

MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 21, 2013  
6:30 P.M.  
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100316

ASSEMBLY Council of the Borough of Tarentum met in regular session on Monday, October 21, 2013, with Councilman President Tim Rapp; Councilman Vice-President Hugh Fox; Councilman Tim Firko; Councilman Mike Gutonski; and Councilman Raymond Kerr. Also present were Mayor Carl Margetta; Borough Manager William Rossey; Solicitor David Strellec; and Officer Bruce Wigton.

Councilman Carter and Councilman Varos were absent.

RESOLUTION APPROVE MINUTES Upon motion by Councilman Firko, seconded by Councilman Gutonski, RESOLVED, this Council approves the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of September 16, 2013. All Council members present were in favor and the resolution was adopted.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION At this point in the meeting, Council invites questions and comments from members of the audience.

REMARKS: MR. LOVASIK Mr. Lovasik stated that he would like to have Conroy Way paved.

A discussion was held.

REMARKS: MS. NAMESNIK Ms. Namesnik stated she would like to see no littering signs placed around the Borough.

A discussion was held.

REMARKS: MS. PAUL Ms. Paul, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, stated she has pictures of 527 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue which is the house behind her that is in terrible condition.

REMARKS: BOROUGH MANAGER ROSSEY Borough Manager Rossey stated the pictures will be given to the Code Enforcement Officer.

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REMARKS:  
MR. BOWSER

Mr. Bowser, West 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated the property at 316 West 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue where the house is tore down is still not filled, leveled out and grass hasn't been planted. He stated he was told this would happen when the weather changed and it still hasn't happened.

REMARKS:  
BOROUGH  
MANAGER  
ROSSEY

Borough Manager Rossey stated a hillside is being taken out due to demolition and that dirt will be used to level that lot.

A discussion was held regarding the lot.

REMARKS:  
MS. LANDA

Ms. Landa asked when the Borough changes the date of the mailing of the real estate taxes, if that will change the due date of the taxes as well.

REMARKS:  
BOROUGH  
MANAGER  
ROSSEY

Borough Manager Rossey stated yes, it will. He stated the moving up of the real estate taxes is because the Borough has to wait until it gets the taxes in every year before a lot of projects that are planned in the budget, such as paving and demolition, can be done. Mailing the taxes out in May, the Borough didn't receive them until June or July and by the time the projects were bid, it was late and hard to find good workers and better prices. Changing will allow the Borough to receive the funds needed to get projects done before the bad weather.

A discussion was held regarding the change in the mailing dates of the real estate taxes and dates of the county and school taxes.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
RAPP

Councilman Rapp stated, under President's Report, he helped at the Fall Festival, September 26, 27 and 28. It was a nice event.

Councilman Rapp asked for a report from the Mayor.

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REMARKS: Mayor Magnetta stated, under the Mayor's Report,  
MAYOR for the month of September 2013, there were 353  
MAGNETTA calls for service which is a plus of 46 from  
2012; 30 arrests which is a minus of 13 from  
2012; 166 citations issued which is a plus of 44;  
total accidents 10 which is a minus of 5 from  
2012, accidents with injuries zero which is a  
minus of 2 from 2012; fines collected for the  
month \$3,288.92 which is a minus of \$5,395.44.

REMARKS: Councilman Rapp asked for a report from the Chief  
COUNCILMAN of Police.  
RAPP

REMARKS: Mayor Magnetta stated there is no report.  
MAYOR  
MAGNETTA

REMARKS: Councilman Rapp asked for a report from the  
COUNCILMAN Borough Manager.  
RAPP

REMARKS: Borough Manager Rossey stated on Wednesday,  
BOROUGH November 20, at 9:00 a.m., 26 more trees will  
MANAGER be planted on West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Market Street,  
ROSSEY East 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and East 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Anyone who  
wishes to volunteer their help is welcome. He  
stated work has been started on the 2014 budget.  
He stated if any Council members have comments or  
would like to see anything worked into the  
budget, to call him and let him know. The  
preliminary budget will be presented next  
meeting.

REMARKS: Mr. Paul asked how far in advance are street  
MR. PAUL paving planned.

REMARKS:  
BOROUGH  
MANAGER  
ROSSEY

Borough Manager Rossey stated streets to be paved are chosen each year. After the winter season, Council looks at the streets and chooses the streets that they feel are in the most need and an estimate is put together and then Council can see how many of those streets can be paved with the money that is available for paving. He stated each year the liquid fuels money the Borough receives from the state is used for street paving and it decreases every year.

A discussion was held regarding the liquid fuels money received from the state, what it is based on and how it decreases each year.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
RAPP

Councilman Rapp asked for a report from the Solicitor.

REMARKS:  
SOLICITOR  
STRELLEC

Solicitor Strellec stated regarding the ordinance dealing with the selling of property that has citations or code violations that Harrison passed, the Borough adopted the International Building Code which has that provision in it, so the Borough doesn't need to adopt a separate ordinance for that.

