December 05, 2023

Agenda for Trafford Borough Council Meeting
December 5th, 2023

1. Call to Order: **meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Councilmember Steve Perovich**

2. Moment of Silence & Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call- done by Nina Mulnix

Council present: Councilmember Bayko, Councilmember Corrales, Councilmember Perovich, Councilmember Shoub.

Council not present: Councilmember Cardiff, Councilmember Cole, Councilmember Dapra.

Other staff present: Mayor Llewellyn, Solicitor Chelsea Dice (on behalf of Craig Alexander), Borough Manager Peticca, Borough Secretary Nina Mulnix, Engineer Don Glenn.

4. Notice of Executive Session held December 5th, 2023, for matters of personnel and litigation.

5. Approve the November 7th, 2023, Regular Council Meeting minutes.
    a Motion: Councilmember Corrales
    b Second: Councilmember Shoub
    c Discussion: No discussion
    d Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

6. Approve the November 2023 expense voucher list.
    a Motion: Councilmember Bayko
    b Second: Councilmember Corrales
    c Discussion: No discussion
    d Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

7. Public Comment
    a Public Comment for all matters which the public has concern. No public comment or questions on agenda items will be received after this point.
    b Public comment for motions not listed on the agenda will be received when called for.
    c Borough Response

Lynwood Leeman- (334 4th Street) addressed concerns about a request for a one-way street sign on Gilmore Avenue and Fifth Street. Mr. Leeman stated he sees cars go up the wrong way all the time.

Borough Response

Manager Peticca stated she will reach out to the Police Chief to have a conversation about the one-way sign request.

Carol Zeravica- (753 7th Street) inquired about the status of the zoning changes. Mrs. Zeravica also asked about the outcome of the VFD litigation.
Borough Response:

Councilmember Perovich replied to the question regarding the zoning changes. The intention is to address the proposed zoning changes at the first meeting after the reorganization meeting of council happening in January.

Solicitor Chelsea Dice responded to the question regarding the VFD litigation. Ms. Dice read the court order from Judge Smail. There are two different outcomes for different claims. One being a complaint and the other being a counterclaim. The complaint of the Trafford Fire Company # 1 is dismissed with prejudice. The second one, the Borough of Trafford, is the owner of the real property known as Trafford Borough Public Safety Building. The third item is Trafford Emergency Services are hereby ejected from the Trafford Borough Public Safety Building within 90 days of the date of the order. Fourthly, the Borough of Trafford is entitled to fair rental value as calculated, for the fire company's unjust permitted use of the TEMS ambulance service to occupy a portion of the building. The amount calculated is for the first date of occupation and the end date of vacation at a rate of $270.00 per month for the use of the ambulance bay, and an amount of $900.00 for the use of the bunk room floor, and that is to be paid in 90 days of the date of the judge's order.
Trafford Borough did win the lawsuit, however there is a thirty-day appeal period. Both parties may appeal the decision if they choose. The municipality isn't looking to take any action until the 30-day appeal period has lapsed.

Carol Zeravica- asked a question after Solicitor Dice finished her response. Mrs. Zeravica wanted to clarify that the ambulance service will be leaving the borough building after 90 days.

Solicitor Dice- stated that the ambulance service has 90 days from November 17th, 2023, to be removed from the building.

Another question/comment came from a resident in attendance about the fire company and ambulance service being charged rent for the bays.

Solicitor Dice explained that the judge ordered that they pay rent in the amount of $270.00 for the bays from the date they occupied until the day they leave.

Mayor Llewellyn replied we are charging the transport service that does not do anything for Trafford, not the fire department.

8. Report from Borough Engineer, Glenn Engineering
    a Report submitted.

The first item Mr. Glenn reported on was the consent order and status. The important items reported on pertained to flows at certain interceptors. There are four interceptors total with two interceptors (T26A-10 and

T-31) reporting any flows that require any action. There are two interceptors that are not at the goal standards set by the DEP. Interceptor (T-22) is reporting a flow above the flow goal by 15%, further action will be needed to reduce and meet the goal. The mandate under paragraph 7 of the consent order means the borough would have to act and reduce those flows by 10%. The borough can meet that mandate by utilizing the work done on a previous Penn Vest project, and no money would need to be spent to hire a contractor to correct. Interceptor (T-29A) is reporting below standard flows. This interceptor is also under the mandate of paragraph 7, and it can meet the mandate under the previous Penn Vest project. Additional items discussed pertained to the bypasses. There was an analysis completed by Three Rivers Wet Weather. The proposed course of action by Three Rivers to correct the bypasses would be to raise the weir by 6 feet. Don Glenn stated that Glenn Engineering can provide the direction and details of the project and can complete the work in-house. It was also mentioned that as of November 30th Dnarch was instructed to pull the remove the flow meters. In closing Glenn Engineering will put out the bids for the paving of Hillcrest in the spring.

b Public comment on Mr. Glenn's report: **Councilmember Perovich asked Mr. Glenn if he was satisfied with the result for all the work with ALCOSAN? Mr. Glenn replied YES.**

c Glenn Engineering dismissed from meeting.

