

March 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, Road Supervisor William Mindler, and Solicitor Christopher Hobbs. Citizens attending were: Frederick Scheibley, and Henry "Butch" Kender. Junior Harner and Lewis Mayor entered near the end of the meeting. Mayor Bill Allar, Chief Michael Conway, and Fire Chief James Koppenhaver were absent.

President Mack opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fasnacht and Fisher motion to accept the minutes of the February 9, 2010 Regular Meeting. All in favor.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** Butch Kender stated that he was prepared to come to tonight's meeting to request that much needed repairs be made to Spruce Street and when he came home from work he discovered that the road repairs were already completed so he decided to attend anyway to publicly thank the Borough workers for the great job that they did. Kender also inquired whether a crosswalk could be painted on Spring Street to help protect pedestrians crossing it from Pine Street. Council agreed that this should be done.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** A thank you letter was read from Rick Kintzel, the outgoing tax collector and his wife Sally, to acknowledge their sincere appreciation to Council and Secretary Mack for the great working relationship that developed during their years of providing tax collector services to the Borough.

The entire Schuylkill Volleyball team signed a thank you card that was sent to the Borough by their coach, Daryl Wessner which included the final rental check. They expressed their gratitude for the use of the Clay Street gym for their volleyball practices.

Secretary Mack read correspondence to Borough Council from Sch. Co. Visions, inviting them to a breakfast and seminar on "Information is Power" to be held on Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Penn State Sch. Campus auditorium beginning at 8:15 am.

Rep. Tim Seip sent a letter to the Borough concerning his efforts to have Schuylkill County included by FEMA for snow cleanup reimbursements and included with it a copy of his letter to Governor Rendell concerning the same. In regard to the Seip letter on the snowstorms, Secretary Mack noted that on Friday afternoon she received an urgent e-mail from the Schuylkill County Emergency Management Agency requesting a breakdown for the Borough's snow removal costs which is needed to request relief from FEMA. The first column of cost had to list the most costly continuous 48 hour period of cleanup expenses as that is all that can be submitted to FEMA for consideration of reimbursement relief. If the entire County's 48 hour total exceeds \$400,000 then FEMA may consider offering some relief. The last column of costs is a breakdown of the total cost of all three snow storms. This information is needed to assist in having FEMA amend their guidelines for relief when snow accumulates over a greater than 48 hour period of time due to multiple storms in a short period of time as discussed by Rep. Seip in his letter to the Governor. Secretary Mack provided a breakdown of these

snow removal costs as follows: Highest 48 hrs (February 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>) = \$12,059.00; Total all three storms = \$29,746.00. Breakdown of costs by snowstorm: First (Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> /10"-12" snowfall) = \$2,966.63; Second (Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> /18"-22" snowfall) = \$22,600.92; and Third (Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> /6"-8" snowfall) = \$4,178.61.

Rep. Seip also sent notification to the Borough on two separate grant funding opportunities that the Borough may be interested in pursuing. One is for Law Enforcement Equipment & Technologies where each Law Enforcement Agency is eligible to apply for up to \$10,000 in funding in this category. The other is \$300,000 of available Federal funding for multiple law enforcement agencies to submit for a combined project to promote public safety. Both apps are being accepted through the E-grants system. The deadline to apply is March 31<sup>st</sup> for the first one and April 28<sup>th</sup> for the second one.

Due to limited budgetary constraints and no current need, Council decided to take no action on NEPA's letter outlining the various programs that they sponsor and their invoice requesting \$250.00 for membership renewal in order to participate in them.

Christopher Pye of the U.S. Census submitted an e-mail request to use a meeting room in the Clay Street building free of charge from Monday through Friday in the week of April 26<sup>th</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm to have training classes for local census workers. Fasnacht and Fisher motion to permit this usage. Roll call vote. All in favor except Griffiths who voted no.

Secretary Mack read Council's invitation to the Sch. Co. Borough's Assoc. Spring Dinner Meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Groody's Catering Hall in Ashland. She must RSVP for those planning to attend by Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Also due to budgetary constraints, no action was taken on solicitation requests from the Sch. Co. Firefighters Assoc. or Jim Becher for the Little Run Gun Club.

