Council Meeting Minutes October 5, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

Moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call taken by Shannon Ulishney

Council present: President Cardiff, Councilmember Deabner, Councilmember Perovich, Councilmember Peters, Councilmember Shoub, Mayor Llewellyn

Also present: Borough manager Ashley Stack, Solicitor Craig Alexander, Engineer Don Glenn, and Fire Chief Lindbloom.

Council not present: Councilmember Cole, Councilmember Corrales

A. Approve the September 7th regular meeting minutes and September 21st discussion meeting minutes.
   - Motion: Perovich
   - Second: Deabner
   - Vote 5, 0

B. Approve the October 5, 2021 expense voucher list
   - Motion: Shoub
   - Second: Perovich
   - Vote 5, 0

C. **Public Comment**:
   - Michelle Ellias 260 E Fairmont Ave, lived here since she was 5 years old. Her mother has Republic for garbage, and Michelle has Waste Management. She put a post on Facebook and had 58 comments. Everyone was in favor of paying a bit more to keep Waste Management. She has heard that Republic makes a mess, and does not take a lot of things. If you pay for lesser things, you get lesser service. She is concerned if Republic does not take a lot of the items, now you have an issue that garbage is all over the town because no one picked this up. She has heard that other townships that have Republic are looking to change.
   - George McCarrison Duq Ave- the Fire Dept cut up a tree on the street, and he was told the branches would be picked up next day. It has been 2 weeks, and it is still there. He said there are enough people that work at the borough to take 20 minutes to come pick the tree debris up. Also, George's son works at a Borough and is familiar with Republic. They have one truck, one man. They do not take any extra items. He is willing to pay another $5 to keep what he has with Waste Management.
   - Dolores Sutton 601 Britton Ave- code office complaint that weeds over by the high rise are over grown, and animals are living there. She wants to see if anything can be done about this.
   - Matt Mlynarski- not a resident, but a business owner of Trafford at 235 Cavitt Ave. Matt is a Music Director at the business, and they do theatre-the building across the street from us is

falling apart. He heard there was a grant received to tear the building down. He wants to know if there will be any interruption to his theatre schedule with road closures, and then what will they do with the property once it is demolished, he suggested to petition to have a parking lot, and Borough could also charge a fee during theatre nights. It would help their business a great deal.

- Timothy Martin 413 Duq Ave – I hope to retain Waste Management. He has seen on Facebook many complaints regarding Republic service. Waste Management takes everything. He just threw away a couch, coffee table etc and had no issues with Waste Management. " if it isn't broke, don't fix it"
- Edward Leeman- would like an update on Briton Ave being sealed, and the water company fixing the fire hydrant from items he brought up last meeting. The light company put new poles in, and some of the poles have points on them…would also like to know if they will they patch around the holes they put in? Also, the councilmembers give a report "no report at this time" He feels everyone should be transparent, and give the information because that is what the people come to hear.

Borough Response:

A. Michelle's question to keep Republic Service- council is taking into consideration
B. George's question regarding the tree down, Ashley responded that we just found out about this today, and we walked up to see the tree before the meeting at 6pm- she will make Public Works aware in the morning.
C. Dolores's question in regards to weeds overgrown. Trash and debris and weeds on Briton on high rise side. Ashley will send code a picture if needed to see what this area looks like.
D. Matt's question regarding the building across the street….Ashley said that they did obtain a demolition grant for this, and they are putting out for the bid to demolition on Friday. Council will award the bid at the November meeting. It is under agreement for the new property, so there will be a new owner. You would contact the new owner in regards to using the parking lot. Ashley said to not hesitate to call the Borough for a status update.
E. Timothy Martin- wants to keep Waste Management- no response from borough at this time
F. Edward's questions- Councilmember Deabner did let the gas company know about the issues, but he suggests that Edward should contact the gas company directly, as that is how you get action. He followed up 2x already. In regards to the Utility poles have something sticking out- Ashley will reach out to the government rep, but she encourages community to reach out to the utility companies directly to get action. Lastly, president Cardiff said that when a councilmember does not give a report it is just that it may have already been covered in topics discussed or depending on the time of year and how much activity there is there will be more or less information. President Cardiff also said that he does update the Facebook website with any information so that brings transparency to the community as well. Councilwoman Peters said that a lot of the Borough Manager's report is from the council input directly, so that funnels information this way as well.
G. President Cardiff has a public comment email from Melissa Edwards- she would like to thank the Trafford Fire Department and the Level Green Fire Department for responding to the fire on Meadows St on Saturday October 2nd. Sadly, no one on the street was shocked this fire was set. Our Mayor, Code Enforcement officers, council president and council members were warned

repeatedly about the dangers of the building. Mayor said he had the information, and sent to code, as did Peters, and Deabner and President Cardiff. They have been working on this issue, but since it is private property there was nothing to be done unfortunately.

