

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
HUNTINGDON BOROUGH COUNCIL
OCTOBER 17, 2017
7:30 P.M.**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of Huntingdon Borough Council was called to order on Tuesday, October 17, 2017, at 7:30 P.M. in the Borough Council Chambers, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

The meeting was called to Order by Council President David Quarry.

Mayor Brown gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call indicated the following members present: President Dave Quarry, Vice-President Jim Bair, Donna Isenberg, James Decker, Sr., Dave Fortson, Engineer Ann Reynolds, Chief of Police Jeff Buckley, and Assistant Borough Secretary Melody J. Parsons

Visitors: Sign In Sheet attached

WELCOME TO VISITORS: President Quarry welcomed the visitors and asked that anyone wishing to address Council come forward and states his or her name and address for the record.

Laura Hess and Adam Steel from Thoughtful Design. They Manage the Borough's Website. He stated it is doing well. There about 329 views on the website a week. They are doing some clean up on the website. They also explained some updates they will be doing with the website.

Jim Cassatt, 2712 Warm Springs Avenue, asked when are the students from Penn State coming in to study the water runoff issues at the highlands. President Quarry stated that they were here last week. Mr. Cassatt would like to attend the session when they return to hear what they have to say about solutions. President Quarry stated that he could attend.

Rose Rahman was present to ask for crosswalks to be painted. She gave a list to Council.

Kay Rossman, 2205 Acorn Circle, she asked why the ditch by her home has not been looked at. If there is another storm there is potential for more logs to come

down. She asked for the Borough to check the source and tell her where the log came from. She stated that Terry Green suggested that a screen is placed in the ditch. She also asked who owns the retention pond on Blair Avenue. Who owns the ditch that is uncovered that comes down past the High School. Mrs. Rossman also asked if any of the members gave consideration to her offer to seek Grant Information for Storm Water Management. She wonders if Council realizes that this is impacting the whole town. Councilperson Houck responded that Councilperson Decker is putting together a grant writing team. He would be a good contact for you. Councilperson Decker will follow up on this.

Jennifer Clark, 214 17th Street, wanted to thank the Police Dept. and all the agencies involved in the bomb situation. We are very blessed and very fortunate to have the police dept. that we have.

Jim Bair, Jr. was present regarding his properties at 301, 303, and 305 8th Street. There are porches on the back side of the building that extends out over the alley. 9th Street is one-way. Since 1998 one of the porches has been hit 7 times. The vehicles that go down that alley think the signage is not for them. Mr. Bair stated that he came to Council to ask them to consider some solutions. The signage at the end of the Alley isn't working. One solution he mentioned was an overhead barrier that stated a height maximum or increases fines on the violators. President Quarry stated that this will be put in the public safety committee.

Scott Fetzer, 215 Standing Stone, stated that he was in to speak with Council before about the water coming down on his property. He asked if anyone checked on anything or done anything. Supt. Yarnell stated that the State came and looked at it but he does not know what they did. President Quarry asked Supt. Yarnell to take another look at it.

Mr. Fetzer stated that this is the 2nd time he has asked about wood. He was told that it was saved to give to people with disabilities. He said you do not get anymore disabled than he is. President Quarry stated that Mr. Fetzer may get another load of wood.

Dean Harris, 2811 Chapel Hill, asked how much the Borough gives the Fire Co. President Quarry responded \$60,000.00. Councilperson Bair stated that the fire company will not be getting the \$60,000.00 from the borough any longer.

Jim Grace, the representative of the HRFR Company, was present to present information regarding the fire company purchases, grants, and fundraisers, and to

answer any questions regarding the 2 mil tax increase for the fire company. He introduced the rest of the representatives attending.

Jim Cassett, 2712 Warm Springs Road, asked about all the entities in town that do not pay taxes i.e. Juniata College, JC Blair, etc. all of the exempt buildings. Are you going to go after those people? Mr. Grace responded that is not in the fire co. realm of possibilities. We do not make the tax assessments. That is done by Council. These places are the biggest fire risks. Councilperson Bair explained briefly. The Borough has to take the request to the County to have the properties put back on the tax rolls. For example, the borough just went through this with the Dubois Business Property. We as the borough does not have the authority to change this. The decision comes from the County.

Scott Shaffer, 623 6th Street, asked what the current ISO rating is and with the equipment upgrade with this be reduce. Mr. Grace responded no it will not. Mr. Shaffer asked if Oneida Twp. and Henderson Twp. going to approached. Mr. Grace responded that Oneida Twp. current rate per capita is in excess of what we are proposing for Huntingdon Borough. Henderson Twp. has not contributed to HRFR 2002.

Councilperson Isenberg stated that no one wants to pay more taxes. She stated that there have been some really good points made here. She felt we should have looked into putting it on the ballot for the voters in the community. It is true that Council has the authority to approve a 2 mil increase fire tax. She wonders if it is not more appropriate for Council not to approve the 2 mils for the Fire Co. and make it a ballot item.

Councilperson Decker stated that he doesn't see why we do not table this so more discussion could take place before a decision. He would like to see if there is a possibility to encompass others that do not pay real estate tax.

