

**TREMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 11, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Ochs called the meeting of the Tremont Borough Council to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Tremont Borough Building.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Council:** President William Ochs, Vice-President Brian Eisenacher, Council Members: James Scheibley, Melody Strickler and Roger Adams.

**Also attending:** Solicitor Shane Hobbs and Secretary-Treasurer Shea Lucas.

**Not in attendance:** Mayor Gerald Fasnacht

\* See attached sheet for a list of Citizens who were in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Motion made by Adams, second by Eisenacher, approving the May 7, 2024 Workshop Minutes and the May 14, 2024 Meeting Minutes. All in favor, Minutes approved.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

*Attorney Shane Hobbs*

- Problem Properties

Hobbs presented Council with the top five problem properties within the Borough:

- 110 W. Main – dilapidated garage, multiple citations
- 29 Spring – Condemned for water shut off
- 206 W Laurel – Citations issued, Owners live out of state, Bench warrants issued
- 115 E. Main – Multiple citations for garbage and rubbish – no response
- 117 E. Main – Dilapidated house, Multiple citations, no response, Owners live out of state,

Motion made by Scheibley, second by Adams, advising the Solicitor to file injunctions on the five properties listed above. All in favor; Motion passed.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

*Mayor Gerald Fasnacht:*

- No Report

**PUBLIC UTILITY AND STREETS:**

- Lincoln Paving is coming back to fix the crosswalks.
- Paving on Spring Street will begin on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**PROPERTY:**

- Nothing to report

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

» **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Chief Eisenacher reported 22 calls in May 2024.

<u>MAY CALLS</u>			
Structure Fire	1	Automatic Fire Alarm	1
Motor Vehicle Accident	3	QRS Responses	13
Brush Fire	1	Landing Zone	1
Fire Police	1	Fluids down	1

- PPL Class about electricity will be held this Monday at 6:30 at the Fire House
- Eisenacher will be attending a class on Mass Casualty
- County gave the go ahead for the Communications Room at the Fire House.
- Some residents are concerned about not having a siren to warn them in case of emergency.
  - President Ochs asked Eisenacher to find out how much it would cost to fix the siren.
  - Scheibley feels everyone should sign up for the Rave Alert System, in order to get emergency information from the Borough. He is trying to get pamphlets to hand out to the residents that aren't signed up.

» **TREMONT AMBULANCE REPORT**

- No Report

» **ENGINEER REPORT (PROPERTY MAINTENANCE)**

Solicitor Hobbs read **Marty Sowers** report:

- 110 West Main St – followed up on citations. Gave judge's office new address. Summons not served (this is for grass and dilapidated garage)
- 115 East Main St – issued citations for rubbish and junk vehicles
- 117 East Main St – issued citations for rubbish and junk vehicles
- 328 West Laurel – building sold. New owner is making plans on repairs
- 206 West Laurel – citations issued (7) – waiting for summons to be served

Hearings

- 239 North Pine St – had hearing. Agreed to settle as long as they paid restitution. Confirmed paid
- 50 North Crescent – need to confirm paid

**RECREATION & EDUCATION:**

John Poff Report for June 2024

• **FEMA BRIC –DTA GRANT**

We provided a memo on the Army Corp Riverine Flood Study to the FEMA DTA Group on May 29, 2024; at the request of Scott Yi with CDM. The next scheduled meeting between the Borough and FEMA DTA will occur virtually on June 17th at 3:00 PM.

• **DCED Grant from Commonwealth Financing Agency**

On December 19, 2023, Tremont Borough has received a \$ 300,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth Financing Agency through the Department of Community and Economic Development. Please note, the grant application was for \$ 375,000.00. Therefore, the Borough will have to provide a 15 % match (\$ 56,250.00) plus the funding shortfall of \$ 18,750.00. This grant will provide funding to do the stormwater collection and conveyance projects as outlined in the Army Corp Study as well as replacing the storm pipe under Route 25.

