

Council Meeting  
April 12, 2021

Turtle Creek Borough regular monthly Council meeting held on April 12, 2021 was called to order by President Nick Bianchi who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Bianchi asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for the passing of Gerry Evashavic, the former Solicitor, and for Dwight Ramsey, the former Fire Chief and Police Officer.

**Roll Call:**

President Bianchi – present	Mr. Osman -- present
Mr. Estocin – present	Mr. Spencer – present
Ms. Henkel – present	Mrs. Tinsley -- present
Mr. Nolan – present	Mayor Kelley – present
Solicitor – present	

**Approval of the March minutes:**

**Motion**

Ms. Henkel, Mr. Spencer approving the March 2021 regular meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

Resolution 698-21 - whereas the Borough of Turtle Creek will be adopting the Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Motion**

Mr. Osman, Ms. Henkel accepting Resolution 698-21 as submitted. Motion carried.

Resolution 699-21 - for Council to approve the acquisition and subsequent disposition of the vacant property known as Block & Lot # 544-N-4 on Oak Avenue Ext. This is through the Vacant Property Program, to the homeowner/resident next door.

**Motion**

Mr. Nolan, Mrs. Tinsley approving the acquisition of Resolution 699-21. Motion carried.

### **Citizens Reports:**

Beth Hamill – resident of 1413 Maple Avenue thanked the Road Crew for the mulch around Turtle Creek.

Ms. Hamill asked if there was any progress with the trash situation for the apartments on Maple Avenue.

President Bianchi stated that it should be turned over to the Health Department.

Mr. Evashavic stated that it would help if they submitted as much evidence as possible, such as pictures.

Ms. Hamill then asked who runs the Hamilton Park lunch program and wanted to know where exactly the money goes.

Mrs. Pantalone stated that they only pay the person that gives out the food..

Ms. Hamill then inquired about the basketball hoops at Hamilton Park.

Lou Lantzy – a resident of 970 Oxford Street, on behalf of the TCFD requested the use of the Borough parking lot one Sunday a month for fundraisers.

Mr. Estocin said to fill out the request form and they will review it.

### **Committee Reports:**

President Bianchi – stated that the bids went out today for the sewer work needed to turn over part of our sewer system to Alcosan. The lowest responsible bidder was Standard Parts Service in the amount of \$339,000. The Borough received a grant in the amount of \$229,250, which leaves the Borough responsible for 108,750 plus the cost of engineering. This money will come from the surcharge collected from the water bill.

#### **Motion**

Mr. Osman, Mrs. Tinsley accepting Standard Parts Service as the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$339,000 for the Alcosan repairs. Motion carried.

President Bianchi asked Council for consideration of 2 items:

- Concurring Resolution for the Act 152 Demolition Program Application
- Blight Resolution designating properties at blight and in need of being torn down

#### **Motion**

Ms. Henkel, Mr. Spencer approving the Concurring Resolution for the Act 152 Demolition Program application. Motion carried.

#### **Motion**

Mr. Osman, Mrs. Tinsley approving the Blight Resolution, designating properties as Blight. Motion carried.

### Motion

Mr. Estocin, Mr. Spencer authorizing the Borough Administrator to award through the Council of Governments, to the lowest responsible bidder, CD 46 Projects with bids opening tomorrow. Motion carried.

President Bianchi stated that Channel 11 accused the Borough of not doing their job in a sewage issue. The Borough informed the property owner of the issue and notified the Health Department in October. They are responsible for their sewage and chose to do nothing. As of April 6 the property owner has been notified. We did our job and were not informed that the owner did nothing to fix the problem.

Ms. Henkel – in response to Ms. Hamil's question about the Hamilton basketball hoops, stated that they were removed because there were complaints about adults playing there and being disrespectful, and this unfortunately causes the kids to miss out. She also stated that they would revisit the topic before the next meeting.

Mr. Estocin – none

Mr. Nolan – none

Mr. Osman – none

Mrs. Tinsley – stated that they have been preparing for the opening of the Home Plate Garden.

Mrs. Tinsley stated that since Council joined Connect, she has attended 5 meetings. She is still learning what it is all about, but believes it will be very beneficial. She stated that she was informed that people were having meetings at the garden or at Hamilton Park and wanted to remind people that it is not allowed.

President Bianchi stated that it is disturbing that people use the facilities without our knowledge and that we need to be on top of this.

Mr. Estocin stated that we need better signage with rules and regulations, and that his committee will work on that.

Mr. Spencer – request for a handicap parking space in the vicinity of 326 George Street. They have met the requirements and filed the necessary paperwork.

### Motion

Mr. Spencer, Mr. Osman approving the request for a handicap parking space in the vicinity of 326 George Street. Motion carried.

### Police and Public Safety:

Mayor Kelley:

Mayor Kelley read the Chiefs reports for February 2021

**Chiefs Report for January 2021:**

- Total Incidents 538
- Total Lock-Ups 12
- Traffic 84
- Suspicious Persons 18
- Theft 10
- Stolen Vehicles & Gun 6
- Wanted persons 4
- Domestic 41
- Overdose 1
- Properties cited 53

Mayor Kelley stated that arrests have been made in the recent car thefts, and there has been no more activity in that case. They were all juveniles from here and other communities in the east. She thanked Chief Kraeer and the Police Department for their hard work with the surrounding Departments in solving this case.

Mayor Kelley reminded everyone that Clean Up Day is April 24 from 10am – 1pm. A representative from the Neighborhood Resilience program will be there looking for volunteers.

Mayor Kelley stated that she will not be holding Crime Watch meetings for the remainder of the year due to the fact that her new job is taking up a lot of her time.

Solicitor – none

**Old Business:**

- Ratifying payment of the March 2021 bills.

**Motion**

Mr. Spencer, Ms. Henkel ratifying the action taken by the Borough Administrator in the payment of the March 2021 bills in the amount of \$523,186.23. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

Ms. Henkel thanked Mr. Spencer for helping her refinish the chalkboard.

**Motion**

Mrs. Tinsley, Ms. Henkel adjourning until the next meeting on Monday May 3, 2021. Motion carried.

Recorded by: Kera Rocco