

Minutes
Throop Borough Council
Tuesday, February 7, 2023
Special Work Session/Meeting 6:30 p.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Members of Council:

Anthony Gangemi - A

Matthew Chorba - P

Richard Kucharski – **President - P**

Charlene Tomasovitch - P

Vince Tanana - A

Wayne Williams - P

Bob Magliocchi - **Vice President - P**

Solicitor/Borough Manager - Louis A. Cimini - P

Mayor - Joe Tropiak - P

Secretary - Renee O'Malley - A

Chief Clerk/Treasurer -Robin Galli - P

Announcements:

Mayor Tropiak Motion #'s 5 and 6 – speaking as a resident and not the Mayor – that's going to cause excessive traffic because of the one way going on Edgar Street and on both Simpson, Copperrick, Phillips and the alley between Copperrick and Phillips Street. As a resident it shouldn't be done. If you want to solve the problem appeal to PennDOT and tell them to put two stop signs there. One at Wanda and one at Edgar. That can be done. If have to I will go and rally the people on the streets there to come and stop this. It's not the right thing to do. We've got along with that street just as it is all these years and it doesn't have to be changed. If you have to you can put stop signs at Wanda both ways.

Chorba: Some of the locals have mentioned that there are stop signs there but nobody stops at them.

Mayor: Then I will get the Police there and have them there.

Chorba added that the police have been there. IT's a busy street and a public safety issue.

Cimini: Paul was asked to look at stop signs at Wanda

Chorba added that Paul said that stop signs wee not warranted there based on traffic specifically at that intersection. Not a PennDOT issue.

Magliocchi added that this is basically a trial. If it doesn't work and doesn't fix the issue then we go a different route.

Chorba: It's a cheap way to see if it's affective. Another option is speed humps which as Robert said is a costly measure so before we put costly speed humps why don't we try a couple hundred of signs and see if this inaudible.

Tanana added that they're already ordered.

Mayor: I'll I'm saying is that this is not the right way to go. When you solve problems you solve them on that street you don't move them to somebody else's street. And that's what's going on here.

Magliocchi: Well, we are actually hoping it sends traffic down to the main street, Sanderson Steet. You won't be able to get to Simpson from Charles or any of those streets. We want to bring them to the main roads. We're hoping that's what it does. That's why we're trying this. If it doesn't work we'll go another route. If its too much of an inconvenience for everybody on the street then it may go back to the way it is

Tomasovitch: The engineer thinks its going to work right?

Magliocchi: Well it's the least cost effective to try it first. The other option is going to cost us 40-50 thousand plus to put in speed humps.

Chorba: And the Mayor does have a good point. When you look at it locally it may work for that one road but it may not work for the neighborhood. At the same time we can't put stop signs at every intersection there either and speed humps everywhere.

Kucharski: I think that first block of Edgar, Charles to George, there's no need for a one way there. And I've talked to some of the residents there and they are definitely against it.

Magliocchi: The way it was written so we're putting this in place but I wouldn't put any signs up yet until we see where George and Coppernick leaves us and then worry about that street.

Kucharski added that it is all part of the motion.

Magliocchi replied that we don't have to do it. The motion is to do a traffic study for it so if we were to do it we can do it.

Cimini: We can do a traffic study but the ordinance because last week council mentioned that they wanted Charles to Coppernick. You can change motion #6 to read to advertise the ordinance to run one way from George to Coppernick.

Magliocchi: I thought that was what we were doing because we can't advertise this because we didn't do a traffic study.

Cimini: Right. That why it's to advertise it and the one above it is to authorize the study from Charles to Coppernick.

Magliocchi: Right so that's going to prolong it. So if we do George to Coppernick we can put those signs up.

Chorba: Yes.

Magliocchi added then this one can be separate. If we feel we need it to be a one way then we can do that.

Cimini: So #5 doesn't change that's the traffic study Charles to George. #6 will be George to Coppernick. Alright.

Magliocchi: Then we don't necessarily Rich have to do that block where if we do feel we need to or we may take them down. I don't know. It may all fail in general, but to invest speed humps on that street \$49,000 we're going to have them all over town. We spent \$10,000 on speed signs for that street already, we'll have \$70,000 into that street and there's no maintenance done to that street just for traffic control on one street.

Cimini: If you add the engineers' bills for doing at least 4 traffic studies on one street
Magliocchi added that we would've been better off putting a full time officer on that street at that point and it would've been cheaper.

Cimini: I swore I wasn't going to mention this because I had the conversation with Paul. I said to Paul I don't want to go back and start talking about changing everything else one way but he said did council ever think about making Edgar one way from George to Coppernick and then one way in the opposite direction from George to Charles.

Magliocchi: If you remember when Jess was here, she said what will happen is you're bringing everyone down Simpson down to George and then they can go whatever way they want. So you're still technically making it a through way but they're just looping around the block.

They'll come down Simpson go left down George so now you created

Williams added inaudible Simpson and then go back up Edgar

Magliocchi no but you can come down Simpson, George and then over to Charles because you're making the 2 one ways opposite.

Cimini: That was talked about.

Chorba: It was and

Magliocchi: It makes sense – you're creating George Street to be a main street

Chorba: The only way, in my opinion, to solve this problem is to put all the roads one way and just push it out to the penndot road.

Magliocchi: This is the only thing we can do – try it.

Kucharski: With all due respect – I respect your opinions but it would be a horribly significant imposition for the whole neighborhood.

