

**SPECIAL MEETING
HUNTINGDON BOROUGH COUNCIL
OCTOBER 6, 2016
4:30 P.M.**

A Special Meeting of Huntingdon Borough Council was held on Thursday, October 6, 2016, at 4:30 p.m. in the Borough Council Chambers, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

The following members were present for the meeting: President David Quarry, Vice President Jim Bair, James Decker, Sr.; Ron Enyeart, Donna Isenberg Solicitor Rich Wilson, Borough Manager William W. Wheeler. Chief Rufus Brenneman, and Mayor DeeDee Brown

Visitors Present were: John Cirko, Kim George, Joe Thompson, Kevin Johnston, and Chris Stevens.

Executive Session: 4:36 pm to discuss contractual issues. President Quarry asked Manager Wheeler to step out of the Executive Session. Manager Wheeler exited the room.

Reconvened at 6:07 pm.

President Quarry stated that the decision has been made to approach the county commissioners to renegotiate the 911 Dispatchers Contract.

Solicitor Wilson stated that Council is waiting on additional information, and then it will be voted on Tuesday.

Kim George asked what the Borough's position is regarding the 911 contract. President Quarry responded we would like to see the borough retain the 911 system. She asked if this was strictly about money. President Quarry responded yes it is. She is guessing that the County does not want to reimburse the Borough in full for what it cost you to have these employees employed by the borough. Solicitor Wilson responded that the previous agreement stated that the Borough is reimbursed dollar for dollar. The County proposes a flat fee for services which is not dollar for dollar reimbursement and it is not reflective of the costs to the borough. It is significantly different. It was never part of any discussion that this Council wanted to get rid of the 911 Center.

Kevin Johnston asked why there was not anyone present at the meeting with the County other than the attorney. Solicitor Wilson stated he was meeting with the Commissioners in order to get their sole response to a proposal from the Borough.

Kevin Johnston asked when the original contract was up and when did you start negotiations. Solicitor Wilson responded that it was up August 31st and as soon as they received the information from the County they began negotiations.

Joe Thompson, Union Shop Stewart, stated that on Tuesday for whatever purposes that happened they were summoned in for a meeting saying just for you all to know effective December 31st your jobs are being abolished. He is not faulting anyone but he hopes all of you understand the impact that has on employee especially long term employees. We are also being counted on to be 24 hours a day 7 days a week service for everything from a cat stuck in a tree to a child not breathing. He understands that business decisions need to be made but just for a moment think how that affects them personally. The last communication he sent out to the dispatchers was that this is not the case. Should he report to them that negotiations are going to continue? Solicitor Wilson stated that nothing has changed. If there is still an impasse with the County then those positions will be abolished. There is not a deadline yet.

ADJOURNMENT

FINAL DRAFT

BY: Melody J. Parsons
Assistant Borough Secretary