

**TIONESTA BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 4, 2023 - 5:00 PM**

Being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:00 PM by Robert G. Holzer. Those in attendance were:

Robert G. Holzer, President  
Judith M. McDaid, Mayor  
M. Rowan Rose  
Bernadette K. Holzer  
Mary Ann Stanziano, Admin. Assistant

Dennis W. O'Toole, V. President  
Christine Hendryx  
Christi Black  
Cindy Crytzer, Secretary

**Public Comment:** Brian Phillips – Williams St. resident explained that he is involved with the Clarion/Forest Little League Charter, a Non-Profit organization. TS&R won't be sponsoring the Little League baseball and softball program this year. The league wants to use the ballfields this year and council was supportive of Mr. Phillips and the other volunteers' efforts for the youth of the area. Mr. Phillips and other volunteers are performing field maintenance. They have been soliciting donations to purchase equipment and appreciate the businesses and area residents that have stepped up to help. Baseball starts 4/22/23 and softball 4/29/23.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Rowan Rose to approve the March 21, 2023 Council minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Christi Black, motion carried.

**Bills:** March bills and bill list reviewed. A motion was made by Bernadette Holzer to approve payment of the March, 2023 bills as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denny O'Toole, motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

- **Letter from the Forest Area School District dated March 27, 2023 Re: County-Wide Property Tax Reassessment:** The letter stated that the School District met with the County Commissioners to discuss the need to conduct a county-wide reassessment. The Commissioners have started to prepare for a property tax reassessment by beginning an educational process for County employees and initiating a designated account to fund the process.

**Old Business:**

- **GIS Mapping:** Nothing new.
- **Enforcement Notices:** 204 Sherman St. – nothing new. 129 Elm St. – in process; 103 May St. – Cindy to contact owner.
- **Council Run Rip-Rap:** Bid opening was today at 2 PM. Horizon Construction Group bid \$51,000 and was the sole bidder. Cindy reported that she sent the bid to Chris Ernst and Donna Zofcin. The Borough will need additional funding from the Conservation District for this project as the project cost is \$26,000 more than originally estimated. Rowan Rose moved to accept the bid and award the contract to Horizon Construction Group subject to the approvals of Chris Ernst, Donna Zofcin and the Conservation District; and additional funding of \$26,000 from the Conservation District, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Christine Hendryx, motion carried.
- **Dale Street Water/Sewer Project:** Nothing new.
- **Library Storm Water & Sanitary Sewer Project:** DEP Permit application in process. Nothing new.
- **Trail/Lions Signs:** Spring has arrived so this project will begin soon.
- **Tionesta Park Lane Dirt & Gravel Road Project:** Project is out to bid. Bid opening 4/18/23 @2 PM.
- **Beach Park Equipment:** The public works employees painted the playground equipment today. The new swings will be going in soon. Some of the fencing at the ballfield has been straightened out, but it's not all done yet.
- **Pickleball Court:** Nothing new until May.
- **Library Trees:** Scheduled for trimming this year.
- **Park Restrictions:** Apparently there has been a longstanding rule that no alcohol is permitted at the beach park. This limits the pavilion rental. Denny O'Toole moved to remove the restriction of no alcohol permitted at the park, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Christi Black. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

- **Truck Sale Proceeds:** Bernadette Holzer moved to apply the truck sale proceeds to the cost for the garage roof repair and the balance to be applied to the USDA truck loan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denny O'Toole, motion carried.
- **Penelec Letter of Support Request:** Penelec is applying for a grant that will benefit disadvantaged communities through additional tree-trimming; replacing aging infrastructure; and increasing automation that can reduce the frequency and duration of outages. Christine Hendryx moved to authorize the letter of support as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rowan Rose, motion carried.
- **Ambulance Service – Article in the Derrick:** Cindy shared an email that she had written to Randy Bartley, a reporter for the Derrick on 3/31/23. In his recent

article, Mr. Bartley stated that there was no ambulance service in Forest County. Cindy corrected that misstatement and shared that the Tionesta Ambulance Service, located in Tionesta Borough provides service to Green, Harmony, Hickory, Kingsley, Tionesta Townships and Tionesta Borough. She suggested he contact Mayor McDaid, who is the Borough's delegate on the TAS board for specific details about the service. It's important that the community knows there is an operational ambulance service in the area.

- **Davis Building Parcel:** The Methodist Church is interested in purchasing the area behind the Lamb of God building which is a part of the lot owned by the Borough. The church paved this area and uses it for additional parking and would like to continue to do so. Cindy will research and place it the agenda for the next meeting.

**Executive Session:** None.

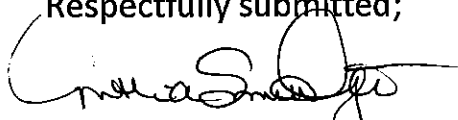
**Reports:**

- **Mayor** – Mayor McDaid observed a new bench was placed in the park by the Jack Kunselman memorial and asked who donated it. Bernadette replied that it was provided by the Tionesta Lions Club and that a plaque will be placed on the bench to that effect and the bench will be affixed to the ground so it cannot be easily removed.
- **President** – None.
- **Committees** – None.
- **Sheriff** – March Patrol Report & April Patrol Schedule reviewed.
- **Library** – Rowan Rose reported that the application deadline for a new librarian has passed. The board will be meeting to review applications.
- **EHB** – Next meeting 4/18 @ 2:30 pm.
- **COG** – Meeting Wednesday 4/5 @ 6: 30 pm.
- **TCC** – None.
- **Ambulance Board** – TAS received a purchase agreement/invoice for the new ambulance totaling \$216,481. The service has contacted the Commissioners office to determine the process to get the grant funds that were allocated for this purchase. The vehicle is almost ready for delivery.
- **Zoning Hearing Board** – None.
- **TMA** – Met 3/28 @ 7:00 pm Bob reported that the Board approved the 2023 retainer agreement for Stapleford & Byham legal services; and the 2022 Audit services of May & Company, CPAs. The sewer project should go to bid soon.
- **Planning Commission** – None.

**Roundtable:** Denny O’Toole reported water coming from in front of the Dollar General Store onto Elm St. Cindy will follow up with Kent. He also reported that he had drilled the necessary hole in the concrete at the tennis court and Cindy stated that Kent had placed a lock on the gate so the court is secured. Christi Black stated that Forest County Septic no longer provides Port-a-Jon services. Kelly Clark & Eric Wagner are the sole owners of Uncle E’s and they provide the units. Cindy will let TS&R know this and find out when the units will be delivered to the ballfields. Rowan Rose stated that she was approached by a child who requested a bigger slide, and a snack bar with lemonade as needed improvements for the park.

Christi Black moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rowan Rose. Meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted;



Cynthia S. Crytzer, Secretary