DCED has sent the executed grant agreement electronically. I have forwarded the agreement to the Borough Secretary along with the forms to be submitted for reimbursement of costs. LHA1 still needs the survey information from the Army Corp to prepare the design drawings and construction documents for the project. Please note, all funds must be spent by September 30, 2026.

• **Borough Playground**

Keith Heigel is coordinating the next step in the process with DCNR. The grant will have to be managed through the new Grants Customer Service Portal. Grantees are encouraged to submit a Partial Payment Request for 50% of the grant award through the Grants Portal Payment Link. All partial payments must be deposited in a separate interest-bearing account.

The design/construction plans have been submitted to DCNR for approval. We cannot proceed with the project until DCNR approves the construction plans. DCNR is still reviewing the project.

Scheibley reminded Council that FEMA holds BRIC DTA meetings every two weeks if any of them would like to be a part of them.

**TREASURER REPORT:**

- Treasurer Report for May 2024 :

	Expense	MID PENN BANK	Note A Loan Payment		4,814.18	
	Deposit	COUNTY OF SCHUYLKILL	Road & School Taxes	8,381.24		
	Check	WERNER LUMBER ACE HARDWARE	Miscellaneous Items		223.44	
		DEPOSIT		18,105.39		
	Expense	ADOBE	ADOBE *ACROPRO S SEQ# 020596 7276 Computer Program Subscription		84.76	
		TRANSFER	From General to New Equip. Acct - USDA Loan Payments		4,536.00	
	Expense	AMAZON	Miscellaneous Items		237.69	
	Expense	GEISINGER QUALITY OPTIONS, INC	ACH Debit Received - InstaMed GEISINGER 021000025200429		1,952.86	
	Expense	FRONTIER	Borough Telephone & Internet Service		422.13	
	Expense	COMMONWEALTH OF PA - DEPART OF AG.	Pesticide License Renewal		35.00	
	Expense	PPL ELECTRIC UTILITIES	Borough Electric Service		7,824.82	
	Check	TREMONT POSTMASTER	Roll of Stamps		66.00	
1000 MSDB- GENERAL ACCOUNT	Check	BERKHEIMER	ACCT # 54600016 EIT/LST Commissions		335.66	
	Check	EHRlich	Pest Control Service		247.24	
	Expense	EMIL RARICK, Division of Tevis Energy, Inc.	ATM/POS Debit - Tevis Energy SEQ# 093971 7276		949.48	
	Expense	SCMA	Water & Sewer Service		2,706.83	
	Expense	INTUIT QUICKBOOKS	Quickbooks Payroll		553.75	
	Check	DUMPSTER RETAINER	Permit Retainer		50.00	
	Check	KREISER FUEL SERVICE	Borough Truck Fuel		77.00	
	Expense	FAMILY DOLLAR	Cleaning Supplies		24.91	
	Check	LEWIS MOYER	Business Inspections		90.00	
	Expense	MICROSOFT.COM	Microsoft Computer Program		74.19	
			DEPOSIT		17,625.09	
			DEPOSIT		118,576.00	
		Check	GEORGE HOVEROCKER	Reimbursement for Supplies		67.32
		Check	POTTS & MONGER SANITATION	Garbage Service		170.00
		Deposit	COMMONWEALTH of PENNSYLVANIA	FEMA/PEMA Money Received - Good Spring Creek Walls	278,127.22	
			INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	12.10	
			DEPOSIT		16,400.93	
		PAYROLL	Total Payroll		30538.1	
				<b>\$ 457,227.97</b>	<b>\$ 56,081.36</b>	
1003 MSDB- SWIMMING POOL ACCOUNT						
	Expense	PPL ELECTRIC UTILITIES	Pool Electric		49.79	
		INTEREST	Interest Earned	0.16		
				<b>\$ 0.16</b>	<b>\$ 49.79</b>	
1007 MINERS- NEW EQUIPT FUND ACCT						
		TRANSFER	From New Equip to General Acct - USDA Loan Payments	4,536.00		
	Expense	USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT	USDA RD DCFO PAYMENT 0000		1,296.00	
		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.11		
				<b>\$ 4,536.11</b>	<b>\$ 1,296.00</b>	
1010 ARPA Fiscal Recovery Funds						
	Transfer		Borough Portion of Grant		69,072.00	
					<b>\$ 69,072.00</b>	

