

September 14, 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 Bill Allar, Road Supervisor William Mindler, and Solicitor Christopher Hobbs. Chief Michael Conway was absent. Citizens attending were: Fred Scheibley, Charles & Betty Huntzinger, Pryce Parker, James Koppenhaver, Roger M. Adams, and student Dillion Richards. Reporter: Joan Schwer.

President Mack opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fasnacht and Donmoyer motion to accept the minutes of the August 10, 2010 Regular Meeting. All in favor.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** Charles Huntzinger discussed a meeting that took place between him, John Mease, and Bill Hanley the Aide for Tim Holden which was requested by Congressman Holden after receiving the letter co-written by Huntzinger and Mease concerning the closed Union Street Bridge and Goodspring Street Bridge. Mr. Hanley updated them on the \$400,000 Federal grant monies that are still being held for the Union Street bridge. He stated that after January 1, 2011 the language will be changed in the transportation bill to allow the Borough to make repairs to the Union Street bridge instead of requiring a totally new structure. Since this is the first time that Congressman Holden learned of the mandated closure of the Goodspring bridge he suggested that the Borough's engineer provide an estimate of the cost to make the repairs to it so that he can search if any funding sources will be available for the Borough to apply for. After much discussion on this matter, it was suggested that Secretary Mack contact our engineer from Light-Heigel and ask him to attend next month's meeting to answer some questions on the matter.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Griffiths and Fisher motion to grant permission to the Tremont Community Organization to use the Clay Street property (both outdoors & the indoor lobby) on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for their Community Yard Sale and distribution of their Chicken BBQ dinners, and also to use the Griffiths Community room on Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup> & Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> to make apple dumplings for the Tremont Library. All in favor.

Since no one attended the PSAB seminar that was held yesterday in Grantville, PA to learn of the mandatory changes on the handling of all Borough Pension Accounts due to Act 44 which requires the Borough to construct, disseminate, and maintain on file, a Disclosure Form completed by all employees with pension coverage, Secretary Mack will contact PSAB to see if they can provide a sample Disclosure Form for Solicitor Hobbs to review.

The Borough was copied on a letter from DEP to James P. Palumbo, the President of Future Power PA which notified him that DEP determined that their application contained all necessary documentation and is administratively complete. Secretary Mack called the Environmental Engineer of DEP (the sender) for an explanation as to why Tremont Borough was copied on this letter. She was told that Future Power of PA

applied for a permit to construct a coal gasification plant in portions of both Porter & Frailey Townships near Goodspring. Council took no action on this matter.

Sen. David Argall and Representative Tim Seip both sent letters of response on the "Proposed" HB2431 & SB1357 concerning the merger of local governments that was discussed at last month's meeting. Each one stated that they do not support these bills in their current form.

Council took no action on the proposal submitted by Powell, Rogers, & Speaks to act as delinquent tax collectors on the Borough's behalf.

No action was required nor taken on the letter received from County Controller Melinda Kantner explaining her side of the County Audit filing delay.

Jillian Mullen of the Schuylkill County Education Council (SCEC) e-mailed that due to budgetary constraints SCEC will not be able to proceed with their plans to open a computer classroom in the Clay Street building. The computer equipment has already been removed from the site and arrangements will be made in the near future to remove the desks and chairs so that the Borough can offer the room for lease to another entity if they so desire.

Emergency Management Coordinator Pryce Parker and Council President Laine Mack will attend an important meeting sponsored by FEMA on Wednesday, September 22 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm to discuss updating our flood maps and flood ordinance so that the Borough is compliant and residents remain eligible for FEMA flood insurance and flood damage funding.

Due to the Borough's own budgetary shortfalls, Council took no action on solicitation letters for contributions that were received from the Tremont Area Baseball Association and the Pottsville Outpatient Gaudenzia Program.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Solicitor Hobbs stated that the Curfew Ordinance #2010-03 has been duly advertised so Council can take action on it. Donmoyer and Griffiths motion to adopt this Curfew Ordinance #2010-03. Roll call vote. All in favor.

**PUBLIC UTILITY & STREETS:** Items discussed during Citizen communications. Nothing further to discuss.

**PROPERTY:** Griffiths stated that he is ready to hang the ceiling grid work in the lower classroom and could use some volunteer help. He also plans to clean and or paint the computer room floor as soon as SCEC removes the rest of their furnishings so that the room can be advertised for rent. Griffiths turned the floor over to Committee man Donmoyer to explain the rental agreement proposal that they discussed at their property committee meeting. Donmoyer stated that a uniform rental charge should be agreed to for temporary rental use of the gym, community room, or swimming pool. For the gym they thought that a fair rental fee would be \$25.00 per hour plus utilities or \$100.00 per one full day per week plus utilities. The swimming pool would be \$75.00 for two hours which would include the cost of the lifeguards. Long term leases will be based on a per square foot charge plus utilities and signed lease agreements will be necessary for long term use. Hold Harmless Liability waiver agreements will be signed by all lessees and certificates of liability insurance will be required. Non-profit organizations will be granted free use of the facilities, however they would need to provide a \$50.00 damage/garbage retainer fee which would be refunded after use if the facility is found in good order after use.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Allar asked the secretary to send "certified" letters to the owners of the storage building behind the Robert "Pete" Wiscount Veteran's Memorial Park as it is violation of our dilapidated structure ordinance.

