

**TIONESTA BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
November 19, 2024**

Being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Boy Scout Troop 82 at 5:00 PM by Council President, Dennis W. O'Toole. Those in attendance were:

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

Also in attendance was resident Bryan Gorman and, members, parents and leaders of Boy Scout Troop 82 – Rick Witherell, Tom Schettler, Tom Schettler, Reid Gatto, Kelli Gatto, Tyler Miller, Garret Swiford, Ian Moon, Garrett O'Connor, Samuel Bayle, Ryan McCracken and Darleen McCracken.

Public Comment: Council President, Denny O'Toole welcomed members of local Boy Scout Troop 82, their leaders and parents to the meeting. They were in attendance to observe local government in action. Denny introduced the Council members and staff and explained that Borough Council is comprised of 7 elected council members and the mayor. In order to do business, a quorum of the 7 elected council members must be present.

Public Works Report: Kent reported that the beach house and park had been winterized. The dumpster was moved inside the garage to prevent vandalism during the winter months. The plow has been installed on the truck. In addition to regular daily maintenance, the employees have been doing a lot of drain cleanings and leaf disposal/removal.

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

Financial:

- Account Balances 10/31/24: Reviewed. Tom Mohney moved to accept the Account Balance sheet as presented, 2nd by Bernadette Holzer, motion carried.

- Revenue & Expense Statement 10/31/24: Reviewed. Bernadette Holzer moved to accept the Revenue & expense Statement as presented, 2nd by Christine Hendryx, motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- **GIS Mapping:** Engineer adding all the Borough water, sewer line, storm sewer locations into the Diamondmaps.com system.
- **Enforcement Notices:** 204 Sherman St. – Solicitor is in contact with estate’s attorney. She expects to have a status report in a week; 103 May St. – Demo in process; 624 Elm St. – nothing new; 142 Elm St. Old Curiosity Shop – Demo in process; 106 S. Elm St. – Cindy sent owner a Violation Notice; 424 Elm St. – new owner has begun repairs. Christine Hendryx inquired about 108 South Elm Street. Cindy stated that she will send that Violation Notice out this week.
- **Dale Street Ext. Water Project:** Bid packet in process of preparation.
- **Library Stormwater/Sewer Project:** Bid packet in process of preparation.
- **Creekside Park Upgrades & Maintenance:** Nothing new.
- **Davis Bldg. Demo:** Nothing new
- **Council Run Repairs Status:** Repairs have been made. Cindy following up on pictures from JC Lee to forward to the PA DEP and the US Army COE.
- **Library Renovation Project:** Nothing new.
- **Landfill Remediation:** Cindy contacted the Forest County IDA and Forest County IDC to see if one of those entities would be the applicant for Phase I of the brownfield remediation process. Because the Borough was the “offender” that created the landfill, the applicant has to be another entity in order to be eligible for the free Targeted Brownfield Assessment (TBA) assessment provided by the US EPA. The next board meetings for the IDC and IDA are in January for official approval.
- **Davis St. Ext./Reservoir Road Repairs – Clear Lake Lumber:** Kent reported the repairs were completed today.
- **Trash Pickup – Carts/Bins:** After review of the email from Waste Management to Cindy dated November 19, 2024 and the proposal dated the same, Bernadette Holzer moved to **not** accept the November 19, 2024 Waste Management proposal, 2nd by Tom Mohny, motion carried.

New Business:

- **Budget Committee Report: Review 2025 proposed budget – Authorize Budget Notice for Advertising:** Denny explained that there is a shortfall in the proposed general budget of approximately \$15,000. That amount will be taken from the Borough savings to fund the general budget. There is insufficient revenue to offset the expected expenses but because there was a tax increase in 2024, the committee recommended not increasing the millage rate for 2025. The water fund has a shortfall of approximately \$5,000. It was recommended to increase the water rate 3% to help make up for that shortfall. All expenses and services have increased significantly in recent years. Bernadette Holzer moved to authorize the advertising of the budget availability notice and the notice of 3% water rate increase for 2025, 2nd by Tom Mohny.
- **Fee Resolution:** Denny explained that the budget committee recommends increasing the pavilion rental fee to \$75 beginning in January 2025. A motion was made, 2nd and approved at the November 6 meeting. Christine Hendryx moved to adopt Resolution No. 2024-6 changing the Pavilion Rental fee per day to \$75.00 on the Fee Schedule, 2nd by Tom Mohny. Roll call vote as follows: Tom Mohny, Aye; Christine Hendryx, Aye; Bernadette Holzer, Aye; and Denny O’Toole, Aye. Unanimous. Resolution No. 2024-6 was adopted.

Executive Session: None.

Reports:

- **Mayor:** Mayor McDaid thanked Denny for his explanations to the Boy Scouts during the meeting. It was helpful and informative. He explained why the board was doing what it did and how it impacted the residents throughout the meeting.
- **President:** None.
- **Committees:** None.
- **Sheriff:** Oct. Patrol Report reviewed.
- **Library:** None.
- **EHB:** None.
- **COG Report:** Met 11/13/24. Tom explained that the 2025 budget had been adopted. The organization is working on the county-wide emergency management association. Cindy explained the county ordinance for the blight fund is almost done.
- **TCC Committee:** None.

- **Ambulance:** Judy McDaid stated that the drawing for the side-by-side is scheduled for 11/30/24. The ambulance board is interviewing a potential part-timer from Knox. The Commonwealth is requiring the service to be a full 24/7 service and has given them one year to get to that point. The board is doing their best bringing on qualified employees. The old ambulance vehicle was put out to bid and the highest bid was \$10,000 from Community Cares of Venango County.
- **Zoning Hearing Board:** None.
- **TMA:** Next meeting 11/26/24 @ 7 PM.
- **Planning Commission:** None.

Roundtable: Bernadette shared that the Christmas parade to be sponsored by the TCA is going well and the interest from the public has been overwhelmingly positive. 17 of the 20 Christmas trees for the Market Village have been reserved. Rick Witherell stated that he has been asked a number of times by different Scouts why the "beach" is no longer open at the park. Rick stated that he's told them that it's a combination of manpower/lifeguards, funding, and state water requirements. He asked if council had anymore info to share with the Scouts. Mayor McDaid shared that those issues were present when the decision to shut down the beach was made. Attendance was down and the beach couldn't pay for itself. Rick also explained to the Scouts that there have been a number of Scout projects done at the parks and thanked Council for approving those improvements/projects over the years.

Denny thanked the Scouts for attending.

Tom Mohny moved to adjourn, 2nd by Christine Hendryx, motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 6:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted;


Cynthia S. Crytzer, Secretary