Magliocchi: He's not for it he's saying that's the only way you can ----- it.

Chorba: I'm not for it.

Magliocchi: The problem is – putting in speed humps in to resolve that issue is as Rich you know everyone has issues in this town about cars speeding now you did it for Edgar street why aren't you doing it for my street. So now before you know we're going to have 2-3 million dollars in speed humps.

Cimini: The crash analysis for Edgar Street does not reveal any accidents other than at the corner of Coppernick and Edgar. So I think you're left with answering the question of what are we solving? What is the problem we're solving? It's a complaint that there's speeding which everyone has.

Williams: We've spent 5 months on this.

Magliocchi: What if we do this then? If we don't want to spend more money you're ----, let's just take that off and let's just see if it works George from Coppernick as a one way. If that doesn't work it doesn't matter if we go to Charles all the way up. It isn't going to work.

Kucharski: There really is no speeding in that block.

Magliocchi: We can just eliminate that motion and just make George to Coppernick a one way and just try it. If it works it works and if it doesn't we need more police enforcement.

Chorba: My opinion is – the thing that is actually causing a lot of speed is the hill.

Magliocchi: And now the road is going up so you won't have that speed.

Chorba: And it's only made worse by the fact that there is a stop sign at the top and it is not adhered to by anyone that is actually traveling on Coppernick or Edgar. It is a dangerous intersection.

Magliocchi: I think you'll eliminate a lot by it being a one way. If that doesn't work I don't think we have options. I don't think speed humps will work, the Mayor could get more police

presence there, whatever you want to do and try that way. We can remove the signs but not the speed humps.

Mayor: What is it about stop signs can't be put at Wanda.

Chorba: There is specific warrants for where one is required. I don't know what they are off the top of my head. I can't tell you.

Mayor: Does PennDOT get involved?

Chorba: Not in the jurisdiction. They do provide guidance and design guidance for engineers who are doing this type of work for traffic studies.

Mayor: And it was found not to be good then.

Chorba: That was what Paul had mentioned before.

Mayor: I disagree with that. If you stop you can see right ahead and you can avoid the speed humps because you can't see them but you can see stop signs.

Chorba: I understand but there is a stop sign up there that nobody stops for. People aren't going to stop at stop signs. That's part of the issue.

Tomasovitch added that the Engineer said it was not warranted.

Mayor: Let them roll through we'll still have police.

Cimini: If you're coming in this direction, you know if nobody is coming from your right and you can see that – you are going right through it unless you see a police car. We'll eliminate the motion for George to Copperrick.

Work Session/Meetings:

* There was an executive session held this evening at 6:00 pm for legal purposes.

* The Feb. monthly work session/meeting will be held on Tues. Feb. 28th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

* The March monthly work session/meeting will be held on Tues. Mar. 28th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

There were no audience comments on tonight's agenda.

1. Motion by Tomasovitch

Seconded by Williams

To amend the agenda.

All in favor

Motion carried

2. Motion by Magliocchi

Seconded by Tomasovitch

To accept the minutes of the January 31st, 2023 council meeting.

Tomasovitch mentioned that she didn't see the zoning reports.

Galli added that they are on the board. They may be in the next packet.

Williams cannot get into his.

Galli suggested just removing the Zoning Reports from the motion.

All in favor

Motion carried

3. Motion by Magliocchi

Seconded by Williams

To release to Act 98 holdback funds in the amount of \$12,600 for 148 Boulevard Ave to R & A, LLC 40 Poplar Street, Scranton, PA 18509.

Tomasovitch asked if we're ok to do this now.

Kucharski: At the last meeting Andy said they did what they were supposed to do now so his recommendation was that we release the funds.

All in favor

Motion carried

4. Motion by Magliocchi

Seconded by Williams

To grant permission to Dickson City Legion Junior and Senior Baseball Teams the use of Washington Street Baseball Field for the 2023 season (William Shevchik will schedule the field).

All in favor

Motion carried

5. Motion by Williams

Seconded by Tomasovitch

To repeal motion passed on January 31, 2023, a motion adopting Ordinance # 8 of 2022 recommending that Edgar Street traffic pattern be revised to one-way in an eastbound direction from George Street to Coppernick Street.

Cimini: It will not delay anything. The signs are ordered and will be in the end of the month.

Chorba: There is still time to install them too.

All in favor

Motion carried

6. Motion by Chorba

Seconded by Tomasovitch

To table motion # 6.

To authorize the Borough Engineer to do a Traffic Study on Edgar Street revising traffic pattern to one-way eastbound from Charles Street to Coppernick Street.

All in favor

Motion tabled

7. Motion by Chorba

Seconded by Magliocchi

To advertise Ordinance #1 of 2023, and ordinance recommending that Edgar Street traffic pattern be revised to one-way in an eastbound direction from George Street to Coppernick Street.

All in favor

Motion carried

Tomasovitch: We got the Holiday decorations down to \$12,500.00.

Galli: We'll keep it under 12,200.00.

8. Motion by Magliocchi

Seconded Williams

To authorize the borough Engineer to advertise for bid the 800 block of Dunmore Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement from Dudley to Delaware.

All in favor

Motion carried

Official Comments:

Mayor Tropiak asked if Dunmore Street was a Borough or State Street. I got a complaint from people that they put no parking signs.
It's a State road.

The meeting was adjourned.

**Meeting minutes by Renee O'Malley
Borough Secretary**