

Borough of Thompsontown  
Council Meeting  
December 16, 2024  
7 PM

A regular meeting of the Borough of Thompsontown Council was held in the Thompsontown Borough Office on November 18, 2024. The following were in attendance: Mayor Kenneth Hart, President Roger Stutts, Secretary/Treasurer Sue Pontius, Councilmen/Councilwomen: Martin Wilson, Williard Roush, Robert Speece, Connie Eaton, Nathan Claybaugh, Solicitor Seth Mosebey and Engineer Brian Book. Vice-President Andy Lenig was absent. Motion to approve the financial report was made by Willard Roush and seconded by Connie Eaton. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Nathan Claybaugh seconded by Robert Speece. Minutes for the Thompsontown Volunteer Fire Department and the Municipal Authority meetings are not available since their meeting will be held later this week.

Attending the November 18, 2024 Council meeting, were Adam Lebkicker and his wife Nicole, and Brian Zimmerman all were present. All demanded the Borough specifically enforce their neighbor Nicholas Knepp have his fence setback. At last month's Council meeting Mr. Knepp noted to Council that their ordinances for improvements <\$1000 does not always require a permit. Solicitor Mosebey looked into this, and disclosed Section §702 of the Borough's ordinances does not require any permits for <\$1000 for certain improvements.

This still does not clear up the animosity between the two parties. During the discussions, two items of interest need to be brought back to next month's Council meeting: 1) Knepps needs to provide a copy of a recent survey completed by Axis Professional Surveying. 2) Lebkickers need to provide all documentation of an agreement from prior owners concerning the setback for their fence. Council will review both of these documents prior to the next Council meeting December 16, 2024 for their final decision on following borough ordinances.

Evan Hubley attending the meeting asked to be able to remove a 4' X 5' shrub that is in the path of where he wants to create a pathway to the Veteran Memorial already in the park. He will look into a place where they may replant the shrub also. He asked if the Boro uses anyone who does concrete work that he might be able to contact? Councilman Speece suggested he often used Nate Jones, he will get a contact number for Evan. Council unanimously approved the shrub removal.

Engineer Book reviewed the walking trail apps are completed and gave three copies to Secretary Pontius. He asked for a motion to pay, a motion to pay contractor Jay Fulkroad & Sons the actual bid price. Willard Roush made a motion to pay Fulkroad for the Walking Trail contract and Nathan Claybaugh seconded the motion. Funds being used for the Walking Trail Project were reviewed and Robert Speece made the motion to use the funds as read and the motion was seconded by Connie Eaton. All approved.

President Stutts asked Council to review the ad to rent out the new section of the Church. President Stutts asked for volunteers to be available to show the church to interested vendors. Mayor Hart and Nathan Claybaugh agreed to be available. Secretary Pontius will make each a copy of the Vendor Agreement for them. They both need to discuss possible times they will be available for the Secretary.

Secretary Pontius handed out a copy of the 2024-2025 budget proposal to all of the Council members to review. A motion to accept the budget proposal for 2025 was made by Robert Speece and seconded by Connie Eaton. Council reviewed and agreed not to raise taxes for 2025 to keep the rate at 8.5 ml. A motion to not raise taxes was made by Willard Roush and seconded by Nathan Claybaugh.

Councilman Robert Speece reported to Council about a spill from a Cocolamus Creek Disposal Truck on Pine Street that should have been cleaned up. It is now gone, but future occurrences should perhaps be noted about cleanup.

Solicitor Mosebey read a letter in a portfolio of mutual funds of 52 shares of First Community Financial Corporation stock. Recent trades were in the \$10-12 range. President Stutts suggested to Council members to retain the shares in trust. A motion was made by Willard Roush to retain the shares in trust and Robert Speece seconded the motion. All of Council agreed. Solicitor Mosebey will notify Pennian Bank.

Motion to adjourn was made by: Robert Speece, seconded by Martin Wilson at 8:55.

Notes submitted by: Sue Pontius, Secretary