

# **CITY OF TITUSVILLE**

## BIRTHPLACE OF THE OIL INDUSTRY



COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS March 11, 2008

The regular meeting of Titusville City Council was called to order by Mayor Peden in the Conference Room at the Titusville Redevelopment Authority at 7:00 p.m. Invocation was given by Pastor Tim Maybray, Free Methodist Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Peden. Present at the meeting were Mayor Dennis Peden, Councilmen James Nystrom, John Frye, Councilwomen Bonnie Hull and Esther Smith, Mary Ann Nau, City Manager, Richard Winkler, Solicitor. Stella Ruggiero represented The Titusville Herald.

It was moved by Mrs. Hull, seconded by Mrs. Smith, and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of February 25, 2008 as submitted and place on file.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING - RE: Oil Creek Region Amended Comprehensive Plan</u>
Mayor Peden opened the Public hearing regarding the Oil Creek
Region Amended Comprehensive Plan. Mrs. Nau read the Public Notice
which stated that the amendment involves only the City of
Titusville, Oil Creek Township and Hydetown Borough. This
amendment consists of maps, text and charts and meets the
requirements for a Regional Comprehensive Plan under Act 247
(Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code).

Mrs. Carter commented that the City's portion of this amendment never changed. There were corrections/changes made to Oil Creek Township's map and wording which required all three entities to reapprove the Plan. No other comments were made by the Public and Mayor Peden asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. It was moved by Mr. Nystrom, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously to close the Public Hearing.

<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u> - Pertaining to agenda items - None.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT

Mrs. Nau distributed her report "Issues for Consideration in Year 2008" to City Council and provided extra copies for the public.

Mrs. Nau highlighted some of the things the City is working on that also has some State legislation that could impact and help the City. One of them is in the area of the tax exempt properties. House Bill No. 2018 would provide for an annual revenue sharing program for municipalities that have greater than 17% tax-exempt property. City owned properties would not qualify but all other tax exempt properties would be included. Public hearings are being held across the State. This would benefit the City and provide an alternative to getting PILOTS from tax exempt properties located within the City.

Commonwealth.

MANAGER'S REPORT - (Continued) Mrs. Nau stated that one of the other areas that she knows the Community is interested in has to do with the blight and there are movements also at the State level to adopt some stricter regulations for the control of blight. That is on page nine of her "On a Statewide basis, the statewide blight task force announced the introduction of the Neighborhood Blight Reclamation and Revitalization Act. The task force was formed in 2007 and was charged with drafting legislation to address blight and find ways to more aggressively pursue absentee owners and slumlords. Reclamation Blight Neighborhood Highlights of the Allowing for state or local permit Revitalization Act include: denials for a property owner that is found to have delinquent taxes, outstanding water, sewer or refuse charges, or any serious outstanding property maintenance code violations on any real property they own anywhere in the Commonwealth; Asset attachment, so that municipalities can attempt to recoup some of the costs associated with blighted properties; The creation of a statewide blight data system to allow municipalities to track individuals who

Mrs. Nau stated that if anyone has any questions on her report they can direct those questions to her office and she will direct them to the proper individual.

have a serious outstanding property code violations throughout the

Mr. Nystrom stated that some of the items in the report have appeared for a long period of time and he would like to see some timetables put on these within the next thirty days to be reviewed, acted on, or forgotten, whichever it might be so they move ahead with them or take whatever action is necessary.

It was moved by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously to accept the Manager's Report as submitted and place on file.

<u>OPERATIONAL REPORTS</u> - It was moved by Mrs. Hull, seconded by Mr. Frye, and carried unanimously to accept the Operational Reports (Police, Fire, Public Works, Bldg. Inspector, Finance Director) and Treasurer's Report for the month of February and place on file.

Fire Chief Crotty updated Council on the bids for self-contained breathing apparatus for the Department. The City received four bids: Kair Inc., Mars, Pa; Smith Fire Service from Eldred, PA; Fire Force from Butler, PA; Pro-Am Safety from Warrendale, PA. The two low bids were submitted by Fire Force and by Fire Service Equipment. Chief Crotty stated he would like to bring those two vendors in and have them do a demonstration for the firefighters. After going through the demonstration, he would request to come back to Council and offer his recommendation. Mayor Peden asked Chief Crotty to schedule with the City Manager.

MINUTES OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES - It was moved by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mr. Nystrom, and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of the Planning Commission dated 12/4/07; Housing Authority dated 1/22/08; CHIC Steering Committee dated 1/24/08; Benson Memorial Library Board dated 1/15/08; Firemen Pension Board dated 11/6/07 and place on file.

APPROVAL OF BILL LISTING - It was moved by Mayor Peden, seconded by Mr. Frye, and carried unanimously to ratify the bill listing warrants dated 2/29/08 and 3/7/08. It was moved by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously to approve the bill listing warrant dated 3/12/08.

#### NEW BUSINESS

ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS FROM AIRPORT AUTHORITY - It was moved by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously to accept with regret the resignations of Randall Russell and Mark Tatalovic from the Airport Authority.

