

August 3, 2020

The Telford Borough Council meeting held this date was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President John Taylor with the following people in attendance: Miles Arnott, William Ashley, Robert Baker, Carolyn Crouthamel, Mark Gehman, James Schaeffer, Mayor David Snook, Manager Mark Fournier, Recording Secretary Megan McShane, Public Works Director Gary Yoder, Police Chief Randall Floyd, Solicitor James Jacquette, Fire Company President Jerry Guretse, and residents Bea Kaizar, Spencer Kulhanjian, Wendy Leshinskie, Kyle Rodgers, Kurt Smith, Nicole Spiese and Jeff & Juanita Woertz.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

An Arnott/Crouthamel motion carried unanimously (7-0) approving the minutes of the July 6, 2020 Borough Council meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Manager Mark Fournier reported that the Borough has taken in 74.47% of its revenues and spent 57.9% of its expenditures as of the end of July, 2020.

A Crouthamel/Ashley motion carried unanimously (7-0) approving the Treasurer's Report for July, 2020.

MAYOR'S REPORT: We did not receive a written monthly report for the file.

POLICE REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

Council President John Taylor noted the high amount of speeding complaints that Chief Floyd mentioned in his report, and asked if the speed signs can be replaced. Mr. Fournier commented that speed signs can cost up to \$4,000-\$10,000 per sign, and Chief Floyd added that he is trying to arrange for digital speed signs so he can put them in a few places throughout the Borough.

FIRE REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

Fire Company President Jerry Guretse reported that the Fire Company remains response ready, and they've been preparing for tomorrow's storms. He added that they have been managing the Fire Company through Zoom meetings, and have put lots of procedures in place to keep things sanitized and keep everyone safe. Mr. Guretse further reported that they haven't been able to do fundraising, but in March & April, they did over 70 drive-by ceremonies for birthdays and graduations. He added that ABC News did a ride along for one of those ceremonies and the story is on the Fire Company's Facebook page.

Councilman Miles Arnott thanked Mr. Guretse for the Fire Company's participation in the Back the Blue Ride last month.

LIBRARY REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

Wendy Leshinskie reported that some people are still staying away from the Library even though it opened with restrictions last month; people are still doing curbside pick-up. Ms. Leshinskie added that there are lots of library programs available online, and people can even sign up for a library card online, without having to prove their residency for six months.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

Councilman Mark Gehman commented that the roads recently chipped by the Public Works Department look really good, and he asked if any more roads were planned to be chipped. Public Works Director Gary Yoder informed Mr. Gehman that more roads will be chipped next year.

MANAGER'S REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

Mr. Fournier informed Council that the staff and engineer are getting ready to design new electrical components for Well #3, which was done for Well #1 last year.

Councilman Jim Schaeffer asked Mr. Fournier if the punchlist items for the new Borough Hall will ever be finished, and Mr. Fournier confirmed that they will eventually be done.

BUILDING OFFICIAL'S REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: We did not receive a written monthly report for the file.

Solicitor James Jacquette reported that Kate Harper represented the Borough at the Zoning Hearing Board meeting on July 23rd. The Board denied the applicant's request for a variance and Mr. Jacquette is not sure if there will be an appeal.

Mr. Jacquette also informed Council that a small subdivision project resurfaced on Erie Avenue and he should have the Agreements ready next month for that project.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE:

Kyle Rodgers from 164 North 4th Street stood and introduced himself; he lives across from the firehouse and wanted to express his concern about the stones from the alleyway that get washed into the yards. He also informed Council that he is the Pastor of Outreach & Youth at Franconia Mennonite Church and he would like to offer anything he can do for the youth of the Borough, as far as youth programs, and would also like to offer his services as Chaplain, if they would be needed.

Jeff and Juanita Woertz from 308 Erie Avenue stood and introduced themselves and thanked the Police Department for addressing the issues they were having on their street.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: Ms. Crouthamel

A-1 A Crouthamel/Arnott motion carried unanimously (7-0) authorizing the payment of bills for the month of July, 2020 in the amount of \$ 313,564.21.

A-2 An Arnott/Gehman motion carried unanimously (7-0) appointing Jeff Woertz and Spencer Kulhanjian to the Zoning Hearing Board, terms to expire January, 2021; an Arnott/Crouthamel motion carried unanimously (7-0) appointing Kurt Smith to the Planning Commission, term to expire January, 2024; an Ashley/Arnott motion carried unanimously (7-0) appointing Bea Kaiser to the Recreation Board, term to expire January, 2021 and Nicole Spiese to the Recreation Board, term to expire January, 2023.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: Mr. Schaeffer

PZ-1 A Schaeffer/Crouthamel motion carried unanimously (7-0) adopting Ordinance #423.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE: Mr. Gehman

Mr. Gehman reported that the quarterly NMCRC meeting was held in July, and there was a discussion on Act 101 violations.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS & PLANT COMMITTEE: Mr. Ashley

Mr. Fournier informed Council that we are in the punchlist phase of the new Borough Hall project, making progress, but we will not be moving until next year.

Councilman Bill Ashley informed the group that he received some nice compliments from his neighbors on the good job that the Public Works Department did on the line painting throughout the Borough.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: There was nothing to report at this time.

DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE COMMITTEE: Mr. Baker

DC-1 After some discussion, it was the decision of Council to continue to keep the Community Building closed. They will revisit their discussion at the next Council meeting on Tuesday, September 8th.

Councilman Robert Baker informed Council that the Night Market had to be cancelled twice so far due to rain, but added that there were over 900 people at the Market last week.

OTHER BUSINESS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Telford Borough Council entered into Executive Session at 8:08 pm to discuss a matter of personnel.

Borough Council closed Executive Session at 8:32 pm.

An Arnott/Crouthamel motion carried unanimously (7-0) authorizing the Borough to restore 344 hours charged to Officer Jeremy Kim's sick time account from 3/23/20 to 5/22/20 on the condition that he and all members of the Police Department Bargaining Unit confirm in a written agreement with the Borough that will include terms that this action does not set any precedent for future decisions on the subject matter, and is without prejudice to the positions of the Borough and the Police Department during negotiations for the next collective bargaining agreement.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm by a Crouthamel/Arnott motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D. Fournier

Secretary