Solicitor Strellec stated he drafted Ordinance 13-06 dealing with secondhand stores and antique stores. There are issues where some businesses are buying goods that have been stolen and the businesses then resell them. He stated discussions were held with the Chief of Police, Code Enforcement and Borough Manager regarding the ordinance. He stated the antique stores may not be needed in the ordinance. He asked Council to review it and make suggestions on what the ordinance should and should not include.

A discussion was held regarding the ordinance.

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Solicitor Strellec stated Council would like to subdivide the parking lots from the Train Station and to keep the parking lots in the Borough's name and sell the Train Station. At this time, the owner of that property, plus three other lots is the Parking Authority. In 2000, the Parking Authority was disbanded. He stated the intention is to reappoint five members of the Parking Authority who would take three votes, a vote for chairman, a vote to deed all the properties it owns back into the Borough and a vote to disband the Authority and terminate its existence. He stated provision of the Parking Authority law the President of Council makes the appointments. He stated Council will need to set a meeting date for this to happen.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
RAPP

Councilman Rapp asked for a report from Administrative, Employee Relations, Finance Committee.

RESOLUTION  
PAY BILLS

Upon motion by Councilman Fox, seconded by Councilman Gutonski, RESOLVED, this Council approves the payment of the October 2013 bills. Upon roll call, the resolution was adopted with five (5) affirmative votes.

RESOLUTION  
CHANGE DATE  
OF TAXES

Upon motion by Councilman Fox, seconded by Councilman Kerr, RESOLVED, this Council changes the mailing date of the 2014 Tarentum Borough Real Estate Taxes from May 1, 2014 to March 1, 2014.

Upon roll call, the resolution was adopted with four (4) affirmative votes and one (1) negative vote, Councilman Firko voting no.

RESOLUTION  
ACCEPT  
LETTER OF  
RETIREMENT

Upon motion by Councilman Fox, seconded by Councilman Kerr, RESOLVED, this Council accepts the letter of retirement of Kenneth Misejka, Street Department, effective Thursday,

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October 24, 2013.

All Council members present were in favor and the resolution was adopted.

REMARKS: Borough Manager Rossey stated with Mr. Misejka  
BOROUGH retiring, Council needs to decide to replace  
MANAGER him or not. If Council decides to replace him,  
ROSSEY the position first has to be posted in-house  
before the position can be advertised.

RESOLUTION Upon motion by Councilman Gutonski, seconded by  
FILL POSITION Councilman Firko, RESOLVED, this Council agrees  
AND POST to replace Kenneth Misejka of the Street  
Department and to post the position within the  
Rank and File of the Union.  
All Council members present were in favor and the  
resolution was adopted.

REMARKS: Councilman Rapp asked for a report from the  
COUNCILMAN Water Committee.  
RAPP

REMARKS: Councilman Gutonski stated he had no report.  
COUNCILMAN  
GUTONSKI

REMARKS: Councilman Rapp asked for a report from the  
COUNCILMAN Electric Committee.  
RAPP

REMARKS: Councilman Kerr stated he had no report.  
COUNCILMAN  
KERR

REMARKS: Councilman Rapp asked for a report from Public  
COUNCILMAN Safety & Civil Service Committee.  
RAPP

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REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
FIRKO

Councilman Firko stated the report for Eureka Station 281, for September 2013, there were 35 fire calls; 10 were Mutual Aid representing 163 personnel hours; 230 EMS calls representing 954 personnel hours; 45 total company training hours for the month. The report for Summit Hose Company, Station 282, there were 10 calls; 5.80 man hours; 19 total details; 74.80 total man hours.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
RAPP

Councilman Rapp asked for a report from Property & Zoning, Library & Health Committee.

RESOLUTION  
ACCEPT  
PROPOSAL

Upon motion by Councilman Kerr, seconded by Councilman Gutonski, RESOLVED, this Council accepts the contract proposal from Hoffman's Kennels as the Borough's dog and cat catcher, for the year 2014.  
All Council members present were in favor and the resolution was adopted.

REMARKS:  
BOROUGH  
MANAGER  
ROSSEY

Borough Manager Rossey stated the fee for a dog and cat has been raised by \$5.00. Hoffman is in the Borough three days a week.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
RAPP

Councilman Rapp asked for a report from Streets & Sanitary Sewers Committee.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
FIRKO

Councilman Firko stated he had no report.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
RAPP

Councilman Rapp asked for a report from Parks & Recreation Committee.