Motion was made by Councilperson Houck, seconded by Councilperson Bair to approve the following minutes. **Motion carried.**

- a. Maintenance Committee meeting 8/08/2017
- b. Administrative Committee meeting 8/08/2017
- c. Water & Sewer Committee meeting 09/07/2017
- d. Community Development Committee meeting 09/07/2017
- e. Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee meeting 9/07/2017

Motion was made by Councilperson Houck, seconded by Councilperson Bair recommending the bills payable for October 2017 be approved for payment. Invoices have been reviewed. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Houck, seconded by Councilperson Bair recommending the Financial Statements for September 2017 be approved. **Motion carried.**

Old Business

Motion was made by Councilperson Bair seconded by Councilperson Fortson recommending the approval of Ordinance No. 944 An Ordinance of the Borough of Huntingdon, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania establishing the fire service appropriations tax and providing for the millage rate thereof for the calendar year 2018 and succeeding years until altered by Huntingdon Borough Council. **Motion carried.**

Roll Call indicated the following:

<u>YAY</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Dave Quarry	James Decker, Sr.
Jim Bair	Donna Isenberg
Nicole Houck	
Dave Fortson	

Motion carried 4-2

Councilperson Decker made a motion to table the approval of Ordinance 944 until next month. Councilperson Houck stated that she thinks we have one motion on the floor already that we have to finish. Motion died due to lack of second.

Mayor Brown presented the 2016 Wanda Meyash Award to Dr. James Savory.

New Business

Motion was made by Councilperson Bair, seconded by Councilperson Fortson recommends the approval of the Highmark BCBS plan renewal at 8% increase. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Bair, seconded by Councilperson Houck recommending the approval of the appointment of Central Insurers Group as Borough's Broker of Record for Vision Benefits of America. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Houck, seconded by Councilperson Isenberg recommending the approval of the appointment of Jack H. Port/Phillip Gingerich, Jr. as Broker of Record for Highmark BCBS. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Bair, seconded by Councilperson Isenberg recommending the approval of the renewal of Ameriflex. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Houck, seconded by Councilperson Bair approving the hiring of Chris MaGill - Full Time – 911 Dispatcher. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Houck, seconded by Councilperson Bair recommending the approval for reopening and extending the closing date for maintenance application at PA Career Link to October 23rd. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Houck, seconded by Councilperson Bair recommending the approval of a contract offer to Roger Shaffer for Waste Water Treatment Supervisor. **Motion carried.** Councilperson Decker and Councilperson Isenberg opposing.

Motion was made by Councilperson Bair, seconded by Councilperson Fortson recommending the approval of Addendum 1 for County Administrative Agreement for CDBG Program. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Bair, seconded by Councilperson Houck recommending the approval of Trickling Filter Media Replacement Engineering Proposal from Gwin Dobson & Foreman (\$19,944.78). **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Isenberg, seconded by Councilperson Decker recommending the approval of PaDOT cost-share program ("Pilot Program") for the 75% reimbursement of the relocation of the water line affected by the SR 22 / SR 26. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Bair, seconded by Councilperson Fortson recommending the approval of Change Order 10/17/2017 for the Or Lady Wall for an additional cost of \$18,300.00. This increases the cost of the overall

contract to \$98,150.00. These funds will come out of the 2017 Repair Note.
Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilperson Fortson, seconded by Councilperson Bair recommending the approval of roof repairs to Borough Building at a "Not to Exceed" cost \$12,000. (I haven't heard back from both contractors with a corrected bid). **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Houck, seconded by Councilperson Bair recommending the approval of a Career Link & TDN job posting for Pool Manager. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Bair, seconded by Councilperson Isenberg

Motion was made by Councilperson Isenberg, seconded by Councilperson Houck recommending the approval of the annual payment of \$10,000.00 to the Ambulance Authority. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Decker, seconded by Councilperson Isenberg recommending the approval of the portable pedestrian crossing sign policy.
Motion carried.

Announcements: There were not any announcements

Committee Reports:

Water & Sewer Committee - Chairperson Bair did not have a report this month.

Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee – Chairperson Houck did not have a report this month.

Maintenance Committee – Chairperson Gradwell was not present.

Community Development Committee – Chairperson Decker did not have a report this month.

Public Safety Committee – Chairperson Isenberg wanted to thank the police dept. she knows that have been very busy.

Chief's Report – Chief Buckley

Administrative Committee - Chairperson David Quarry did not have a report this month.

Council President's report- President Quarry stated that the water dept. does a superior job. He also wanted to commend Supt. Yarnell for pulling the weeds and cleaning up.

Mayor's Report- (recording was not audible)

Solicitor's Report- Solicitor Wilson was not present.

Engineer's Report-Engineer Reynolds did not have a report this month.

Borough Manager's Report-Manager Wheeler was not present.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

An executive session called at 9:25 pm to discuss personnel.

Meeting reconvened at 10:12 pm

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilperson Houck, seconded by Councilperson Fortson to adjourn.

FINAL DRAFT

BY: Melody J. Parsons
Assistant Borough Secretary