

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
HUNTINGDON BOROUGH COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 20, 2018
7:30 P.M.**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of Huntingdon Borough Council was called to order on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 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 Nicole Houck.

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

Roll call indicated the following members present: President Nicole Houck, Councilperson Sean Steeg, Dave Quarry, Jim Bair, Johnathan Hyde, Terry Green, Robert Jackson, Engineer Ann Reynolds, Solicitor Richard Wilson, Mayor David Wessels, Borough Secretary Melody J Parsons, and Borough Manager William W. Wheeler.

Visitors: Sign In Sheet attached

WELCOME TO VISITORS:

Mike Smith, 315 11th Street, asked when you have executive session why do the secretary and the engineer not attend. They are not permitted.

He asked why you have held off on hiring. Councilperson Steeg responded that we are still in process of screening applicants.

He asked if the water draining from the highlands is being checked into.

Councilperson Steeg responded yet it is.

He stated that when he spoke with Manager Wheeler about Blair Field Parking lot he was told that it was being completed a cheaper way. Manager Wheeler responded that the project was completed on time. We are still finishing up the accounting. It was designed to prevent flooding.

Jim Cassatt, 2712 Warm Springs Avenue, requested information and was told by the President that she would get back to him and she did not. He also asked Manager Wheeler about the new home on the Highlands. Manager Wheeler responded to Mr. Cassatt to come into the office and do a right to know. He stated that you cannot expect him to have something immediately. Mr. Cassatt asked

what is going on with the Muddy run. He stated that the sinkhole has not been checked. President Houck explained that they are working with the Solicitor.

Jennifer Clark, 214 17th Street, asked who paid for the food provided at the Legion for the Community Chat with Council. Councilperson Steeg responded that the Borough residents did not pay for it.

Kay Rossman, 2205 Acorn Circle, reported that she has had 3 floods in 60 days. She also wanted to thank Councilperson Green and Supt. Tom Yarnell for cleaning drains. Her neighbors have drainage coming into her yard. She also wanted to thank CEO Jim Morris. She stated that for whatever reason this has been left on, lack of supervision, lack of enforcement, lack of management, they all go to Manager Wheeler. I am a victim and the residents that Council represent are victims. The people demand that the Manager is held accountable. Do not fight between members. Let us know what is going on. She asked all the members what they have accomplished since January 1, 2018.

Ed Tress, 246 Standing Stone Avenue, reported that there is a stream running down by his property. The Borough was supposed to be getting permits to clean it out. It is in bad shape.

Mike Wilson, 1205 Mifflin Street, stated if you really wanted to limit community members speaking then get the stuff done for the people. He stated that rumor had it that Sean Steeg was never noted in a Councilperson. Things fall under targeting the homeowners. He thinks Council should vote on Manager Wheeler's position.

Steve Heine was present to try to remedy the situation about the town clock. Mr. Heine reviewed the history of the clock with the Council. They need a commitment letter from the Borough for funding of \$50,000.00 by March 1st. President Houck stated that they will put this under new business and have a discussion on it. George Drobnock added that the actual cash is not needed for 8-12 months. Mr. Heine added that the clock is part of the community and part of the fabric of the community.

Scott Fetzer asked what the easement he is asked to sign is for. Solicitor Wilson stated that it is only temporary to be able to get on your property to repair the problem.

Jay Brous, Warm Springs Road, reported that are holes from Shadyside Avenue to Warm Springs Avenue.

Joan Cassatt, 2712 Warm Springs Avenue, wanted to thank the police dept. for all they do. She stated that they have pumped and swept water out of their basement and next time they are sending the bill to the borough. She stated also that there is a 5-minute rule but it depends on who you are. This is a public meeting.

Chris Busko, 210 2nd Street, you people are in conflict with the State Adverse Interest Act. You work in her and outside where there is a conflict of interest.

Mr. Busko asked the Council what is your vision, we are losing business, and the town is turning to mud. President Houck responded that the council wrote a strategic plan. Mayor Wessels invited Mr. Busko to attend the Community Chat sessions and the Community Development Committee meeting.

Steve Jackson stated that we still have street lights out and new flags for 4th Street. He asked if Penn Street is the Borough's or PennDot's. Councilperson Green stated that we took over Penn Street. Mr. Jackson stated that if you would act on what people say at the meetings they would not have to keep coming back. You lost a business on Allegheny Street because of sewage.

