

Thompstontown Council Meeting
January 16, 2023
7 PM

A regular meeting of the Thompstontown Borough Council was held in the Thompstontown Borough Office on December 19, 2022. The following were in attendance: Mayor Gerald Eaton, President Andy Lenig, Vice-President Roger Stutts, Secretary/Treasurer Sue Pontius, Councilmen/Councilwomen: Willard Roush, Martin Wilson, Bob Speece, Loretta Allen, Connie Eaton, Solicitor Seth Mosebey and Engineer Brian Book. Councilwoman Loretta Allen and Councilman Roger Stutts made the motion to approve both the Treasurer's Report and the minutes. Council approved. The Fire Department minutes only had truck and equipment repairs to be done. Municipal Authority minutes were not available since their meeting is next Thursday night.

Stacy Leach representing the Tri-County Drug and Alcohol Task Force, reviewed how the committee is requesting a planning meeting to use the Thompstontown Elementary School for housing, like a half-way house. President Lenig informed her she needs to get a lot more information together in order for Council to decide anything on this request. The now owner of the school Matt Walters would also have to come to Council to let Council know if he even agrees with this request. Ms. Leach stated this wasn't just an idea that has just come up, a committee has been working on how to handle this for over a year.

Councilman Roger Stutts expressed his opposition to a half-way house coming into Thompstontown. Roger stated he feels residents of Thompstontown will object to bringing this project into our town. Mayor Eaton asked who is going to do the Supervision, the surveillance, and police our residents?

Solicitor Mosebey informed Ms. Leach there are several steps that must be done, before the planning commission can even begin to review this request. Solicitor Mosebey suggest Ms. Leach have the school owner Matt Walters reach out to him to be able to understand how to apply, what is needed to be zoned, and how advertising must be included to inform the public.

Resident Abbi Testament who lives on North Mill St. asked if she give Council five suggestions for Council to consider to control traffic on her street:

1. Amount of traffic: in one day she counted sixteen cars on her street
2. Pin Oak Street, she suggested Council put a speed strip
3. 53' Tractor Trailers swipe the curve
4. Suggest a curfew for the Haldeman Park
5. Suggest Brake Retardants on Rt. 333, she is willing to make up and take a bulleting to pallet businesses

President Lenig informed Ms. Testament we can't do speed strips, per state regulations, the park curfew is still 10 PM, we can't limit the number of cars and trucks that go up her street, (its public right away).

Frances Ranck, President of the Municipal Authority asked Council for permission to add a member on their board. The limit is seven, but one member who has served for years is now having a medical issues that prevents him from serving as appropriate. Since he has served for many years, they don't want to remove him, they just need to be permitted to allow someone to serve in his place as necessary. Solicitor Mosebey will look at the By-Laws to update as needed. Frances said they have already discussed with John Dressler how they need him to fill in when needed, he agreed. Council agreed to adding another member to fill in when needed. Solicitor Mosebey will update the By-Laws.

President Lenig asked Council to review the 2023 Budget and give any suggestions for change. There was no changes from Council. Secretary Pontius noted there was only one person came into review the budget, this was the only person to review in five years. With no changes, Loretta Allen made the motion to approve the 2023 budget. Willard Roush seconded the motion. Council approved.

Secretary Pontius informed Council she was to ask if the truck driver for the Christmas lights can be also paid? Roger Stutts made the motion to pay him the same as the other staff members where paid. Connie Eaton seconded the motion. Council approved.

Secretary Pontius informed Council it is time for the contract renewal for 2023 Miller-Gentry. The motion was made by Robert Speece to renew for 2023 and seconded by Roger Stutts. Council approved. Secretary Pontius informed Council since MSC has moved on October 17th 2022, she will be asking Miller-Gentry to do the W2's and 1099's.

Losch Floor Covering owner James Losch asked if he can have a longer lease for the showroom he rents now? After a brief discussion, Roger Stutts made the motion to make his contract a two-year lease, which will be drawn up by Solicitor Mosebey. Motion was seconded by Willard Roush.

The last contract discussion was for Martson Law, Solicitor Mosebey said his \$135/hr. will stay the same for the Borough, Ashley and Megan's rate will be \$110/hr. Roger Stutts made the motion to approve these rates and Loretta Allen seconded. Council approved.

Engineer Book informed Council, Fulkroad has completed the work on the Borough Streets as of October 31, 2022. Fulkroad will be coming back in the spring to fix several of the drains that have sunken. Paving is not permitted by the state until again in the spring.

Secretary Pontius informed Council, she received a letter from Administrator Jim Bahorick that there will be no 2022 County Aide Funds, it will be used for Juniata County bridges instead. Since the Thompsontown Borough has approved buying a new 2016 Borough Dump Truck, Council wants to use the 1999, 2020, and 2021 Aide funds with this purchase.

Meeting adjourned by: President Lenig at 8:20 PM

Noted submitted by: Sue Pontius, Secretary-Treasurer