1200 PLGIT - GENERAL ACCOUNT	Deposit	PA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	2024 Liquid Fuel Allocation	46,161.84	
	Deposit	BERKHEIMER	EIT/LST Distributions	44,707.47	
		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	1,049.70	
				<b>\$ 91,919.01</b>	
1201 PLGIT - FIRE DEPT FUND	Check	MARS DIESEL			929.64
		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	330.25	
				<b>\$ 330.25</b>	<b>\$ 929.64</b>
1202 PLGIT - HIGHWAY AID FUND	Check	POTTSVILLE QUARRY	Cust # 100589 Inv# B-826M-0007968		235.32
	Check	AMERICAN ROCK SALT	ACCT #1349, INV #763132		2,011.62
	Check	CITIZEN-STANDARD NEWSPAPER	ACCT# 200393 Inv # 82110136		508.00
	Check	KREISER FUEL SERVICE	Cust # TRE004		1,345.00
	Check	POTTSVILLE QUARRY	Cust # 100589 Inv# B-826M-0008155		221.65
	Check	FEHR SUPPLY	INV# 121876		190.00
	Check	A&M AUTO PARTS	Cust# 33875		41.27
	Check	POTTSVILLE QUARRY	Cust # 100589		537.85
		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	210.31	
					<b>\$ 210.31</b>

- Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler, approving the Treasurer's Report for the month. All in favor, Motion passed.

**FINANCE:**

- Auditor will be here June 12 to start 2023 Audit
- Motion made by Scheibley, second by Eisenacher, to pay the final bill submitted by Keith Krott for the Union Street Bridge Painting Project in the amount of \$2,705.53. All in favor, Motion passed.
- Motion made by Adams, second by Eisenacher, to put the FEMA money we received in May onto the loan. All in favor, Motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Fall Cleanup & Recycling Event will be Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> 8 am - Noon

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Nothing to report

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:**

- Sherry Huntzinger
  - 1) Can the floor be painted and the walls fixed before the event in September?
    - Scheibley: He got the paint but he hasn't had a chance to do the work and he hasn't had any community service people
    - Strickler: Told Scheibley to call the lady who volunteers her time to paint.
    - Sandy Kimmel: She is embarrassed to have people see the building in this condition. Will Jim and Lewis be able to get the cement work done so others can paint?
    - Motion made by Adams, second by Scheibley, to get the supplies needed to fix the building. All in favor, Motion passed.
  - 2) People tore everything out of 23 Spring Street and the grass is really high and there is a new owner, something needs to be done about this property.
  - 3) There is furniture on porches, goats in yards, etc...
    - c. Council feels that the Mayor should be getting letters out to these properties to notify them.

- Laurie Bender
  - 4) How high must weeds be before people are cited?
    - 6 inches
  
- Kristie Ellis
  - 1) Neighbor is claiming that his pigs are "therapy service animals"
    - Hobbs: He must show proof that they are certified.
  
  - 2) What are the laws for neighbor's trees?
    - It falls under the PA State Tree Laws or ask your insurance agent.
  
- Kathy Adams
  - 2) Requesting to use the TCO Room on August 18<sup>th</sup> for the Chinese Auction during the Car show.
  - 3) Tri Valley Pool is interested in buying the sliding board at the Pool.
    - Council has to find out if the slide was donated first.
  
- Sandy Kimmel
  - 1) The base of the bench outside of the Magistrate's Building is deteriorating, can it be removed?
    - Scheibley will look at it.
  
- Jamie Fasnacht
  - 1) Tri axle keeps driving over and breaking the culvert behind his house in the back alley
    - Hobbs: Recommends setting a permit fee for haulers
    - Poff: Recommends contracting the garbage hauling

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams, to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.; All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

**ATTEST:**

  
A faint circular seal is visible in the background of the signature area.

**PRESIDENT:**