Motion was made by Councilperson Quarry, seconded by Councilperson Steeg to approve the following minutes. **Motion carried.**

- a. Special Council Meeting December 12, 2017
- b. Reorganizational Meeting January 1, 2018
- c. Water & Sewer Committee Meeting January 4, 2018
- d. Community Development Meeting January 4, 2018
- e. Parks, Recreation & Public Property January 4, 2018
- f. Public Safety Committee Meeting January 9, 2018
- g. Maintenance Committee Meeting January 9, 2018
- h. Regular Meeting January 16, 2018

Motion was made by Councilperson Steeg, seconded by Councilperson Hyde recommending the bills payable for February 2018 be approved for payment. Invoices have been reviewed. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Hyde, seconded by Councilperson Steeg recommending the Financial Statements for January 2018 be approved. **Motion carried.**

Old Business

There was not any old business

New Business

Motion was made by Councilperson Hyde, seconded by Councilperson Steeg recommending the approval of Nicole A. Houck to the position of Voting Delegate for the purpose of electing the Officers of the Association and voting on proposed resolutions and policies. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Councilperson Hyde, seconded by Council Steeg recommending the approval of Resolution No. 1-2018. The Huntingdon Borough of Huntingdon County hereby requests a PA Small Water and Sewer Program grant of \$500,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. **Motion carried.**

President Houck stated they would proceed with the discussion regarding the town clock. Councilperson Hyde stated that we do not have the money for the town clock. Motion was made by Councilperson Quarry, seconded by Councilperson Jackson to write the letter of commitment for \$50,000.00 to be included in the grant application.

YAY

David Quarry
Robert Jackson
Terry Green

NAY

Jim Bair
Nicole Houck
Sean Steeg
Johnathan Hyde

Motion failed.

Announcements:

Councilperson Steeg announced the next Community Chat will be at Westminster Woods.

Committee Reports:

Water & Sewer Committee - Chairperson Steeg reported the budget has been passed. They have agreed to hire full-time sewer employee. The RFP will be going out for the 4th Street CSO project.

Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee – Chairperson Jackson reported currently they are waiting for permits for the Dog Park. Juniata College offered to donate the fence. Penelec will be coming to remove the pole.

Mary Ann Buckley will be hired as Pool Manager. The RFP's for the additions to the pool are being worked on. There will be recycling containers put at the parks.

Maintenance Committee – Chairperson Green did not have a report this month.

Community Development Committee – Councilperson Hyde reported that George Drobnock has been hired as Grants Administrator.

Public Safety Committee – Chairperson Bair thanked the local police for everything they do.

Chief's Report – Chief Buckley wanted to thank the Moose for the active shooter vests for each department member.

He announced the next coffee with a cop is March 8th from 4:00 pm -7:00 pm.

Administrative Committee - Chairperson Houck reported that they are using the work session to work on the employee manual.

Council President's report- President Houck thanked everyone for coming. She also thanked the borough staff.

Mayor's Report- Mayor Wessels reported:

- Meeting with Juniata College Marketing Dept.
- Operation snow to be set and implemented
- Coffee with a cop is scheduled for March 8th
- Parking system update information gathering continues
- I will be judging at the Bailey Oratoricals on February 27th
- Wedding Price to be set at \$100.00
- First wedding to take place February 25th at a discounted rate of \$50.00
- Monthly radio spot on Honey 103 a minute with the Mayor to be scheduled by the end of the week
- Grant work to begin and fundraising for the k-9 unit upgrade
- Weis market approved the new location for prescription pill drop off
- Business owner parking permits approved.
- HOA- Highlands, turnover of common areas to the Borough-process moving forward.

Solicitor's Report- Solicitor Wilson reported he is working on the ordinance to make the CEO position full-time and to set for the duties of the Code Enforcement Officer.

Engineer's Report-Engineer Reynolds gave an update on the bulk water station.

Borough Manager's Report-Manager Wheeler reported he will be meeting with Kevin and Roger regarding the sewage agreement. He will be meeting with Walker Twp. to request using them as a secondary water source. The sewage line on East Penn Street has been cleared. He has had the decorations removed from the Cemetery. He ran the ad for lifeguards

Jennifer Clark stated that she is disappointed with the town clock decision.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Executive Session called at 9:09 pm to discuss personnel
Reconvened Session at 10:00 pm reconvened

Motion was made by Councilperson Steeg, seconded by Councilperson Bair recommending the approval of a Stipend paid to Andy Young for his duties as Emergency Management Coordinator.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilperson Quarry, seconded by Councilperson Hyde to adjourn.

BY: Melody J Parsons
Borough Secretary