Committee Reports:

A. Report from Borough Engineer, Glenn Engineering

1) Will turn over 2 invoices to the Borough Manager for Timber Lane and Shadow Ct- no action taken tonight, but will be discussed at the next meeting. The Timber Lane and Shadow Ct. There were no change orders, and bid came in on price. Hillcrest bid was done in 2 phases. The storm sewer paving came 2k over my estimate, but the sanitary estimate came in 2k under estimate. Bids were good. He would recommend bid be awarded tonight. Friday Oct 8th they will bid demolition for: 240 Cavitt Ave, 412 1st St, 302 Duq Av, 1503 Murrysville Rd.

B. Report from Borough Manager:

1) The next round of sewage bills will come out in a few weeks. This period will cover May 11th through August 9th. Public works will coordinate with Chief Disso to put up slow children at play signs near Fairmont playground, also 25 mph speed sign coming from South Trafford toward Britton Ave.
2) Waste Management leaf collection dates: Oct 14, Oct 28, Nov 11, Nov 26, Dec 9
3) Current bank account balances: General Fund $982,840, Liquid Fuels $77,810 Recreation $4,450 Sewage $77,9678 Veterans Memorial $7565

C. Mayor's Report

Police Report September 2021

- 4 Accidents
- 0 Assaults
- 36 Assists
- 0 Burglary
- 2 Criminal mischief
- 10 Disturbances
- 8 Domestics
- 1 Drug violation
- 3 DUI
- 5 Harassments
- 1 Juvenile complaints
- 0 Public drunkenness
- 35 Service calls
- 25 Suspicious activity
- 6 Thefts
- 2 Warrant service
- 138 documented calls, 12 cilations,8 criminal complaints to date

*Recommends to attend the Discussion Meeting: November 16 at 6pm

D. Community & Economic Development

1) Historical Society is having a program downstairs in council chamber tomorrow evening at 6:30. On Saturday, the 16th of October there is an event called Cars and Coffee from 9am-3pm. There will be some vendors there.

2) General Government and Finance- both councilmember's Cole and Corrales are out of town, and not present to speak.

3) Parks & Recreation- no updates for grant to update the walkway around BY

4) Planning, Property & Ordinances- no report

5) Public Safety – both Cole and Corrales out of town, and not present to speak

6) Public Works & Sanitation- no report

7) President Cardiff- The website and Facebook have noted that the Borough is being awarded 1st place recognition in the special recognition category in the communications contest with the State at the PSAB- the award will be given this Saturday in Erie. He plans on attending the event on behalf of the Borough. The award is being done due to structure, navigation, overall experience and technology. Meeting minutes and agendas are always updated.

E. **Authorize a contract with Republic Services for garbage and bi-weekly recycling collection for January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2025**

- No motion to grant contract, Solicitor Alexander asks Borough manager, Ashley if timeframe is involved, and she stated yes.
- Solicitor suggest to make a motion to deny Republic Service, and grant contract to Waste Management
    - Motion to deny Republic: Shoub
    - Second to deny Republic: Deabner

President Cardiff has received many emails regarding recycling- he does not feel right about making everyone participate and pay for this. If you choose to recycle you can go to Westmoreland Cleanways, cans to numerous bins, boy scouts collect as a fundraiser. Recycling requires you to clean out containers, and this increases water consumption. Councilwoman Peters agrees with Cardiff's suggestion. Pervoich said since it is not required by the Borough to recycle he has spoken to approx. 30 residents, and it is difficult to recycle with all you need to do to actually do it properly. Example is not putting a greasy pizza box out to recycle. It is a good idea, but most do not do it correctly, so it ends up in the landfill. Perovich had complaints that people did not want to pay for recycling.

Councilmember Cole sent an email to be read since he is out of town in Philadelphia working. He wants council to look at Republic Service, and see their customer service history. They are unreliable, leaving trash. Waste Management will take all items. Councilmember Cole would like to express his concern, and would like to not use Republic.

F. **Amend the motion to authorize a contract with Waste Management for garbage service only for January 1, 2022, through, December 31, 2005**

- Motion to award: Shoub
- Second to award: Peters

*Perovich asks if sticker program is still in this deal. Ashley stated it used to be $2.50/sticker, and now price is $5/sticker

President Cardiff wants to thank the people for giving their voice in this matter, and thanking council for suggesting to have a vote online, and there was a very high response, and he is appreciative for that.