**LAW & ORDER:** Chief Michael Conway provided a report for August noting 24 Incidents, no Arrests, and no Court Hearings. Officer Joseph Kavanaugh provided a report for August noting 38 Incidents, no arrests, and 1 Court Hearing.

**PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY:** Fire Chief Koppenhaver reported that the fire company had 13 calls in May, 14 calls in June, 5 calls in July, and 7 calls for August. Donmoyer and Fisher motion to grant permission to the fire company to take the KME to Hanover Township near Nantikoke on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> to participate in a parade there. All in favor.

Koppenhaver stated that the company's membership is getting limited in numbers and new members would be appreciated to keep the operations of the fire department running in good order.

A discussion was held on having at least two fire company members volunteer to be part of the safety training committee as was discussed at last month's meeting. When Council has representatives from each of the groups covered under the Borough's workmen's compensation policy such as borough employees, police, library, fire company, and ambulance association, Scott Miles of EMC insurance will be contacted for available training dates.

**RECREATION:** Fisher stated that the pool has been closed, the pump has been removed and all utilities have been shut off. He also related that he has completed the first of two sessions needed to get his chemical applicators license renewed. This is the first time that this renewal training will take two classes to complete.

Fisher asked for other Councilman to participate in a walk-through at playgrounds at both Clay Street and Poplar Street to discuss needed repairs. Fisher, Donmoyer, Fasnacht, Griffiths, and Mindler will meet at the pool on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. to do this walk-through. Huntzinger reminded Council that the T.C.O. will contribute some of the reasonable costs of upgrading the equipment at the Poplar Street playground.

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

**FINANCE:** Secretary Mack asked for permission to close out the PLGIT Clay Street School account as all of the Lewis Griffiths money has been exhausted and the account only holds twenty-three cents in it which can be transferred over into the PLGIT General account. Donmoyer and Griffiths motion to allow the account closure. All in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Fisher and Griffiths motion to adopt Resolution #2010-04 to authorize MetLife to liquidate Tremont Borough as the owner on former police officer Vincent McDonald's pension policy so that Off. McDonald can receive the monies being held in the account. Roll call vote. All in favor.

President Mack stated that he represented Tremont Borough at the County Tax meeting and CenTax was voted in as the EIT/LST tax collector for all municipalities in Schuylkill County beginning January 2012. Mack said that he voted for CenTax over Berkheimer as their bid included all of the cost of postage and Berkheimer would have

billed each municipality for postage as an additional expense. Also, since Berkheimer did not include all bid items, time did not allow for the committee to meet the Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> deadline to get these omissions clarified or the Court would have had to make the appointment for them.

Charles Huntzinger on behalf of the Tremont Community Organization publicly thanked Councilman Jerry Fasnacht for painting the benches in the park and at the magistrate's office.

NEW BUSINESS: Fisher and Griffiths motion to enter an Executive Session at 8:04 pm to discuss a personnel matter at the request of Solicitor Hobbs. All in favor.

Griffiths and Fisher motion to leave the Executive Session at 8:24 pm. All in favor.

Upon returning to the Regular meeting, Law & Order chairman Robert Donmoyer motioned that due to the Borough's declining tax revenues and very limited budgetary reserve funds he regrettably motions to lay off one police officer effective immediately as he is the Borough employee with the least seniority. Fasnacht makes a second to the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. After Mayor Allar contacts the officer to make him aware of this decision by Borough Council his name will be released to the public.

RECEIPTS: GENERAL ACCOUNT: District Magistrate Carol Pankake: \$214.85, Vio. @ Ordinances and \$18.91, Vio. @ Veh. Code; Tremont Library: \$200.00, rent (September), and \$984.25, wage reimb.; Diakon Lutheran Social Services: \$873.33, rent (August); Road & School: \$1,533.10, delinq. real estate taxes; Tremont Seniors: \$120.00, rent (August); Berkheimer: \$272.48, delinq. per capita; Dumpster Permits: \$100.00; Rep. Seip: \$100.00, rent (September); IU-29: \$1,840.00, rent (July & August); Real Estate Transfer: \$529.20, taxes; Schuylkill Co.: \$1,895.00, rent (September); Kreiser's Quik Stop: \$ 50.00, health license; Corner Bar: \$50.00, health license & \$180.00, mechanical device tax; Canon: \$100.00, rebate on copier; Parking Fines: \$15.00; SCMA: \$1,500.00, street opening permits; Child Development: \$390.00, rent (June, July, & August) YMCA: \$122.00, gym rentals & \$28.96, utility reimb.; NOW Account Interest \$8.18 (August); TOTAL = \$11,125.26