For their review, Secretary Mack provided all members of Council with a copy of correspondence received from Morgan-Stanley-Smith Barney concerning the Borough's pension plan as it applies to PA Act 44 which was signed into law by Governor Rendell on September 18, 2009.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Nothing to report.

**PUBLIC UTILITY & STREETS:** Mindler stated that in addition to Spruce Street as was discussed earlier, he also made repairs to Cherry Street, and Maple Street.

**PROPERTY:** Griffiths noted that the Education Council's computer room needs to be cleared of all of the Borough's storage items as they are planning to meet with the Property Committee next week to discuss a lease agreement.

Donmoyer stated that the additional 300 cubic feet of water usage that was included on the TACC building's invoice could be the result of the sticking seal on the public bathroom fixture causing it to keep running. Mindler will take care of this matter.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Nothing to report.

**LAW & ORDER:** No reports for February were provided by Chief Michael Conway or Officer Joseph Kavanaugh.

**PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY:** At Lewis Moyer's request and to assist him in performing his duties as Borough Health Officer, Fasnacht and Donmoyer motion to enact Resolution #2010-01 which adopts Title 7, Chapter 46, of the PA Food Code.

Roll call vote. All in favor.

RECREATION: L. Mack stated that he will be attending the Little Cardinals meeting this coming Thursday evening to see if they acted on the Agreement for usage of the Clay Street Baseball field.

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

FINANCE: C. Mack noted that the Borough's audit has been completed by Norm Lettich and the files are back in the office. No discrepancies were found. Copies of the Audit report will be held in the Borough office for Council and Public review. On this same matter, Fisher and Griffiths motion to authorize Secretary Mack to advertise the Audit results as required. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Donmoyer opened a discussion on keeping a separate checking account for the two Borough owned buildings so that any excess revenue is held in reserve for future repairs. Donmoyer stated that he knows there are now ten other checking accounts being handled by the Secretary, however he feels that several of these accounts could be consolidated into our general checking account to make this account less of a burden on the Secretary. At this point in the discussion, Secretary Mack asked for permission to speak on the matter. She stated that every year when she prepares the annual budget, she provides each councilman with a separate balance sheet for each building to show them how revenues compare with expenditures. At that time the actual figures are used up to October 31<sup>st</sup> and then income and expenses are estimated for the final two months of the year. Secretary Mack agrees that it is a good idea to hold any excess revenue from these buildings in reserve for future repairs. C. Mack stated that she would update the building balance sheets to show year to date actual revenues and expenditures for the entire year. If there is a net gain then those monies could be placed into a separate savings account to accrue interest until needed. C. Mack also stated that in addition to the extra work necessary to open another checking account, there will be extra costs associated with it including the purchase of checks and deposit slips for that account. She also reminded Council that she is now down to ten accounts because she closed out three grant accounts in the past year. Any future grants would require separate accounts so that the accrued interest earned on them can be returned to the government. Donmoyer suggested that some of our other accounts could be eliminated. C. Mack disagreed with that suggestion in that each of the other accounts are held for specific purposes such as the Fire Department Fund's 1 mil tax allocation and the PA Liquid Fuels money which cannot be co-mingled with other Borough funds. Donmoyer stated that the Swimming Pool account could be consolidated into the building account as that is also a Borough property. C. Mack stated that if she felt that the separate checking account was necessary then she would already have done it. She also stated that she only has one more year until retirement so she requested a delay on adding any additional unnecessary checking accounts until then. If a separate account is required, Mack said she will retire early as there would be an increased risk of errors in depositing into or writing checks out of the wrong account since there would be a lot of monthly transaction that would need to be separated out between the two very active accounts. At that, Donmoyer made a motion to open a separate checking account for the two buildings revenues and expenditures. Fasnacht seconded the motion stating that

he felt that Bob was put in the position to look into these matters and he values his opinion on them. Roll call vote. All in favor except L. Mack who votes no. L. Mack added that he thought this matter was discussed at great length at the workshop meeting last Tuesday and everyone agreed that if the annual building balance sheets showed a net profit then these monies could be placed into a separate savings account for future building repairs and maintenance. L. Mack questioned what transpired since then that this became an agenda item. He personally feels that he was railroaded on this issue. After the vote was taken Secretary Mack stated that she will begin the process so that she can issue a letter of her intent to retire.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS: Donmoyer asked for permission to hold the next COG meeting on Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Griffiths and Fasnacht motion to allow this use. All in favor.

