

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 7, 2017
3:30 P.M.

The following persons were present for the meeting: Chairman James Decker, Sr., Committee member Dave Fortson, Council members President Dave Quarry, Nicole Houck, Jim Bair, John Gradwell, Donna Isenberg, Chief of Police Jeff Buckley, and Assistant Borough Secretary Melody Parsons,

VISITORS: Ed Tos, Mark Colussy, Melody Mason, Jeff Leonard, Laura Hess, Janet Chambers, and Iona Ballreich.

Chairperson Decker called the meeting to order.

RECOGNIZE GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT: Janet Chambers, Tuscarora Mountain Project, she is the community outreach spokesperson for Terrace Lodge. She spoke with the Committee about the Terrace Mountain Lodge and Hawn's Bridge Recreation Area. The Army Corp of Engineers cannot move forward until they update the master plan for Raystown Lake. They will be asking for public input. She asked the borough to write a letter to the Army Corp of Engineers in support of the project. Chairperson Decker responded that this Council is in a position to endorse this. He stated that the Administrative Committee will have to be Committee to take this into consideration.

Ionia Ballreich, Penn State Sustainable Communities, they partnership groups of Students with Agency in the Communities. She met with Manager Wheeler and Supt. Yarnell to the sites of the Borough's retention ponds at Miller Avenue and thru Cold Springs down to Blair Avenue. The project was approved. When we do these projects we ask our communities to contribute. We generally charge \$500.00 a project.

Sarah Worley, Professor at Juniata College in the Communication Dept., she is interested in her class partnering with the Community Development Committee. She is asking if anyone has any questions. The Students will be coming to the Borough Building for a tour and an overview. We want to make sure there is a sustainable nature to what is going to be getting started with the students this semester. Chairperson Decker stated that when we attend your class we could bring up some of the potential projects.

Michael Thompson-Standing Stone Half Marathon-September 23/24th. Mr. Thompson reviewed the details with the Committee. Chairperson Decker explained that any of the details need to be worked out with the Mayor and Police Chief.

GRANT’S ADMINISTRATOR STATUS & REPORT:

CDBG Report: Ms. Mason updated the Committee on the CDBG programs. She stated that there was a commitment worked out to help with the Blair field project. The project is currently stalled. That no work has been moving. She reported that the money for the Blair Field Project is in danger. Chairperson Decker stated that he is sure Manager Wheeler is aware of it but he is not here. She expressed that there is \$142,000.00 at stake here. She explained that if the project is not completed by the deadline any money spent will have to be paid back to the state. Ms. Mason reported that the \$47,044.00 going Huntingdon Borough sidewalk rehab from 2015 application and \$40,000.00 for curb cuts. The 2016 Application is for \$63,000.00 single family residents rehab \$25,853.00 for sidewalks. Chairperson Decker stated that we need to work on defining the allocation of the 2015 and 2016 CDBG money.

Councilperson Bair asked Manager Wheeler for an update on the 2012 money at Blair Field Parking Lot Project. Manager Wheeler stated that all supplies have arrived. Manager Wheeler stated he has every expectation to everything done within the next month. Councilperson Bair asked Manager Wheeler to update the County.

GRANT WRITING TEAM: Councilperson Decker announced that at the September 21st meeting we will be talking about the projects that we would like to see handled by the grant writing team.

MAYOR’S REPORT: Mayor Brown does not have a report at this time.

OPEN ISSUES:

WINEDOWN WEEKEND-Sept. 2nd:

STRATEGIC PLAN:

MICROLOANS STATUS REPORT:

RENTAL FORM SPREADSHEET:

HUNTINGDON VISION CENTER-PARKING SPACES: Manager Wheeler stated that Dr. Cook requested that to pave the parking lot. Manager Wheeler stated that Dr. Cook will easily meet the 5% for pervious surface that has to remain on any lot. Manager Wheeler will approve the permit.

HUNTINGDON ELECTRIC:

REPLACEMENT OF SIDEWALK: Manager Wheeler updated the Committee on. He stated reported that he met with Craig Yohn and his Supervisor and Mr. Yohn stated that they will not be any sidewalk work done alongside Penn Street without a new curb being put in that meets the requirements for PennDot. Huntingdon Electric says they did not create the situations that exist and he would not have to pay for a new curb. Huntingdon Electric is more than happen to put in a five ft. sidewalk. He feels the borough should help with the curb if not pay for it in its entirety. Councilperson Isenberg stated that we did not pave it.

Manager Wheeler stated the Huntingdon Electric would like to leave a gap between the curb and the end of the 5 ft. and he would like to put in an alternative material other than grass. Manager Wheeler suggested the Borough widening the street for a better turn on 5th Street. Manager Wheeler will check into grant money.

REMOVAL OF SMOKE STACK: Manager Wheeler updated the Committee on the smoke stack. They are trying to come up with a plan to get it down.

SIGNS: Huntingdon Electric requested to put up new signs. They will be putting up 3 signs. The signs are all flat and not free standing. Manager Wheeler will get in touch with him letting him know the signs have been approved.

Chairperson Decker asked if anyone has any suggestions for the partnership with Juniata College.

Mayor Brown stated that on 24th Special Olympics will be at the College. The marathon will be putting a dumpster over at Laneys. The Chief of Policy, the Mayor, the EMA Director, and Sherriff's Office met regarding the marathon in town.

NEW BUSINESS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION;

ADJOURNMENT

BY Melody J. Parsons
Assistant Borough Secretary