

TREMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
November 12, 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: Mayor Gerald Fasnacht, Solicitor Shane Hobbs, Secretary-Treasurer Shea Lucas and Engineer John Poff

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion made by Adams, second by Scheibley, approving the October 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes. All in favor, Minutes approved.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Attorney Shane Hobbs

- Still working on filing the 5 problem properties in the Court of Common Pleas
 - Some of the Restitution Fees were paid on the properties.
 - Mayor Fasnacht asked if Hobbs gets notice of the Hearings, Hobbs does.
- Complaint on 206 W, Laurel St.
 - They have been being cited since 2022
 - They were found guilty and have paid most of the fines
 - Currently the property is not occupied
 - Owner lives in New York and owns multiple properties in the Borough
 - Borough has been cutting grass for years
 - At one point we lifted the Lein
- 110 W. Main St.
 - Scheibley is sure that the garage will collapse with the first snow storm
 - It will take out the neighbor's garage when it collapses
 - Mayor Fasnacht said that Marty Sowers's has the legal right to abate that garage.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gerald Fasnacht:

- Nothing to Report

PUBLIC UTILITY AND STREETS:

- Parking issue behind Huntzinger's again
 - Scheibley reported that it's the same van
 - Scheibley asked Hobbs if we can have it towed if it continues
 - Hobbs: Yes, as long as it was posted for at least 30 days.
 - The Mayor will talk to her uncle about the situation.

PROPERTY:

- E. Main St. Fire
 - The demo is complete at Dee's Flower Shop and Randazzo's Pizza Shop.
 - We keep getting complaints about the Demo Crew at 16 E. Main (Barry Noll – owner)
 - We have no proof that they have insurance or if they applied for the permits
 - They are doing the demo by hand
 - We didn't receive the Escrow check, he has Farmers Insurance
 - With Winter close by, we need to get this building down asap.
- Doors at TACC Building

- Scheibley has Werner's coming up to give a quote on the back Library door and the back boiler room door

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY:

• **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Chief Eisenacher reported that the Fire Company responded to 17 calls in October:

QRS	8	Landing Zone	1
Chief's Request	1	AFA	2
MVA	4	Wires Down	1

- Tremont Fire Company is requesting reimbursement for their 2023-2024 vehicle insurance
 - Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams, to reimburse the Fire Company for their 2023-2024 vehicle insurance, in the amount of \$3,280.00. All in Favor; Motion passes.
- Tremont Fire Company is requesting another mil of taxes.
 - Justin Moeller spoke on behalf of the Fire Company
 - Cover the costs of apparatus maintenance and general maintenance
 - Fundraising is down by 22%
 - They don't have help, so they don't have Banquets anymore
 - They still do file for Grants to help alleviate some of the burden
 - President Ochs read Section 1202 P (56) of the PA Borough Code:

To ensure that fire and emergency medical services are provided within the borough by the means and to the extent determined by the borough, including the appropriate financial and administrative assistance for these services. The borough shall consult with fire and emergency medical services providers to discuss the emergency services needs of the borough. The borough shall require any emergency services organization receiving borough funds to provide to the borough an annual itemized listing of all expenditures of these funds before the borough may consider budgeting additional funding to the organization.

- President Ochs feels that the Ambulance should receive some money also.
- President Ochs also noticed how high the costs are to repair their trucks. He recommended checking into another local business that isn't so expensive.
- Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams to Table the mil increase item until March, 2025. All in Favor; Tabled until March 2025.
- Motion made by Scheibley, second by Eisenacher, issuing a Burn Ban for Tremont Borough in effect until further notice. All in Favor; Motion passes.

• **TREMONT AMBULANCE REPORT**

- No Report

• **ENGINEER REPORT (PROPERTY MAINTENANCE)**

- Report submitted by Marty Sowers
 - 100 West Main – garage with no roof
 - 110 West Main – high grass, dilapidated garage
 - 12 North Pine – junk vehicles
 - 17 North Crescent – peeling paint on house, garage roof collapsed, canopy deteriorated to shreds, etc.
 - 15 North Crescent – peeling paint (it's pretty severe), collapsed garage
 - 24 Spring St – junk vehicles
 - 58 Spring St – Shed with rubber/tar paper roof blowing off, house exterior in rough shape
 - 16 North St – garbage piled on rear porch, dog waste all over yard (terrible odor)
 - 17 North St – junk vehicles, shed in terrible disrepair, high weeds, junk
 - 102 Spring St – mowers and accumulation of junk, junk vehicles
 - 71 Spring St – junk vehicles, weeds, junk
 - 69 Spring St – high grass, junk vehicles

RECREATION & EDUCATION:

John Poff – November 2024:

• **FEMA BRIC –DTA GRANT**

We attended a virtual meeting between the Borough and the FEMA DTA Group on November 4, 2024. The next scheduled meeting between the Borough and FEMA DTA will occur virtually on November 18th at 3:00 PM. FEMA is looking for guidance from the Borough on whether or not the Borough wants to file a Scoping Grant Application or a Phased Project 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,

LHAI has finally received the mapping/CAD files from the Army Corp flood study. We will utilize this information to create base mapping and ultimately construction drawings and bid documents for the storm sewer 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.