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RESOLUTION  
TRICK-OR-  
TREAT

Upon motion by Councilman Fox, seconded by Councilman Kerr, RESOLVED, this Council approves the Door-to-Door Trick-or-Treat on Thursday, October 31, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All Council members present were in favor and the resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION  
BOO FEST

Upon motion by Councilman Fox, seconded by Councilman Kerr, RESOLVED, this Council agrees to close Worth Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, on Saturday, October 26, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., for the Boo Fest. All Council members present were in favor and the resolution was adopted.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
FOX

Councilman Fox stated the Recreation Board helped with the Fall Festival which turned out to be a great success and received many good comments regarding the festival. He stated Boo Fest will be held October 26 and over a hundred children are registered to attend. The Christmas parade will be held November 23, at 1:00 P.M. The senior bingo held at Daltons Edge will be held December 4. He stated the scarecrows are up on Corbett Street and the winner of the contest for the best scarecrow will be chosen at the Boo Fest. He stated vandals smashed and broke some of the scarecrows and had to fix them the best they can be fixed.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
RAPP

Councilman Rapp asked for a report from AVN/COG Committee.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
FOX

Councilman Fox stated a meeting will be held next week and the minutes will be placed in Council's packets.

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REMARKS: Councilman Rapp asked for a report from KOZ  
COUNCILMAN Committee.  
RAPP

REMARKS: Mayor Margetta stated he had no report.  
MAYOR  
MAGNETTA

REMARKS: Councilman Rapp asked for a report from  
COUNCILMAN Redevelopment & Revitalization Committee.  
RAPP

REMARKS: Councilman Kerr stated he had no report.  
COUNCILMAN  
KERR

REMARKS: Ms. Collins, Main Street, stated neither of  
MS. COLLINS her Councilmen are present this evening and Chief  
of Police isn't present, but there has been an  
apparent drug situation on Main Street the last  
four or five months across the street at 212 Main  
Street, the three unit house. The landlord is  
not around very much and the tenant is deaf and  
mute. She stated there is a great deal of  
activity at 212 and 302 Main Street with many  
different cars and people in and out. She stated  
she is having a problem with her backyard  
neighbors with very strong odor of marijuana  
coming from their house at 542 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and it's  
so strong sometimes that she can't even open a  
window in her house. She stated she wanted to  
make Council aware of what was going on at those  
properties.

REMARKS: Mayor Margetta stated the police are doing an  
MAYOR excellent job and are well aware of almost  
MAGNETTA everything that's going on in the Borough.  
Arrests are being made and will continue to be  
made. He stated when residents see something

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going on they think is illegal, they need to call the police and report it.

A discussion was held regarding the properties.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
GUTONSKI

Councilman Gutonski stated people are moving in and out of rentals properties and it's getting out of hand. He asked if the landlords of these rental properties can be made aware of what their tenants are doing and be held responsible for their tenants.

A discussion was held regarding the landlord/tenant law and what legally can be done to a tenant and what needs to be done before an eviction of a tenant and any ordinances in place for rental and selling of properties. It was noted that this problem exists not only in Tarentum, but in all cities, towns and municipalities.

REMARKS:  
MR. BOWSER

Mr. Bowser stated he was told a truckload of American flags were dumped in that lot and a Borough worker picked them up. He stated it's a shame that someone would dump those flags and Council doesn't know anything about it. He stated these people that are doing illegal things should be made an example and make the people aware that Council is done playing games with them and doing something by getting rid of the riffraff in the Borough.

REMARKS:  
MS. LANDA

Ms. Landa asked if there was a program to encourage home ownership in the Borough instead of letting properties get bought on Craig's List.

REMARKS:  
BOROUGH  
MANAGER  
ROSSEY

Borough Manager Rossey stated there are government assistant programs, low interest loans for first time buyers.

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A discussion was held regarding different programs available for home buyers and other properties.

REMARKS:  
COUNCILMAN  
FOX

Councilman Fox stated this Council cares about Tarentum and is doing the best it can to keep residents safe and to move Tarentum forward. He stated more residents need to come to the meeting and see what is going on in the Borough and to voice their comments. He stated this shows that the residents care too.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, upon motion by Councilman Gutonski, seconded by Councilman Kerr the meeting of October 21, 2013, was unanimously adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



William Rossey  
Borough Manager

BOROUGH OF TARENTUM  
 ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
 RESIDENT SIGN IN SHEET  
 COUNCIL MEETING  
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**PLEASE PRINT NAME AND ADDRESS**

NAME	ADDRESS
1. Judy Wilcox	713 HULL ST
2. SANDY COLLINS	209 MAIN ST.
3. Bob + Elaine Paul	526 3RD AVE
4.	
5.	
6. Jim Bous	314 W 2ND AVE
7. Virginia Nippon	211 W 7th Ave.
8. Nolan J. Smith	" " TAK
9. Sarah White	108 Walnut St
10. JUE DAVIDER	230 DAVIDSON ST
11.	
12. Brad J.	Eureka Fire Rescue
13. WALT ALTFATHER JR.	917 CORBET ST.
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