

**TREMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

July 9, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

President Ochs called the meeting of the Tremont Borough Council to order at 6:34 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: Mayor Gerald Fasnacht, Solicitor Shane Hobbs and Secretary-Treasurer Shea Lucas.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler, approving the June 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes. All in favor, Minutes approved.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Attorney Shane Hobbs

- Problem Properties
 - Hobbs has all the injunctions ready to go. Secretary will sign them tonight.
 - Owners must appear in court. If they don't, they will be found in contempt.
 - Judge determines the amount and they must comply with the court order.
 - They are responsible for all costs.
 - Mayor Fasnacht recommended that we have some one other than the County serve them.
 - Hobbs said he will ask but he is pretty sure it has to be the County or a Constable that serves them.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gerald Fasnacht:

- No Report

PUBLIC UTILITY AND STREETS:

- The crosswalks are fixed. The State covered one up on Spring St. but they will be back to re-paint it.
- Drop holes will be started the week of July 22nd
- Lisa Mahall from the County informed Scheibley that the Bridge Project has been opened and awarded. It will be done this year.
- Scheibley needs parts for the Zero-Turn mower. (belts and blades)
 - Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams, permitting Scheibley to purchase the parts he needs for the Zero-Turn. All in favor, Motion passed.

PROPERTY:

- Scheibley reported that the security camera line that goes to the flag pole at the Borough building broke. He has to get a lift line for it. He would also like to get a wind sock for the flag pole.
 - Strickler will reach out to someone and try to get us one.
- Scheibley reported that the Community Service people will be in to paint the walls in the Borough Building on Friday.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY:

» **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Chief Eisenacher reported 24 calls in June 2024.

<u>JUNE CALLS</u>			
Chief's Request	1	Automatic Fire Alarm	2
Motor Vehicle Accident	4	QRS Responses	12
Vehicle Fire	1	Landing Zone	1
Special Assignment	1	Trees down	2

- Eisenacher would like to go in with four other fire companies for hose testing. Our cost would be \$1,600.00
 - Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams, allowing the Fire Company to have the hose testing done. All in favor, Motion passed.
- Eisenacher is requesting that Scheibley responds to all Fire Company calls during working , in and out of the Borough. The Fire Company will reimburse the Borough for his time.
 - Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler, allowing Scheibley to respond to all Fire Company calls, in and out of the Borough, during working hours. All in favor, Motion passed.

» **TREMONT AMBULANCE REPORT**

- Scheibley reported 68 volunteer and 60 paid calls in May 2024 and 571 volunteer and 79 paid in June 2024.

» **ENGINEER REPORT (PROPERTY MAINTENANCE)**

Marty Sowers report listed the problem properties:

- 110 West Main St – followed up on citations. Gave judge's office new address. Summons not served (this is for grass and dilapidated garage)
- 15 East Main St – issued citations for rubbish and junk vehicles
- 17 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

RECREATION & EDUCATION:

Report submitted by John Poff for July 2024:

• **FEMA BRIC –DTA GRANT**

We attended a virtual meeting between the Borough and the FEMA DTA Group on July 8, 2024. The next scheduled meeting between the Borough and FEMA DTA will occur virtually on July 15th at 3:00 PM. We encourage all members of Council to get involved in this process as this will help the Borough have the strongest possible grant application.

• **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. LHA 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 reported to Council that FEMA wants more Council members involved in the BRIC-DTA process. Scheibley said that the more people involved will increase are chances of getting the grant money for the work that the Army Corps included in the Flood Study. FEMA will attend the August Workshop. BRIC DTA virtual meetings are held every two weeks if any of them would like to be a part of them.
- Scheibley is requesting to attend a class that FEMA is holding at the PEMA Building on July 23rd and 24th from 8 am – 5 pm. He is also recommending that someone else attend the class with him. Since the secretary just came back from her surgery, the Mayor will be attending the class. Scheibley explained that being the Chair Person to four or five different committees means that he must attend meetings for the Borough.
 - Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler, allowing Scheibley to attend the class that FEMA is holding at the PEMA Building on July 23rd and 24th from 8 am – 5 pm. All in favor, Motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT:

- Treasurer Report for June 2024 :

	Transaction Type	Name	Memo/Description	Debit	Credit
1000 MSDB-GENERAL ACCOUNT	Expense	MD PENN BANK	Note A Loan Payment		2,446.56
	Deposit	COUNTY OF SCHUYLKILL	Road & School Taxes	2,003.45	
	Check	LAW OFFICE OF SHANE HOBBS	Solicitor Fees		1,360.75
	Expense	ADOBE	ADOBE *ACROPRO S SEQ# 020596 7276 Computer Program Subscription		42.38
	Check	DUMPSTER RETAINER	Permit Retainer		50.00
	Check	POTTS & MONGER SANITATION	Garbage Service		85.00
	Check	JAMES SCHEIBLEY	Reimb. For Maint. Items		23.21
	Check	AMERICAN COMPUTER ASSOC	Annual Fees for Domain		195.40
	Check	FRIBILLA'S	Misc Items		119.83
		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	18.87	
	PAYROLL	Total Payroll		12,639.51	
				\$ 2,022.32	\$ 16,962.64
1003 MSDB-SWIMMING POOL ACCOUNT		INTEREST	Interest Earned	0.07	
				\$ 0.07	
1007 MINERS-NEW EQUIPT FUND ACCT	Expense	USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT	USDA RD DCFO PAYMENT 0000		648.00
		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.04	
				\$ 0.04	\$ 648.00
1010 ARPA Fiscal Recovery Funds		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.60	
				\$ 0.60	
1200 PLGIT - GENERAL ACCOUNT	Deposit	BERKHEIMER	ET/LST Distributions	11,759.92	
		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	830.34	
				\$ 12,590.26	
1201 PLGIT - FIRE DEPT FUND		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	213.30	
				\$ 213.30	
1202 PLGIT - HIGHWAY AID FUND		INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	96.85	
				\$ 96.85	

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

FINANCE:

- Nothing to Report

OLD BUSINESS:

- Fall Cleanup & Recycling Event will be Sept. 13th & 14th 8 am – Noon at the Borough Garage.
- Repairs to the Borough Building will be done before the event in September.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Nothing to report

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

- Sherry Huntzinger
 - Four people moved the big rocks from the creek walls behind her house and damned up the opposite side of the creek. A concrete post was thrown in there too and the wire from the house that burned is still hanging in the creek.
 - Their faces can't be seen on Sherry's camera. They crawled down the wall behind Hindman's house.
 - If something happens again, call anyone on Council or the Secretary while it is happening.
 - Scheibley will check it out.

• Laurie Bender

- 1) She wants to know the criteria for how high must weeds be before people are cited? She feels the Mayor is not doing his job. She said the weeds across the sidewalks are like bushes and she gave other examples of problems throughout the Borough.
 - Mayor: 6 inches for grass and weeds.
 - Resident should fill out Complaint Form, then the Mayor reports it to Marty Sowers. Sowers controls Code Enforcement.
 - President Ochs gaveled the discussion and told Ms. Bender that they are concentrating on the top problem properties at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion made by Adams, second by Scheibley, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.; All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT:

Alea D. Lucas

William Adams

**TREMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET**

JULY 2, 2024 & July 9, 2024

1. <i>Geoff Pasquett</i>	19.
2. <i>Kathleen Kramme</i>	20.
3. <i>Kathleen Kramme 7/9/24</i>	21.
4. <i>Art Donnay</i>	22.
5. <i>Laurie Bender</i>	23.
6. <i>Sherry Huntzinger</i>	24.
7.	25.