Solicitor Alexander said his only concern in the matter was not taking the lowest bidder running a fowl of the normal borough's practice of taking a lowest bidder in a situation such as this. He did some research on the topic. The borough's code states that all contracts or purchases in excess of the bidding threshold shall not be made except in and from the lowest bidder with due notice. It also states when awarding contact council has the right to take in other factors, such as: availability, cost and quality of service. The first part says you must award to the lowest bidder, but the second part states that you may reject a bid due to quality of service, so for this reason Solicitor Alexander finds it appropriate to accept the contract with Waste Management, and reject the lower bid with Republic Services.

Renee from Republic would like an opportunity to speak, and President Cardiff states he would like to move on with the meeting.

Final vote to accept Waste Management's bid 5 yes, 0 no

G. <u>Award the contract for the reconstruction of Hillcrest Dr. to El Grande Industries, Inc to include the storm sewer and paving for $158,548.50, and the sanitary sewer for $320,318.20</u>

- Motion: Shoub
- Second Motion: Perovich

The money for this project is coming from the CARES ACT, and project will exceed the money from CARES ACT, but will be budgeted for next year. This project will start in the spring. No time estimate for duration of the project-318k of the cost will be from the CARES ACT, and Glenn Engineering broke out project into 2 bids, and it just so happened El Grande came in the lowest for both. The money for the CARES ACT is only allowed to be used for certain items-it cannot be used for just any infrastructure project. The catch basin on Hillcrest had to be repaired as well.

Final Vote 5 Yes, 0 no

H. <u>Authorize the borough engineer to advertise the request for bids for the borough's Community Development Block Grant Meadow St. reconstruction project.</u>

- Motion: Peters
- Second Motion: Deabner
- Question was from councilmember Deabner asking if owners were aware of this, and Glenn Engineering met with a property owner to obtain right of entry. They are working with the one owner for the right of entry.

Final Vote 5 yes, 0 no

I. <u>Approve the advertisement to amend Chapter 188, section 57, stop intersections, of the Trafford Borough code, adding a stop sign on Sixth St (at the intersection of Gilmore Ave)</u>

- Motion: Deabner

- Second: Shoub

This issue was brought up at September meeting, and talked with police chief, so that is why this item is on the agenda.

J. <u>Ratify the advertisement for a full time Public Works employee</u>

- Motion: Shoub
- Second: Perovich

Final Vote 4 yes, 1 no

Roll call asked for votes:

Councilmember Cardiff - Yes

Councilmember Cole- not present

Councilmember Corrales- not present

Councilmember Deabner- Yes

Councilmember Peters- No

Councilmember Perovich- Yes

Councilmember Shoub- Yes

K. <u>Appoint Shannon Ulishney as Trafford Borough Treasurer</u>

- Motion: Peters
- Second: Deabner

Borough manager tells audience that Shannon Ulishney is now also bonded with the Borough, and this shows on the expense report.

Final vote 5 yes, 0 no

L. <u>Appoint Joyce Miller to the Trafford Borough Recreation Board to fill an existing vacancy, expiring December 31, 2023</u>

- Motion: Peters
- Second: Shoub

Final vote 5 yes, 0 no

<u>New Business</u>

President Cardiff brought up Trick or Treating for Sunday October 31st 6-8

- Motion: Shoub
- Motion: Deabner

Solicitor Alexander brings up that under Act 65 any item that will be voted on needs to be on the agenda, however, he finds this topic to be De Minimis, so he has no issue allowing this topic, and does not feel it violates act 65

Councilwoman Peters asked if Penn Township is having Halloween on the actual day of October 31st, and proceeds to say just because it has always been done this day does not mean we need to continue this day. Fire Chief Lindbloom speaks up to say that in all the year's past the Fire Department was ready and available the day of Halloween from 6-8

Councilmember Perovich said in the past when they did this on a different day it was a disaster. They are in favor of holding Halloween on October 31

Final vote 5 yes, 0 no

Councilwoman Peters brings up that councilmember Pervovich reminded her that she does have some new business to bring up for the Rec Board. They will have a Fall Decorating contest (house, car, windows etc) They will be awarding first, second and third place with cash prizes. Register on the website www.ptarc.org judging will be October 29th 6:30-9 pm. Winners will be announced on Facebook October 31st.

M. Adjournment

- **The next regular council meeting will be Wednesday November 3, 2021 at 7pm in the Council Chambers. It is Wednesday vs the usual Tuesday so the public can be out voting on Tuesday.**
  Motion: Deabner
  Second: Shoub

Final vote 5 yes, 0 no