

**TIONESTA BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
February 20, 2024**

Being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:00 PM by Council President, Dennis W. O'Toole. Those in attendance were:

Dennis W. O'Toole, President	Judith M. McDaid, Mayor
Christine A. Hendryx	Bernadette K. Holzer
Jamie L. Say	M. Rowan Rose
Thomas Mohney	Cindy Crytzer, Secretary
Kent Ralston, Public Works Director	Mary Ann Stanziano, Admin. Asst.

Public Comment: None.

Public Works Report: Kent reported that an issue with rainwater running off the hillside on the east side of Elm St. onto Elm St. was recently addressed. It may require a bit of tweaking as time goes on, but the danger to motorists in the area of 638 Elm St. has been addressed. Routine maintenance work is ongoing.

Minutes: A motion was made by Rowan Rose to approve the February 6, 2024 Council meeting minutes as presented, 2nd by Bernadette Holzer, motion carried.

Financial:

- Account Balances 1/31/24: Reviewed.
- Revenue & Expense Statement 1/31/24: Reviewed. Jamie Say moved to accept the financial information/reports as presented, 2nd by Christine Hendryx, motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- **GIS Mapping:** Nothing new.
- **Enforcement Notices:** 204 Sherman St – nothing new; 129 Elm St.– nothing new; 103 May St. – Cindy will be mailing a notice of violation this week; 624 Elm St – nothing new; 306 Williams St. – Nothing new; 142 Elm St. Old Curiosity Shop – nothing new.

- **Dale Street Ext. Water Project:** Grant contract executed.
- **Library Stormwater/Sewer Project:** Cindy reported that she had received an email from the DEP containing a response from the COE that no permit is required for this project. The project is ready to go when funding becomes available. It will be Sept. – Oct. when the Borough will be notified if the project was awarded an LSA grant.
- **Creekside Park Upgrades:** Committee meeting 2/22/24 @ 5 pm.
- **Logo:** The 9th grade art class is working on a final draft of the revised logo.
- **Davis Bldg. Demo:** Cindy reported that the State Historic Preservation Office has required additional information to prove that the building is creating an adverse effect to the historic district in the downtown area. Cindy has contacted the Forest County Historical Society and is scheduled to attend the March meeting to present the situation and ask for support of the demolition project. Kent met with Adam Lesko and toured the building last week. Adam will prepare a renovation estimate that Cindy will submit to the State for review. Judy McDaid suggested that the businesses in the area may want to support the demolition project, so Cindy will contact those affected by the deleterious condition of the building.
- **Memo from Cindy to Council dated 2/9/24 re: Employee Hand Book Revisions:** After review of the memo, Jamie Say moved to approve the changes as presented, 2nd by Christine Hendryx, motion carried.
- **2022 Borough Audit:** Tom Mohny moved to authorize the execution of the letter on behalf of the Borough as presented, 2nd by Rowan Rose, motion carried.

New Business:

- **Health Insurance Renewal:** Council members were presented with options for employee health care for 2024/2025. After review and discussion, Tom Mohny moved to renew the current UPMC Gold PPO \$2,000 deductible plan, 2nd by Christine Hendryx, motion carried.

Executive Session: None.

Reports:

- **Mayor:** Mayor McDaid shared the name of a new contractor in the area – Brent Taylor, owner/operator of BnM Construction. She has used him and found him to be reliable and experienced.
- **President:** None.

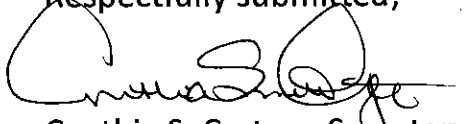
- **Committees:** None.
- **Sheriff:** None.
- **Library:** The next library board meeting is March 6, 2024.
- **EHB:** None.
- **COG Report:** Draft of the 2/7/24 minutes reviewed. Cindy and Tom explained that the COG is looking for a commitment to join the Regional Emergency Management Agency. The COG is in the process of creating the EMA under the umbrella of the COG and Cindy has contacted the Solicitor, Andrea Stapleford. The Borough is currently in compliance with PEMA, but joining this agency would create one Regional Coordinator who would work with the County EMC when a disaster occurs. Any municipality that does not have a registered EMC with PEMA will not be eligible for FEMA/PEMA funding after a disaster. The COG will be looking for someone who would be willing to serve as the Emergency Management Coordinator. Don Mason, Forest County EMC will work with the Regional Coordinator to get the new agency up and running. Rowan Rose moved to support and participate in establishing the Regional EMA, 2nd by Jamie Say, motion carried.
- **TCC Committee:** Next meeting is in July.
- **Ambulance:** Judy presented a Call Report for January. The Borough had 9 calls. Average response time in the Borough was 15 minutes. Average response time to scenes ranged from 14 minutes to 25 minutes for all 6 municipalities. Also provided was a copy of the Letter to the Editor in this week's Forest County News Journal regarding the Tionesta Ambulance Service and the formation of the new Forest County EMS Authority.
- **Zoning Hearing Board:** None.
- **TMA:** Meeting 3/26/24 @ 7 PM.
- **Planning Commission:** None.

Roundtable: Christine asked about the status of house that burned down on S. Elm St. It appears the owner didn't have homeowner's insurance, so Cindy will be following up with that situation this week. Cindy reported that the house that burned down on May St. is in the process of hiring a contractor to demo the home. She also reported that she is having the solicitor update the Borough's Fire Ordinance. The Act governing Fire Ordinances was amended after the borough passed the initial ordinance. Bernadette reported that the Winterfest event was a huge success. Attendance numbers were up substantially. The Lions, TCA, Amvets

and the school all hosted the event. The chili cookoff had 12 entries & Barb Jones was the winner. Rowan reported hat her mailbox was knocked down yet again by a passing motorist. This happens multiple times a year.

Jamie Say moved to adjourn, 2nd by Rowan Rose, motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 6:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted;



Cynthia S. Crytzer, Secretary