

TIONESTA BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

97

February 2, 2021 - 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 (Via Zoom @ 5:10 pm)
Thomas Mohny, V. President	Bernadette K. Holzer
Dennis W. O'Toole	Christine Hendryx
Cindy Crytzer, Secretary (Via Telephone)	Julie Griffin, Admin. Assistant

Public Comment: None at 5:00.

Minutes: A motion was made by Denny O'Toole to approve the January 19, 2021 minutes as presented, 2nd by Bernadette Holzer, motion carried.

Bills: A motion was made by Tom Mohny approve payment of the January, 2021 bills as presented, 2nd by Denny O'Toole, motion carried.

Mayor Judy McDaid swore in Christine Hendryx as a new council member.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- **GIS Mapping:** Nothing new to report.
- **Elm Street Water Line Project Phase 3:** Completed. Waiting on Payment from the County.
- **Walnut Street Storm Water Line Replacement:** Nothing New
- **Zoning Ordinance Amendment:** Cindy is reviewing and will have a draft to Council for the next meeting.
- **Blight - 138 Elm Street:** Cindy spoke with the contractor last week. He stated it would be about 2 weeks when he started the job.
- **Armstrong Cable Franchise Agreement:** Will have for the next meeting.
- **Resignation of Rita Schaffer, Tax Collector:** With regret, Denny O'Toole moved to accept the resignation of Rita Schaffer as tax collector, 2nd by Tom Mohny, motion carried. The Borough will be collecting the taxes. Tax bills will be going out later this month. Cindy is waiting on an agreement from the School Board for the Borough to collect the 2021 school taxes.

New Business:

- **Appointments:** Tom Mohny moved to appoint: Darlene O'Toole to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three (3) year term beginning 1/1/2021; Bob Holzer as the Emergency Management Coordinator for the calendar year 2021; Christine Hendryx as a member of the Water Committee; and Denny O'Toole as a member of the Building Committee, 2nd by Bernadette Holzer, motion carried.

Non-Agenda Items:

- **Electric Contract:** The Constellation Contract was presented for review. Cindy checked with other providers for rates and found the Constellation rates to be the best. 31 Months at 0.05265 per kwh. Denny O'Toole moved to approve the contract and authorize Cindy to execute, 2nd by Tom Mohny, motion carried.
- **Open Office to Public:** Julie will remove the closed sign and replace it with a "masks required to enter" sign and the office will be open to the public for normal traffic.

Executive Session: None.

Reports:

- **Mayor** - Mayor McDaid thanked the Borough employees for the great job they did during the most recent snow storms. The plow trucks were out and the roads were in good shape. She also reported that 100 people in the community have been immunized and another 100 to be immunized later this week through the Tionesta Health Center. Judy enquired if Cindy had contacted the owners of the dilapidated building she had reported on at the last meeting. Cindy said she hadn't sent out the notice of violation letter, but that it would go out this week.
- **President** - None.
- **Committees** - None.
- **Sheriff** - February patrol schedule reviewed.
- **Library** - None.
- **EHB** - None.
- **COG** - The Board met 1/21/21. Organizational/housekeeping matters were addressed. The majority of the discussion was on problems with building permits, illegally placed campers/structures and blight. A meeting with the municipal permit officers, supervisors, county personnel and Bureau Veritas will be coordinated to discuss the matter in-depth and develop a plan to address the problems.
- **TCC** - None.
- **Ambulance Board** - None.
- **Zoning Hearing Board** - None.

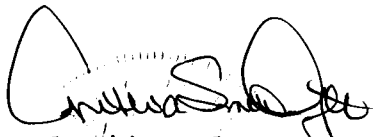
- **TMA** - Bob Holzer reported that the Municipal Authority had its annual 99 reorganizational meeting on 1/26/21. Officers for 2021 are: Don Hall, Chairman; Bob Wagner, Vice Chairman; and Vaughn Ralston, Secretary. The usual housekeeping matters were address. The spot sewer repair project is in the process of getting ready to go to bid. The ARC grant application for the East/West Elm Street Sewer Line repair project was submitted.
- **Planning Commission** - None.

Public Comment: A concerned borough resident was in attendance to share his/her concerns regarding the ambulance service. It was stated that volunteers are few in number and insufficient to cover weekend calls. When a call goes out and is not answered by Tionesta, the call goes into bypass to another service. That has been happening more often. It takes longer for an ambulance from Clarion or whatever service was called out to arrive at the destination, putting residents in greater danger. If an ALS is needed on the weekend, the ambulance service pays \$250.00 to the service providing the ALS certified EMT for each call. Britney Donato is a certified ALS EMT and has apparently volunteered to work overtime on some weekends. When Tionesta bills for ALS services, Britney's rate is higher than non-ALS certified EMTs. There is concern that if the TAS can't afford to pay overtime to certified EMTs, then why is the board trying to buy a new ambulance. If qualified personnel aren't available for calls, there is no need for an ambulance vehicle, so the focus should be on having qualified personnel available for weekend calls rather than purchasing a new vehicle.

Roundtable: Denny welcomed Christine to Council. Tom inquired if there had been any complaints about the change in water billing policy regarding rental/multiple unit building. Julie reported that there had been one. Bernadette shared that the TCA will not be doing the Winter Fest event, due to the indefinite closure of the fire hall due to COVID. She stated they were hoping for a March event.

Tom Mohny moved to adjourn, 2nd by Denny O'Toole. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted;


Cynthia S. Crytzer, Secretary