9. Mayor's Report- **Mayor Llewellyn read the November police report to councilmembers and the public. The mayor also thanked everyone involved for their assistance and efforts in making the Holiday Happenings event a success. The mayor also thanked Councilmember Corrales for all his public service and wished him well as this was his last meeting.**

10. Committee Reports

a Community & Economic Development (Chair Steve Perovich/Co-chair Jesse Dapra)

Councilmember Perovich stated there was nothing to report.

b General Government & Finance (Chair Pat Bayko/Co-chair Chris Corrales)

Councilmember Bayko- stated the budget for 2024 has been finalized. Manager Peticca provided a summary about the budget. From the General Fund it was reported that there are some increases in expenditure on insurance and workers compensation. Litigation and workers' compensation claims have caused a spike in those rates. Manager Peticca mentioned there will be a safety committee formed in 2024 to assist in reducing those rates. It was mentioned that there are police officers that are accepting the boroughs health insurance causing in increase in those rates. There is an increase in Grant matches with the current grants that have been applied for and are pending. The debt bond has also increased for 2024. Manager Peticca spoke about the increases on the income side. There are increases with permits and licenses, street opening permits, and property registration. The income for real estate taxes will stay the same. From the Sewage fund the income stayed the same and the expenditure increased due to the Bluff sewer project that will start in the spring. There was a decrease in health insurance because there are two employees not enrolling in the health care plan.

c Parks & Recreation (Chair Jesse Dapra/Co-chair Steve Perovich)

Councilmember Perovich- stated there was nothing to report.

d Planning, Property, & Ordinances (Chair Casey Shoub/Co-chair Zack Cole)

Councilmember Shoub read Code Enforcement's November report to councilmembers and the public.

e Public Safety (Chair Chris Corrales/Co-chair Pat Bayko)/Emergency Management- Chuck Miller

Councilmember Corrales- read the EM's November report to councilmembers and the public. Councilmember Corrales also thanked everyone for allowing him to serve the community. He stated being on council was a learning experience and he was proud to have been a part of it.

f Public Works & Sanitation (Chair Zack Cole/Co-chair Casey Shoub)

Councilmember Shoub- stated there was nothing to report.

g Junior Council Person (JCP) Report- JCP was absent from the meeting.

Councilmember Perovich mentioned the JCP students were involved recently in the Holiday parades that took place in Irwin and Trafford. It was also mentioned that the JCP's rotation for November took place in the borough office for an overview of the administration side of local government.

h President Kris Cardiff- was absent from the meeting.

Councilmember Perovich- commented on behalf of Councilmember Cardiff stating that he was very thankful for all the efforts to resurrect the Holiday Happenings. Many thanks were given to all parties involved that day. There was also a thank you given to Councilmember Corrales for his service and well wishes.

11. Managers' Report – **Manager Peticca mentioned that the WHT have opted to utilize a different location for the trail days next year. It was previously discussed that their event would be held at the BY park, but the heritage trail board decided upon somewhere else. Manager Peticca thanked everyone for being involved in the Holiday Happenings event/parade, including the parade participants. Manager Peticca mentioned that it has been a pleasure working with Councilmember Corrales and wished him all the best.**

12. Motion to approve the 2024 Budget. (added verbiage to the motion) with the playground employees earning salary increasing to $14.00/hour to be in line with Penn Townships rate of pay for the program.
    a. Motion: Councilmember Bayko
    b. Second: Councilmember Shoub
    c. Discussion: **Councilmember Perovich commended Councilmember Bayko and Manager Peticca for their work on the 2024 budget w/no tax increases.**
    d. Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

13. Motion to approve Resolution 6-2023: 2024 Tax Rate Fees
    a. Motion: Councilmember Shoub
    b. Second: Councilmember Corrales
    c. Discussion: **Manager Peticca stated this resolution reiterates that our millage rate is 28.5 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation for general fund purposes, and 3 mills of each dollar assessed for debt service. The total tax rate for all borough purposes is 31.5 mills.**
    d. Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

