

September 8, 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: 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 and residents Regina Ashley, Wendy Leshinskie and Emiline Weiss. Miles Arnott was absent.

The invocation was given by Bill Ashley, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

President John Taylor gave thanks to all the Borough employees for their hard work all year long.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

A Baker/Crouthamel motion carried unanimously (6-0) approving the minutes of the August 3, 2020 Borough Council meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Manager Mark Fournier reported that the Borough has taken in 79.14% of its revenues and spent 62.52% of its expenditures as of the end of August, 2020.

Mr. Fournier did a brief comparison of where the Borough stands at the end of August this year, and where we stood at the end of August of last year. He informed Council that we are \$5,000 ahead of where we were last year on Real Estate Transfer Taxes, \$2,000 ahead with Local Services Tax and \$25,000 ahead on current Real Estate Taxes. Earned Income Taxes are within \$200 of where we were at this time last year.

A Crouthamel/Gehman motion carried unanimously (6-0) approving the Treasurer's Report for August, 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.

Councilman Bill Ashley thanked the Police Department for their diligence on following up with 18 Church Road, adding that the property looks much better.

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

LIBRARY REPORT: We did not a written monthly report for the file.

Wendy Leshinskie reported that the Library is not at capacity when they are open; people are still also doing curbside pick-up. She added that there are lots of neat virtual presentations available for people to view.

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

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

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 he continues to work on the Lutheran Home agreements and agreements for a small proposed subdivision on Erie Avenue. He also reviewed and revised the TIDA resolution that is being presented this evening for adoption.

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

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE:

Kyle Rodgers from 164 North 4th Street stood and re-introduced himself; he was at last month's Council meeting and had expressed his concerns about the stones from the alleyway that get washed into yards after bad rain/storms. Mr. Rodgers stated that he and the surrounding neighbors really appreciate the Borough's quick response to his concerns; some Borough employees came out the day after the Council meeting. He thanked the Borough and stated that it meant a lot to all of them and made them feel heard.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: Ms. Crouthamel

A-1 A Crouthamel/Schaeffer motion carried unanimously (6-0) authorizing the payment of bills for the month of August, 2020 in the amount of \$ 269,637.09.

A-2 A Crouthamel/Ashley motion carried unanimously (6-0) accepting the resignations of Timothy Hagey and Abram Diehl from the Telford Borough Authority Board.

A-3 A Crouthamel/Schaeffer motion carried unanimously (6-0) appointing Erik Kratz to the Telford Borough Authority Board, term to expire January, 2022 and Myron Cole to the Telford Borough Authority Board, term to expire January, 2021.

A-4 A Crouthamel/Baker motion carried unanimously (6-0) adopting Resolution 20-02, which approves financing from Telford Industrial Development Authority for the Lutheran Community at Telford expansion project.

A-5 A Crouthamel/Gehman motion carried unanimously (6-0) to adopt the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan for the year 2021 with the amount being \$237,926.

A-6 A Crouthamel/Ashley motion carried unanimously (6-0) to adopt the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the year 2021 for the Police Pension Plan with the amount being \$58,474.

A-7 A Crouthamel/Schaeffer motion carried unanimously (6-0) appointing John Harrell as Alternate to the Civil Service Commission.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: There was nothing at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE: Mr. Gehman

EC-1 Council reviewed and discussed the proposed Regulation from the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission that addresses how municipalities should handle Act 101 Violations. Councilman Robert Baker asked who would investigate the violations. Mr. Fournier explained that residents would bring violations to the Borough's attention, then the Borough would look into them; the Regulation would give all municipalities procedures to follow.

Mr. Baker then asked who will enforce the Regulation; he is concerned that the proposed document is vague and doesn't specify any guidelines as to how municipalities can enforce it. Mr. Fournier explained that the NMCRC is looking for ways to go after haulers who dump trash with recyclables, and there is currently nothing strong enough that allows them to enforce Act 101.

Mr. Jacquette stated that this document was written moreso to address large scale violations, not necessarily those by individual homeowners.

Mr. Baker reiterated his concern and stated that he's not comfortable with how the document has been written, and Councilman Jim Schaeffer agreed with him.

After some further discussion, the Council voted 4-2 against approving the proposed NMCRC Regulation, with Councilman Bill Ashley and Councilwoman Carolyn Crouthamel voting to support it.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS & PLANT COMMITTEE: There was nothing to report at this time.

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 Monday, October 5th.

DC-2 After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council that the Borough will not impose any restrictions for Halloween/Trick-or-Treat – it will be up to the parents to decide what they want to do.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor David Snook asked if the voting poll for the Montgomery County side of the Borough will be at Indian Crest Middle School again, or if it will be back at St. Paul's. Mr. Fournier reported that he received an update from the County late in the afternoon and the voting for the Montgomery County side of the Borough will once again take place at St. Paul's.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Telford Borough Council entered into Executive Session at 8:10 pm to discuss a matter of personnel.

Borough Council closed Executive Session at 8:28 pm. No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm by a Crouthamel/Ashley motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D. Fournier

Secretary