<u>RESOLUTION NO. 4 OF 2008</u> - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Titusville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, accepting and adopting the Oil Creek Region amended Comprehensive Plan as the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Titusville.

It was moved by Mrs. Hull, seconded by Mrs. Smith, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 4 of 2008.

RESOLUTION NO. 5 OF 2008 - Let it be known to all persons of the City of Titusville that discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provision of brokerage services, because of race, color, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, handicap or disability, is prohibited by Title VIII of the City Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act. It is the policy of the City of Titusville to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, handicap or disability, or familial status (families with children). Therefore, the City of Titusville does hereby pass the following resolution. (Copy attached.)

It was moved by Mrs. Hull, seconded by Mr. Nystrom, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 5 of 2008.

RESOLUTION NO. 6 OF 2008 - A Resolution of the City of Titusville authorizing the filing of an application for funds with the Department of Community and Economic Development, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Whereas, the City of Titusville is desirous of obtaining funds from the Department of Community and Economic Development in the amount of \$326,932, or whatever similar amount shall be subsequently allocated by DCED for use by the City of Titusville under the FY2008 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

RESOLUTION NO. 6 OF 2008 - (Continued)

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the City of Titusville that blighting influences exist because of certain unacceptable and deteriorated site conditions and deteriorated housing exists within Titusville's Corporate Limits and the proposed projects will assist low-moderate income persons and will prevent further blight and/or eliminate the blighting influence by providing funds necessary for city-wide housing rehabilitation, public facilities improvements, recreation facilities improvements, removal of architectural barriers, clearing/demolition and street reconstruction within the City of Titusville.

It was moved by Mr. Nystrom, seconded by Mr. Frye, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 6 of 2008. (Copy attached.)

RESOLUTION NO. 7 OF 2008 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Titusville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania. Whereas, the City of Titusville recognizes the need to reduce energy consumption and costs prior to the uncapping of electric utilities in 2010. Whereas, the City of Titusville recognizes the need to convert incandescent traffic signals to Light Emitting Diode the City of Titusville recognizes the technology. Whereas, potential for additional savings through the Northwest Commission LED Traffic Signal Light Bulk Purchase Consortium. Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the City of Titusville agrees to participate in the Northwest Commission LED Traffic Signal Light Bulk Purchase Consortium contingent on a final Memo of Understanding between the City of Titusville and the Northwest Commission which will include the final cost of the LED Lights to be approved by Titusville City Council.

It was moved by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mrs. Smith, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 7 of 2008.

RESOLUTION NO. 8 OF 2008 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Titusville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, to accept the delivery and transfer from the Titusville Municipal Authority of certain equipment to be used in the City of Titusville Water System. Resolved that the City Council of the City of Titusville hereby accepts the offer by the Titusville Municipal Authority to transfer to the City of Titusville two (2) Hydro Series 900 Vacuum regulators (head only), and one (1) Hydro RM-100 Remote Metering Panel Assembly with related parts.

It was moved by Mrs. Hull, seconded by Mr. Nystrom, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 8 of 2008.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2 OF 2008 - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Titusville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, amending Article 923 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Titusville by revising certain definitions, by imposing a new readiness to serve charge and a revised base rate charge and setting an effective date for this Ordinance of August 1, 2008.

## COUNCIL BILL NO. 2 OF 2008 - (Continued)

It was moved by Mr. Nystrom, seconded by Mrs. Hull, to reject Council Bill No. 2 on first reading. Vote on the motion was: Mr. Frye, Mayor Peden, Mrs. Hull, Mrs. Smith - no; Mr. Nystrom - yes.

It was moved by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mayor Peden, to introduce Council Bill No. 2 on first reading.

Mr. Nystrom stated he knows they all received a letter from the Housing Authority which certainly outlined the same objections which he brought to the table last week about being excluded from the discussions by the commercial landlords in the City. Also explaining is the fact that if this bill passes, the monies that would be paid additionally by the Housing Authority would be deducted from the P.I.L.O.T. monies that they pay to us annually and she takes strong objection to the bill as it is being presented.

Vote on the motion to introduce Council Bill No. 2 on first reading was: Mayor Peden, Mrs. Hull, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Frye - yes; Mr. Nystrom - no.

Mr. Frye suggested they prepare a letter to send to our Representatives regarding House Bill 2018 regarding tax exempt. Mrs. Nau stated she will follow up with PLC&M. It was moved by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously that they prepare a letter to send out to our Representatives supporting the tax exempt bill that has been introduced.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Bill Webb requested permission to deliver equipment purchased by the Municipal Authority and have a photo taken. Mayor Peden suggested Mr. Webb make arrangements with Mr. Nebel on the delivery and they will set something up for a photo next week.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR AND/OR COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Frye congratulated his wife, Barb, for being nominated for and winning a prestigious statewide teaching award. Mrs. Frye won the Pennsylvania Middle School Associations' Ann Moniot Outstanding Middle Level Educator of the Year Award. Mrs. Frye will be presented with her award at Penn State University during a PMSA conference.

It was moved by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mr. Nystrom, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Suzanne Birtciel Recording Secretary