14. Motion to ratify the hiring of Anthony Bilesemo for a start date of December 11th, 2023.
    a. Motion: Councilmember Shoub
    b. Second: Councilmember Corrales
    c. Discussion: **Manager Peticca stated that Anthony is our new public works laborer, and he will be starting employment with the borough on Monday December 11th, 2023.**
    d. Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

15. Motion to approve and advertise the 2024 Council Meeting and Discussion dates.
    a. Motion: Councilmember Shoub
    b. Second: Councilmember Corrales

c. Discussion**: Manager Peticca confirmed ALL meeting dates have been verified that there are no holidays on the proposed dates and proceeded to read the meeting dates and specified the time and locations of those meetings.**
d. Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

16. Motion to approve the 2024 Manchester Room rates.
a. Motion: Councilmember Shoub
b. Second: Councilmember Corrales
c. Discussion: **Manager Peticca stated the rental rates increase for all resident and non-resident rentals. The new rates would be as follows:**

Resident Sun-Fri $300.00 Resident Sat $400.00. Non-Resident Sun-Fri $350.00 Non-Resident Sat $450.00. Wedding Rentals $900.00, and all other items staying the same with the beverage service, table set, etc.

d. Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

17. New Business

- WHT Representative – Mike Bertonaschi

There is a motion on the floor to approve Michael Bertonaschi as the WHT representative.

a Motion: Councilmember Shoub
b Second: Councilmember Corrales.
c Discussion: No discussion
d Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

- Civil Service Commission – Barbara Lucchino letter of interest- Manager Peticca mention there is also a letter of resignation from George McCarrison.

Solicitor Dice express there would need to be two separate motions made to complete the action.

There is a motion on the floor to accept the resignation of George McCarrison.

a. Motion: Councilmember Corrales
b. Second: Councilmember Shoub
c. Discussion: **Councilmember Perovich thanked Mr. McCarrison for his service.**
d. Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

There is a motion on the floor to accept the letter of interest from Mrs. Barbara Lucchino to serve on the Civil Service Commission.

a. Motion: Councilmember Corrales
b. Second: Councilmember Shoub
c. Discussion: No discussion
d. Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

- Dumpster Rate Fees increase discussion and possible action.

Manager Peticca stated that we currently have an annual fee for anyone in the commercial area that is going to have a dumpster, they are required to pay a $50.00 fee along with an application process. We currently charge residential residents that apply for a dumpster permit a fee of $75.00 per week. Manager Peticca stated this is a fee charge that hasn't been discussed in a while and brought to the attention of council for review.
Councilmember Shoub clarified and mentioned this is a fee that the dumpster hauler would be the person that would be charged the fee.

The proposed fee would be $120.00 annually.

There is a motion on the floor to approve the haulers are required to pay $150.00 a year to be able to service commercial businesses in the borough.

a. Motion: Councilmember Shoub
b. Second: Councilmember Corrales
c. Discussion: No discussion
d. Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

Mayor Llewellyn wanted to address the topic of Volunteer of the year.

Councilmember Perovich- stated that if anyone wants to nominate an individual for Volunteer of the year, they can do so by submitting the persons' name to the borough building by December 20th, 2023, and that will be announced at the January meeting.

18. Old Business

Carol Zeravica- asked a question regarding the three-strike rule for nuisance property. Is that still in effect.

Mayor Llewellyn, and Councilmembers- stated the police have to respond to a service call at that property 3 times within a 90-day period.

Carol Zeravica- stated she loves this neighbor with all her heart, but Anthony cannot be screaming all hours of the night. She stated that the cops had been called to that residence prior and nothing has been done. Carol went on to state that she does not want any trouble, and that she and Anthony get along fine.

Councilmember Shoub stated that the only way the police will know is if residents call, there cannot be a police car stationed outside the residence. A call needs to be made to the police when an incident is happening.

Manager Peticca mentioned one item under old business from a previous discussion meeting. There was a zoning question that arose in that meeting, and there were some follow-up comments that were answered by a representative in the county tax assessment office. When a property is listed as C (commercial) on the county tax map, it pertains to its assessment not how it is zoned. The municipality is the one who sets the classification of how it is zoned. The assessment and zoning are two separate items.

Adjournment

a. Announce the Reorganizational Meeting to be held at 7:00 pm Council Chambers on January 2nd, 2024.
b. Move to adjourn: Councilmember Shoub
c. Second: Councilmember Corrales.
d. Discussion: Councilmember Perovich announced the regular council meeting will follow the reorganizational meeting on January 2nd, 2024. Councilmember Perovich wished everyone a safe and healthy holiday season.
e. Vote: 4, 0, 3 (Absent)

Respectfully submitted,
Nina Mulnix – Borough Secretary