Since Junior Harner entered the meeting late he was given an opportunity to speak at this time. Mr. Harner questioned why Crescent Street was not cleared of snow as it is the fourth most used street in the Borough. Mindler answered that the snow clearing by outside contractors was only done on Borough streets that are designated snow emergency roads by PennDOT. L. Mack stated that the Borough should have considered the additional traffic placed on Crescent Street now that the bridge is closed.

However, due to the high costs of snow removal and no guarantee that any funding relief will be received, they cannot bring outside contractors in to clear all of the Borough streets as there is not enough money in our accounts to pay for it. L. Mack stated that with a two man Borough crew he felt that they did a tremendous job with these multiple snow storms.

Donmoyer asked whether Council needs to make a motion to pay the bill presented by Luther & Elizabeth Wolff for \$392.98 for damage that was done to their fence by one of the contractors doing snow removal. They were notified by their homeowners insurance that these damages do not exceed their \$500.00 policy deductible. Solicitor Hobbs stated that these repairs are then the Borough's responsibility. Donmoyer said he thinks that the Wolff's would allow the Borough to repair the fence if they can do it for less expense. L. Mack and Mindler will meet with the Wolffs to discuss this matter.

RECEIPTS: GENERAL ACCOUNT: District Magistrate Carol Pankake: \$ 224.03  
 Vio. @ Ordinances and \$ 88.23, Vio. @ Veh. Code; Tremont Library: \$ 200.00, rent (March), and \$ 1,042.38, wage reimb.; Diakon Lutheran Social Services: \$ 873.33, rent (Feb); IU-29: \$ 920.00, rent (Feb); Rep.Tim Seip:\$ 100.00, rent (March); Road & School: \$ 688.96, delinq. Real estate taxes; Shuylkill County:\$ 1,895.00, rent (Feb); Bonnie Kupp: \$ 375.00, rent @ gym (Feb), and \$ 60.00, rent @ classroom; Handicap Signs:\$ 10.00, renewal fees; Sch. Co. Child Development: \$ 130.00, rent (Feb.); Real Estate Transfers: \$ 470.40, taxes; Frailey Twp.:\$ 1,175.45, reimb.; Parking Fines: \$ 20.00, collections; Sch. Volleyball: \$ 75.00, gym rent; PLGIT General: \$ 20,000.00, transfer; Clerk of Courts: \$ 19.19, vio. @ ord.; Liquor Control Board: \$ 200.00; NOW Account Interest \$ 4.93 (February);

TOTAL = \$ 28,571.90

PLGIT ACCOUNT: EIT: \$ 11,827.84; LST: \$ 1,686.87; PLGIT Interest: \$ 1.60  
(February); TOTAL = \$ 13,516.31

PAYROLL: \$ 17,683.98: Transferred from General Account (February); NOW  
Account Interest: \$ .59 (February); TOTAL = \$ 17,684.57

PLGIT FIRE DEPT. FUND: Interest: \$ .23 (February) TOTAL = \$ .23

PLGIT HIGHWAY AID FUND: Interest: \$ 2.48 (February) TOTAL = \$ 2.48

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

M & T STREET RECONSTRUCTION ACCOUNT: Interest: \$ .77 (February);  
TOTAL = \$ .77

