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**TIONESTA BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
November 8, 2023 - 5:00 PM**

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

Dennis W. O'Toole, V. President	Judith M. McDaid, Mayor
Christine A. Hendryx	M. Rowan Rose
Jamie L. Say	Bernadette K. Holzer
Mary Ann Stanziano, Admin. Assistant	

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: A motion was made by Bernadette Holzer to approve the October 17, 2023 Council minutes, 2nd by Rowan Rose, motion carried.

Bills: October bills and bill list reviewed. A motion was made by Christine Hendryx to approve payment of the October, 2023 bills as presented, 2nd by Jamie Say, motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- **GIS Mapping:** Nothing new.
- **Enforcement Notices:** 204 Sherman St. – nothing new; 129 Elm St. – in process; 103 May St. – In process; 624 Elm St. – Nothing new; 142 Elm St. Curiosity Shop – Demo in process; 306 Williams St. – Remodel in process.
- **Dale Street Water/Sewer Project:** The CFA board meets again on 11/21/23. If the Borough is not granted a PA Small Water Grant, then Cindy will apply for the LSA Grant which is due by 11/30/23.
- **Library Storm Water & Sanitary Sewer Project:** A Resolution is required for the LSA Grant application for this project. Rowan Rose moved to authorize the application fee of \$100 to the DCED and adopt Resolution No. 2023-6 which authorizes Dennis W. O'Toole and Cynthia S. Crytzer to execute all documents and agreements between the Borough and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate the requested grant, 2nd by Jamie Say. Roll Call vote as follows: Christine Hendryx, Aye; Rowan Rose, Aye; Bernadette Holzer, Aye; Jamie Say, Aye; and Denny O'Toole, Aye. Resolution No. 2023-6 adopted. This grant does not require matching funds, so the

Borough would have no out of pocket should the project be approved late next year.

- **Tionesta Park Lane Dirt & Gravel Road Project:** The public works employees finishing up the last of the graveling and then the road will be complete.
- **Tionesta Creekside Park Upgrades:** Nothing new.
- **Borough Logo:** The 9th grade art class at West Forest is working on it as a project. Draft estimated to be ready by Thanksgiving.
- **Speed Limit Signs/Ordinance:** Some speed deterrent information provided. Cindy will have additional information from LTAP for the next meeting.

New Business:

- **2024 Budget Discussion – General Discussion and Cutting Services:** Denny explained that the preliminary figures for the 2024 budget are going to show a deficit again just like 2023. The 2023 budget had a shortfall of \$23,856.93 that had to be absorbed through the savings account or carryover balance from the previous year. The 2024 budget is estimated to have shortfall of \$24,455 which again, would have to be absorbed through the savings account or through the carryover balance from 2023. Denny remarked that the Borough can't continue to operate at a deficit. There was discussion of selling the water and/or sewer plants. Denny explained that once a utility is sold and is privately held, the rates automatically increase and, usually that increase is substantial. Raising the milage rate wouldn't be enough to cover the shortage each year either. A one mill increase would increase the borough's revenue approximately \$4,893.51 per year. .75 mill would increase revenue \$3,670.13. A .5 mill increase \$2,446.75 and a .25 increase would yield \$1,233.38.
- **2023 County Liquid Fuels Distribution to Municipalities:** None for 2023, The County has earmarked those funds for something else.
- **2024 MMO:** Jamie Say moved to approve the MMO as presented, 2nd by Rowan Rose, motion carried.
- **Request to Revise Zoning Law:** After discussion, this matter to be taken before the Planning Commission.
- **Dept of Auditor General 2018-2022 Pension Audit:** Audit results reviewed.
- **Electric Supplier Contract:** Christine Hendryx moved to authorize Cindy to make the decision once all the information is gathered, 2nd by Rowan Rose, motion carried.

Executive Session: None

Reports:

- **Mayor** – None.
- **President** – None.
- **Committees** – Budget Committee meeting 11/14/23 @ 4:30 PM.
- **Sheriff** – None.
- **Library** – None.
- **EHB** – None.
- **COG** – None.
- **TCC** – None.
- **Ambulance Board** – None.
- **Zoning Hearing Board** – None.
- **TMA** – None.
- **Planning Commission** – None.

Roundtable: Cindy included information provided to her and Judy McDaid from the Freedom Foundation regarding the plans for the island. The foundation is an organization that will be providing services for Veterans. There will be a presentation at the Island on Saturday, November 11 @ 10 am to share the proposed plans to the community.

Rowan Rose moved to adjourn, 2nd by Jamie Say. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted;



Mary Ann Stanziano,
Administrative Assistant