

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2011
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

President, Fred Schuetz called to order the special budget meeting of Trappe Borough Council on November 17, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Trappe Borough Hall, 525 West Main Street, Trappe, Pennsylvania. The Pledge of Allegiance followed, led by Mayor Connie Peck.

Roll Call was made by the Borough Secretary. Those present were: President Fred Schuetz, Vice President, Matthew Watson, Paul Edwards, Cathy Johnson, Nevin Scholl, and Marshall Stomel. Also in attendance were Mayor Connie Peck and Borough Manager, Jacqui Guenther.

Excused: Lewis DiPrete, Council Member.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION:

J. Guenther provided Proof of Publication of the Special Meeting which ran in "The Mercury" newspaper on November 7, 2011.

2012-2016 BUDGET DISCUSSION:

J. Guenther explained to all present how to negotiate their way through understanding the proposed budget.

N. Scholl stated that the Finance Committee met for three hours and made some tentative decisions with regard to the budget.

N. Scholl provided all members present with a summary of page 48 of the Budget with his notes written on it. N. Scholl stated his notes on the revenues were located on the bottom left of the summary page and explained how he annualized and/or justified predicted revenues. Whereupon discussion ensued.

N. Scholl stated that the 2012 Budget assumes a 2% increase in wages and a 13% increase for medical coverage and benefits. N. Scholl stated that our waste disposal contract will end in 2012 and that he read in the newspaper that Collegeville reduced their contract by \$100,000.00. Whereupon discussion ensued.

N. Scholl stated that there were some items in the budget that are unusual such as replacing the railings and painting at Borough Hall. Whereupon discussion ensued.

N. Scholl stated that the costs for the Borough Line Road reconstruction in 2012 are being taken from other funds and not from the general fund. Whereupon discussion ensued.

N. Scholl presented the budget numbers for the Highway Aid Fund, Capital Funds and Municipal Services Fund. Whereupon discussion ensued.

M. Stomel stated he did not want to rehash what was or was not done in the past, but that Borough Council needs to find a means to finance the new firehouse and the Road Program. Whereupon discussion ensued.

J. Guenther provided Borough Council with a Memo regarding Fee Assessments, supporting documentation and the proposed 2012 Fee Schedule for their consideration. J. Guenther stated that some of the permit fees should be increased to cover the Borough's costs. J. Guenther asked that Borough Council review the fee assessments and proposed fee schedule for adoption at the Re-Organizational meeting on January 2, 2012.

On a motion by M. Stomel, seconded by M. Watson, and carried unanimously by those members present, approval the preliminary 2012-2016 Budget was made and authorization was granted for the Borough Manager to advertise the approved preliminary 2012-2016 Budget for public inspection. Motion carried 6 – 0.

OLD BUSINESS: President Schuetz called for any old business.

President Schuetz stated that access to Main Street Park was still an issue that needed to be resolved. Whereupon discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS: President Schuetz called for any new business.

P. Edwards asked if it was permissible to put a yard sign on his lawn in support of the local Boy Scouts. J. Guenther responded that a homeowner could put up a yard sale sign or sign in support of local groups.

N. Scholl stated that M. Watson made some good suggestions about Election Day procedures.

J. Guenther stated that she would like to implement an Election Day Policy before the May, 2012 primary election date. J. Guenther stated that she would prepare an Election Day Policy for Borough Council's consideration.

Mayor Peck stated that she believed J. Guenther should also have to make a policy for Trappe Day, parades and such. J. Guenther responded that the Election Day Policy for Borough Hall and a policy governing public events such as Trappe Day are two separate issues, but that she would prepare separate policies for each for consideration by Borough Council.

Mayor Peck requested the use of one Auxiliary Police Officer on December 7, 2011 for the TTT's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Speaker's House, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

On a motion by M. Watson, seconded by M. Stomel, and carried unanimously by those members present, authorization for deployment of one Auxiliary Police Officer for the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 7, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., was approved. Motion carried 6 – 0.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no additional business to conduct, at 8:43 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made by M. Watson, seconded by M. Stomel, and carried unanimously. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

**Jacqui Guenther
Borough Manager/Municipal Secretary**