PLGIT POLICE PENSION FUND: Interest: \$ .00, (February);  
TOTAL = \$ .00

SWIMMING POOL FUND: Cash Receipts: \$ .00 (February);  
TOTAL = \$ .00

CLAY STREET BUILDING FUND: Interest: \$ .34 (February)  
TOTAL = \$ .34

EXPENDITURES: Donmoyer and Fasnacht motion to approve the payment of the  
following expenditures: Roll call vote. All in favor. General Fund: \$ 30,097.66; Fire  
Dept. Fund: \$ 653.37; Payroll Fund: \$ 5,299.57; Swimming Pool Fund: \$ 5.14  
Highway Aid Fund: \$ 14,455.97; Clay St. Bldg. Fund: -0-; PLGIT General Account:  
\$ 15,000.00;

EFT	Yahoo, website fee	13.94
6997	Werner Lumber Co., supplies	4.59
6998	Moyer's Body Shop, repairs @ Police Explorer	2,643.87
6999	Pribilla's, supplies	28.09
7000	Berkheimer, services	322.21
7001	SMA, utilities	367.92
7002	P.P. & L. Co., utilities	2,583.92
7003	Frontier Tele. Co., services	219.54
7004	Capital Blue Cross, monthly premium	2,587.42
7005	Tremont Library, internet fees	20.00
7006	Potts & Monger, garbage removal	60.00

7007	Mid Penn Bank, loan	873.21
7008	SMA, sewer utilities	90.00
7009	Ehrlich, monthly service fee	105.00
7010	Kreiser's Fuel, monthly	1,329.16
7011	Atty. Chris Hobbs, solicitor fees	808.26
7012	SWIF, work comp. inst.	2,424.00
7013	M & T Bank, monthly loan pmt.	2,114.50
7014	Schuylkill County Treasurer, real estate tax bills	121.92
7015	Schuylkill County Treasurer, per capita tax bills	188.64
7016	Central Penn Paper, paper supplies	202.60
7017	American Rock Salt, road salt	1,557.40
7018	Miners Bank, safe deposit box rental	28.00
7019	Met Life, life insurance @ C. Mack	450.80
7020	Ken's Tire, tire @ police car	104.43
7021	Patton & Lettich, auditor fees	1,900.00
7022	Carisa's Cleaning, monthly fee	500.00
7023	Anna Potts, dumpster retainer	25.00
7024	Michael Wiscount, dumpster retainer	25.00
	TOTAL	\$ 30,097.66

## PLGIT FIRE DEPT FUND:

383	VCLF, truck loan	<u>653.37</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 653.37

## PLGIT HIGHWAY AID FUND:

439	E.M. Kutz, 2 cutting edges @ trucks	252.00
440	Plasterer Equipment, cutting edge @ backhoe	273.97
441	Sherwood Kimmel Trucking, snow removal	3,480.00
442	Donton Trucking, snow removal	2,957.50
443	Rick's Backhoe, snow removal	1,852.50
444	Ken Herring Trucking, snow removal	1,430.00
445	Jim Lucas Contractor, snow removal	1,170.00
446	Snyder Trucking, snow removal	1,040.00
447	M & T Bank, monthly loan pmt.	<u>2,000.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 14,455.97

## PAYROLL FUND:

EFT	PA Dept of Revenue, State Payroll Tax	253.62
5020	Miners Bank, Federal Payroll Tax Deposit	2,278.92
5021	AFLAC, employee premiums (payroll deductions)	281.08
EFT	PA Dept of Revenue, State Payroll Tax	236.54
5031	FOP Black Diamond Lodge, Police Dues (March)	48.00

5032	Miners Bank, Federal Payroll Tax Deposit		<u>2,201.41</u>
		TOTAL	\$ 5,299.57

SWIMMING POOL FUND:

1293	P.P. & L. Co., utilities		<u>5.14</u>
		TOTAL	\$ 5.14

PLGIT GENERAL FUND:

212	Tremont Borough General Checking, transfer		<u>15,000.00</u>
		TOTAL	\$ 15,000.00

There being no further business Fasnacht and Griffiths motion to adjourn from the regular meeting at 7:45 p.m. All in favor.

ATTEST

PRESIDENT