We have submitted the construction plans to DCNR for final review. Upon DCNR approval, we will put the project out to bid this December; with construction occurring in the spring of 2025. Please note, all funds must be spent by December 30, 2025.

- President Ochs asked Poff about the Engineer Service Costs of \$52,000 for the Playground Project, Poff said they will not go over budget.

TREASURER REPORT:

- Treasurer Report for October 2024 :

Account	Type	Name	Memo/Description	Income	Expense
MID PENN GENERAL ACCOUNT	Expense	MID PENN BANK	Payment # 13 to Note A Obligation Loan 500240593		2,209.79
	Expense	AMTRUST NORTH AMERICA	Worker Comp Premium		5,185.00
	Check	EHRlich	Pest Control Service		123.62
	Expense	ADOBE	Computer Program Subscription		42.38
	Check	NEWSWANGER	Law n Care Equipment Supplies/Maintenance		548.41
	Check	PORT ELEVATOR INC	Elevator Inspection		750.00
	Deposit	COUNTY OF SCHUYLKILL	Road & School Taxes	1,430.65	
	Check	JAMES SCHEIBLEY	Reimbursement for Supplies		41.66
	Check	LEWIS MOYER	September 2024 Invoice		45.00
	Expense	PPL	Electric Utility		9,013.85
	Expense	SCMA	Water & Sewer Utility		2,840.64
	Expense	AMAZON	General building supplies		16.95
	Expense	KREBSER FUEL	Final Fuel Bills		1,864.00
	Check	BERKHEIMER	EIT/LST Commissions		216.03
	Expense	TEVIS ENERGY	Heating Oil - TAACC Bldg		1,517.62
	Expense	INTUIT QUICKBOOKS	Computer Program Subscription		298.92
	Check	MAIN STREAM INDUSTRIES INC	Street Signs		115.00
	Check	STEEL & METAL SERVICE CENTER POTTSVILLE	Misc. Garage Supplies		56.21
	Check	LIGHT-HEIGEL & ASSOCIATES, INC	Property Maintenance & Code Officer Services		234.00
	Check	PSAB U/C PLAN	Quarterly U/C		435.54
	Returned	MID PENN BANK	Bad check returned		240.00
	Fee	MID PENN BANK	Returned Item Fee		75.00
	Deposit	MONTHLY DEPOSITS	ATM	8894.95	
Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	17.25		
TOTAL - MID PENN GENERAL ACCOUNT				\$ 10,342.85	\$ 25,869.62
TOTAL - PAYROLL COST					\$ 14,179.02
NEW EQUIPT FUND ACCT	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.02	
TOTAL - NEW EQUIPT FUND ACCT				\$ 0.02	

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HIGHWAY AID FUND (LIQUID FUELS)	Check	WEST END TOWING & RECOVERY LLC	Truck Inspection		58.00
	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	28.76	
TOTAL - HIGHWAY AID FUND (LIQUID FUELS ACCT)				\$ 28.76	\$ 58.00
SWIMMING POOL ACCT	Expense	PPL	Electric Utility		77.22
	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.08	
TOTAL - SWIMMING POOL ACCT				\$ 0.08	\$ 77.22
FIRE DEPT FUND	Check	GLICK FIRE EQUIP. CO.			93.75
	Check	MARS DIESEL			5,831.69
	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	198.22	
TOTAL -FIRE DEPT. FUND ACCT				\$ 198.22	\$ 5,925.44
PLGIT GENERAL ACCT	Deposit	BERKHEIMER	ET/LST Disbursements	6,196.39	
	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	1,066.26	
TOTAL -PLGIT GENERAL ACCT				\$ 7,262.65	\$ -

- Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler, approving the October 2024 Treasurer Report. All in favor, Minutes approved.

FINANCE:

- Motion made by Adams, second by Scheibley, to table the discussion of what the remaining COVID money be used for until next meeting. All in favor, Motion passed.

Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams to advertise the 2025 Budget. All in Favor, with Scheibley Abstaining; Motion passes.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Insurance Company is sending a check for the Hydrant at Pine & W. Main Street. They deducted \$360.00 for depreciated value.
- No quotes for the Fire Siren yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

- DEP is hosting a Town Hall Meeting on November 14th at 6 pm in the gym at the Borough Building. The focus of the meeting will be NSP and other landfills in our area.
- The Secretary had to upgrade the computer antivirus software for a cost of \$79.90 per year

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

- Kathleen Krammes
 - 1) Can you store firewood on your front porch?
 - Eisenacher: There is no Ordinance, but it is not a good idea to pile anything around your property.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.; All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

ATTEST:

Shea D. Juan

PRESIDENT:

William [Signature]

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

NOVEMBER 12, 2024

1. THOMAS SCHWALZ	19.
2. Justin Moller	20.
3. JOHN R POFF, PE, LIAMT. HELGEL	21.
4. Kathleen Kramer	22.
5. Denise Krammes	23.
6. Sherry Hutzinger	24.
7. Gerald Fasnacht	25.
8. Bob Head Donny	26.
9. Gavin McGonnel	27.
10. Kathy Adams	28.
11.	29.
12.	30.
13.	31.
14.	32.
15.	33.
16.	34.
17.	35.
18.	36.