

**TELFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 14, 2023
7:30 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President William Ashley called the Telford Borough Council meeting of August 14, 2023 to order at 7:32 p.m.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by Council Member Kratz, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present at the meeting were President William Ashley, Vice President Emiline Weiss, and council members John Taylor, Carolyn Crouthamel, Spencer Kulhanjian, Eric Kratz and Robert Jacobus. Also in attendance were Mayor Jerry Guretske, Manager Kyle Detweiler, Borough Solicitor Jim Jacquette and Recording Secretary Tracey Inman.

Prior to citizens' comments, Council President Ashley inquired if anyone in attendance would be audio or video recording tonight's meeting, or live streaming. Telford resident John Waldenberger of 149 N. 4th Street advised that he would be live streaming the event on Facebook.

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS- AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

John Waldenberger, 149 N. 4th Street

Mr. Waldenberger had questions and concerns regarding the Executive Session held during the July 10, 2023 meeting. Mr. Waldenberger also had questions regarding the purchase of land from **Trinity UCC Church**.

V. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Council Member Crouthamel made a motion to enter into the record the minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

VI. TREASURERS REPORT

A written report was submitted for the record.

Greg Ede of Styer & Associates presented the 2022 audited financials.

VII. MAYOR'S REPORT

There was no formal report submitted for the record. Mayor Guretske advised that he recently took a tour of the wastewater treatment plant, attended the Telford Night Market and bi-monthly meeting with the police department.

VIII. POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Floyd submitted a written report for the record. Chief Floyd discussed the HOPE Festival and a walk for the Penn Foundation and asked for Council's support. He advised the event would take place on September 16th. Council Member Kulhanjian made a motion to approve the walk and Council Vice President Weiss seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

Chief Floyd also advised that the gun shop in Telford was burglarized on August 11, 2023.

Chief Floyd asked for Council's approval to hire two full time police officers to start on September 1st. After discussion Council Member Taylor made a motion to hire two full time officers. Council Member Crouthamel seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

IX. FIRE REPORT

A report was submitted. Mayor Guretske advised that there were a lot of calls during the month of July. He also advised that the Junior Cadet Program sponsored by the Telford Fire Company was very successful.

X. EMS REPORT

A written report was submitted for the record.

XI. LIBRARY REPORT

Wendy Leshinskie submitted the library report for the record. Ms. Leshinskie also discussed the upcoming "Dinner In White" that the library is sponsoring.

XII. BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS

A. Public Works Department- Gary Yoder

Mr. Yoder submitted the Public Works report. Mr. Yoder advised Council on additional work to be completed on 3rd Street.

B. Manager's Report- Manager Kyle Detweiler

Mr. Detweiler submitted a written report. Mr. Detweiler answered questions regarding the report and discussed the Franklin Alley Swale Project and CFA Grant meeting that will be held in September. Mr. Detweiler also addressed the Borough's response to stormwater issues.

Mr. Detweiler advised that RAVE is not ready yet.

Mr. Detweiler addressed vexatious Right To Know requests and the amount of staff time they consume. Council President Ashley suggested the hiring of additional clerical help to aid in the fulfillment of the requests. Telford Borough Resident John Harrell voiced his concern about taxes going up and requested to know who was making the requests. He was advised to submit a Right To Know Request for that information.

Mr. Detweiler stated that State Representative Steve Malagari would be visiting the Telford Borough Office on August 23rd. Mr. Detweiler also advised that a Budget Workshop Meeting will be held on August 21st.

XIII. PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS' REPORTS

A. Solicitor's Report- James Jacquette, Timoney Knox LLP

Mr. Jacquette addressed the following items with Council and answered questions from those in attendance:

- The finalization of an agreement of sale with **Trinity UCC Church** for the purchase of real estate.
- The conditional approval of a PPL/LED Streetlight Agreement for PPL street lighting service (Resolution No. 2023-03) was tabled until the next regular council meeting, to be held on September 11, 2023.
- After discussion of an amendment to Ordinance 402, Council voted on a motion to advertise. Council Member Jacobus made a motion to advertise, and Council Member Kratz seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0-2 vote. Council President Ashley and Council Member Taylor recused themselves from the vote.

B. Engineer's Report- CKS Engineers

A written report was submitted for the record. Mr. Detweiler updated Council on the Franklin Alley Swale Project. After discussion Council Member Kulhanjian made a motion to authorize bids for the project. Council Member Kratz seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

XIV. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance and Administrative Committee- Emiline Weiss

1. Council Vice President Weiss made a motion to approve bills from July 2023 in the amount of \$255,334.88. Council Member Kratz seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 6-0-1 vote. Council Member Jacobus abstained from the vote.

B. Planning and Zoning Committee- Carolyn Crouthamel

There was no report.

C. Environmental Committee- Spencer Kulhanjian

Council Member Kulhanjian advised that the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission are scheduled to meet in September.

D. Public Works/Buildings & Plant Committee- Robert Jacobus

There was no report.

E. Public Safety Committee- William Ashley

Council President Ashley discussed siren placement locations for the new fire siren and advised that members of Council recently toured the wastewater treatment facility.

F. Development & Culture Committee- John Taylor

Council Member Taylor advised of some upcoming parks and recreation events that will be held in the area, such as the Telford Night Market and the Indian Valley Public Library's Dinner in White, which will be held on August 19th.

XV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

XVI. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Council President Ashley advised the audience that they would be afforded three minutes to speak and advised that comments should be limited to Telford Borough residents.

The following Telford Borough resident's offered commentary during the August 14, 2023 meeting:

Meredith Torres, 206 W. Lincoln Avenue
John Waldenberger, 149 N. 4th Street
Katherine Farina, 620 S. Main Street
Dale Nice, Broad Street
John Harrell, 31 Branch Avenue
Bill Brosius, 325 E. Church Avenue
Nancy Brosius, 325 E. Church Avenue
Michael Vielhauer, 261 W. Broad Street
Dan Fox, 220 E. Broad Street
Kyle Keough, 9 S. Hamilton Street

Geralyn McFall of 27 W. Hamlin Avenue submitted a letter to Borough Manager Kyle Detweiler regarding the noise level from fire vehicles and ambulances. Mr. Detweiler read the letter aloud.

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council suspended the regular meeting and entered into Executive Session at 9:30 PM to discuss matters of real estate. After the matter of real estate was discussed, Council concluded Executive Session at 9:49 PM.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Crouthamel motioned for adjournment and Council Member Kratz seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7-0 vote and the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.