PLGIT ACCOUNT: EIT: \$14,064.55; LST: \$5,369.22; Transfer in from Pool Account: \$1,284.50; Interest: \$ 3.44 (August); TOTAL = \$20,721.71

PAYROLL: \$18,855.33: Transferred from General Account (August); NOW Account Interest: \$ .45 (August); TOTAL = \$18,855.78

PLGIT FIRE DEPT. FUND: Interest: \$ .69 (August) TOTAL = \$.69

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

M & T BANK STREET RECONSTRUCTION ACCOUNT: Interest: \$ .86 (August); TOTAL = \$ .86

SWIMMING POOL FUND: Cash Receipts: \$2,318.53 (August); TOTAL = \$2,318.53

CLAY STREET BUILDING FUND: Transfer in from PLGIT General Acct.  
\$2,048.78; Interest: \$ .23 (August)

TOTAL = \$2,049.01

EXPENDITURES: Griffiths and Fisher motion to approve the payment of the following expenditures: Roll call vote. All in favor. General Fund: \$21,428.15; Fire Dept. Fund: \$653.37; Payroll Fund: \$5,429.79; Swimming Pool Fund: \$478.37; Highway Aid Fund: \$2,000.00; Clay St. Bldg. Fund: \$4,200.23; PLGIT General Account: \$15,000.00

EFT	Yahoo, website fee	13.94
7168	Harry Donmoyer, dumpster retainer fee	25.00
7169	Glenda Kramer, dumpster retainer fee	25.00
7170	Greg Wetzels, dumpster retainer fee	25.00
7171	Emil Rarick, oil lock-in contract	8,046.28
7172	Adrienne Wertz, dumpster retainer fee	25.00
7173	County of Schuylkill, Ordinance filing fee	5.00
1774	Pribilla's, supplies	128.24
7175	Berkheimer, services	494.57
7176	SMA, utilities	358.57
7177	P.P. & L. Co., utilities	1,535.15
7178	Frontier Tele. Co., services	228.90
7179	Tremont Library, internet fees	20.00
7180	Potts & Monger, garbage removal	60.00
7181	Mid Penn Bank, loan	873.21
7182	SMA, sewer utilities	90.00
7183	Ehrlich, monthly service fee & stream vegetation contract	105.00
7184	Kreiser's Fuel, monthly	447.01
7185	Law Office of Chris Hobbs, Solicitor fees	516.65
7186	M & T Bank, monthly loan pmt.	2,114.50
7187	Pottsville Republican, ad @ curfew ordinance	154.60
7188	Lewis T. Moyer, health officer fees	75.00
7189	HACC, police training	118.80
7190	Port Elevator, elevator repairs	1,122.95
7191	Morgan Service Station, dump trk. inspection	26.50
7192	Cory Fasnacht, repairs @ TACC boiler	800.00
7193	Carisa's Cleaning Service, janitor fees	500.00
7194	Capital Blue Cross, monthly	2,417.31
7195	Direct Energy, utilities	1,050.97
7196	Kim Goodwin, dumpster retainer fee	<u>25.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 21,428.15

## PLGIT FIRE DEPT FUND:

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

## PLGIT HIGHWAY AID FUND:

460	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		300.41
5200	Miners Bank, Federal Payroll Tax Deposit		2,507.14
5209	Miners Bank, Federal Payroll Tax Deposit		2,070.36
5210	AFLAC, employee premiums (payroll deductions)		281.08
EFT	PA Dept of Revenue, State Payroll Tax		222.80
5211	FOP Black Diamond Lodge, Police Dues (September)		<u>48.00</u>
		TOTAL	\$ 5,429.79

## SWIMMING POOL FUND:

1330	Pottsville Environmental, water tests		63.00
1331	P.P. & L. Co., utilities		69.77
1332	Miller's, pool concessions		135.29
1333	Direct Energy, utilities		<u>210.31</u>
		TOTAL	\$ 478.37

## CLAY STREET BUILDING FUND:

142	Bob McDonald Jr., electrical repairs		4,200.00
EFT	Transfer to PLGIT General Account		<u>.23</u>
		TOTAL	\$ 4,200.23

## PLGIT GENERAL ACCOUNT:

213	Transfer to General Checking Account		<u>15,000.00</u>
			\$ 15,000.00

There being no further business Donmoyer and Fasnacht motion to adjourn from the regular meeting at 8:37 p.m. All in favor.

ATTEST

PRESIDENT

\*\*Minutes Printed from Borough Website\*\*

