, (January);

TOTAL = \$.00

SWIMMING POOL FUND: Cash Receipts: \$ 484.00 (January);

TOTAL = \$ 484.00

CLAY STREET BUILDING FUND: Interest: \$.40 (January)

TOTAL = \$.40

EXPENDITURES: Donmoyer and Fisher motion to approve the payment of the following expenditures: Roll call vote. All in favor. General Fund: \$ 16,974.53; Fire Dept. Fund: \$ 653.37; Payroll Fund: \$ 5,325.91; Swimming Pool Fund: \$ 5.16 Highway Aid Fund: \$ 2,000.00; Clay St. Bldg. Fund: \$ 920.17; PLGIT General Account:\$ 20,000.00;

| | | |
|------|---|---------------|
| EFT | Yahoo, website fee | 13.94 |
| 6969 | Wm. Mindler, reimb @ supplies | 104.38 |
| 6970 | Werner's, materials @ repairs | 42.48 |
| 6971 | Voided check | .00 |
| 6972 | Pribilla's, supplies | 151.25 |
| 6973 | Berkheimer, services | 207.22 |
| 6974 | Capital Blue Cross, monthly premium | 2,587.42 |
| 6975 | SMA, utilities | 358.17 |
| 6976 | P.P. & L. Co., utilities | 2,635.07 |
| 6977 | Frontier Tele. Co., services | 209.23 |
| 6978 | Tremont Library, internet fees | 20.00 |
| 6979 | Potts & Monger, garbage removal | 60.00 |
| 6980 | Mid Penn Bank, loan | 873.21 |
| 6981 | SMA, sewer utilities | 90.00 |
| 6982 | Ehrlich, monthly service fee | 105.00 |
| 6983 | Kreiser's Fuel, monthly | 670.61 |
| 6984 | Atty. Chris Hobbs, solicitor fees | 233.32 |
| 6985 | SWIF, work comp. inst. & audit premium | 2,424.00 |
| 6986 | M & T Bank, monthly loan pmt. | 2,114.50 |
| 6987 | B & S Auto, police repairs | 202.99 |
| 6988 | Tremont Postmaster, stamps | 48.25 |
| 6989 | South Schuylkill Publishing, subscription renew | 33.00 |
| 6990 | Petty Cash, allocation | 125.00 |
| 6991 | Gall's, Police Uniforms (Conway) | 41.98 |
| 6992 | Sch. Tax Collection Committee, share @ costs | 353.09 |
| 6993 | H. A. Thompson, 2 nd inst. Property ins. | 2,224.00 |
| 6994 | PBCA, membership dues | 25.00 |
| 6995 | Antz Energy, repairs @ thermostat | 521.42 |
| 6996 | Carisa's Cleaning, monthly fee | <u>500.00</u> |
| | TOTAL | \$ 16,974.53 |

PLGIT FIRE DEPT FUND:

| | | |
|-----|------------------|---------------|
| 382 | VCLF, truck loan | <u>653.37</u> |
| | TOTAL | \$ 653.37 |

PLGIT HIGHWAY AID FUND:

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 438 | M & T Bank, monthly loan pmt. | <u>2,000.00</u> |
| | TOTAL | \$ 2,000.00 |

PAYROLL FUND:

| | | |
|------|--|----------|
| EFT | PA Dept of Revenue, State Payroll Tax | 215.03 |
| 4996 | Miners Bank, Federal Payroll Tax Deposit | 2,016.64 |

| | | |
|------|---|-----------------|
| 4997 | AFLAC, employee premiums (payroll deductions) | 186.20 |
| EFT | PA Dept of Revenue, State Payroll Tax | 283.28 |
| 5006 | FOP Black Diamond Lodge, Police Dues (February) | 48.00 |
| 5007 | Miners Bank, Federal Payroll Tax Deposit | <u>2,576.76</u> |
| | TOTAL | \$ 5,325.91 |

SWIMMING POOL FUND:

| | | |
|------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1292 | P.P. & L. Co., utilities | <u>5.16</u> |
| | TOTAL | \$ 5.16 |

CLAY ST. BLDG. FUND:

| | | |
|-----|---|---------------|
| 136 | Voided check | .00 |
| 137 | Bashore's Equip. Co., hand dryers | 454.00 |
| 138 | Home Depot, interior paint @ TACC bldg. | <u>466.17</u> |
| | TOTAL | \$ 920.17 |

PLGIT GENERAL FUND:

| | | |
|-----|--|------------------|
| 211 | Tremont Borough General Checking, transfer | <u>20,000.00</u> |
| | TOTAL | \$ 20,000.00 |

There being no further business Griffiths and Donmoyer motion to adjourn from the regular meeting at 8:36 p.m. All in favor.

ATTEST

PRESIDENT

MINUTES PRINTED FROM TREMONT BOROUGH WEBSITE

