

HUNTINGDON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018 – 7:30 PM

The Huntingdon Borough Council Meeting was called to order by President Nicole Houck.

The Invocation was given by Mayor David Wessels.

The Pledge of Allegiance was presented by President Nicole Houck.

The Roll call was taken and the following Council members were present: President Nicole Houck, Vice President Sean Steeg, Councilman James Bair, Councilman David Quarry, Councilman Johnathan Hyde, Councilman Terry Green, Councilman Robert Jackson, Mayor David Wessels, Borough Engineer Ann Reynolds, Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson, Borough Manager Daniel Varner and Chief of Police Jeffrey Buckley.

The following guest were present: Officer Andrew Young, Mike Smith, Betty Quarry, Linda Lang, Fred Lang, Gary Cramer, Barb Hooper, Bill McIlroy, April Feagley, Susan Himmel, David Himmel, Kathy Weir, Robert Weir, Jay Brous, Kay Rossman and Dee Dee Brown.

WELCOME TO VISITORS: President Nicole Houck ask if anyone had anything to say at this time.

Linda Lang, 2301 Holland Avenue, presented a petition with 35 signatures of individuals who live along Muddy Run, who were requesting that the borough clean up the run. Their concerns were overgrown vegetation, debris, litter, etc., was clogging the run and causing water issues its entire length. Additionally there seems to be an increase in ground hogs and other animals in this neighborhood that may be attributed to the out of control vegetation and brush.

Dan Varner stated that he had recently viewed the entire length of the run from 14th Street to Cold Springs Road with Ilona Ballreich and Megan Marshall of Penn State. He has requested that the students of the engineering department at the university prepare a comprehensive study of the open portions of the run with the goal of providing the information needed to obtain a permit to clean it up.

Dan explained that DEP prohibits anyone from entering into this type stream to do cleanup work without a permit. Permitting can be a long process and requires justification. Minor cleanup that can be done by hand and from the bank may be possible without a permit. Dan also mentioned that the current condition of the run does lend itself to creating habitats of snakes, groundhogs and other critters that do not fit into this residential neighborhood.

Susan Himmel presented pictures to Borough Council of the dip in her yard and the neighbors from Muddy Run. Dan Varner spoke on the structures that are in place in Muddy Run and mentioned about the Crawford Apartments collapse, costing \$300,000.00. The Engineering firm will be doing a survey of the entire covered portion of Muddy Run. The borough is researching grant possibility for repairs.

Mike Smith spoke on that Soldiers can do an absentee ballot on voting and about the different election areas and wanted to know how Juniata College students can vote when they do not live in Huntingdon. President Nicole Houck stated that this was not our law and he needs to go to the Federal Government. Mike Smith asked are they paying taxes, and Nicole stated that if they are working then they are. Mayor David Wessels mentioned that he will need to go to Harrisburg and Washington DC. Mike mentioned

about the wild flowers and grasses on a property on Mifflin Street. Chief Buckley said that this was taken to court and since they are growing wild flowers etc. that this was legal.

Jay Brouse asked about the Or Lady Wall and wanted to know when this would be completed. Dan Varner stated that it will be done no longer than 12 weeks.

Jay Brouse asked about the ditch on 25th Street and asked if this was the gas company. Dan Varner said that this was Huntingdon Boroughs and the gas company and that they will be paving this in September or October.

Motion was made by Councilman David Quarry and Second by Councilman Robert Jackson to accept the minutes of the following meetings. Motion Carried.

- a) Council Meeting – July 17, 2018
- b) Water & Sewer Committee Meeting – August 2, 2018
- c) Community Development Committee Meeting – August 2, 2018
- d) Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee Meeting – August 2, 2018
- e) Maintenance Committee Meeting – August 14, 2018
- f) Public Safety Committee Meeting – August 14, 2018
- g) Administrative Committee Meeting – August 14, 2018

Motion was made by Councilman David Quarry and Second by Councilman Johnathan Hyde recommending the approval of the bills payable for August 2018. Invoices have been reviewed. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Councilman David Quarry and Second by Councilman Johnathan Hyde recommending the approval of the Financial Statements for July 2018. Motion Carried.

Bids for the 60” Culvert Overflow Pipe Replacement was presented.

The Water and Sewer Committee then proceeded to open the bids and they were as follows:

1. Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. – Base Bid to replace pipe \$168,360.00 and alternate to remove extra material \$15,000.00.
2. HRI, Inc. – Base Bid to replace pipe \$79,500.00 and alternate to remove extra material \$10,500.00.
3. G. M. McCrossin, Inc. – Base Bid to replace pipe \$357,500.00 and alternate to remove extra material \$27,000.00

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Administrative Committee – (President Nicole Houck)
 - Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve the filing of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for matching funds to support the establishment of a police canine unit.

Motion was made by Vice President Sean Steeg and Second by Councilman David Quarry to approve for the filing of a grant application to the U.S. Department of

Agriculture for matching funds to support the establishment of a police canine unit. Motion Carried.

- Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve an addendum to the current AFSCME Contract establishing the position of Maintenance Foreman in lieu of Maintenance Supervisor.

Motion was made by Councilman Johnathan Hyde and Second by Vice President Sean Steeg to approve an addendum to the current AFSCME Contract establishing the position of Maintenance Foreman in lieu of Maintenance Supervisor. Motion Carried. Councilman Jim Bair Jr. voted no.

- Administrative Committee recommends a motion to recognize and approve the declaration of disaster emergency of July 26, 2018 regarding the Muddy Run Culvert collapse.

Motion was made by Councilman David Quarry and Second by Councilman Johnathan Hyde to recognize and approve the declaration of disaster emergency of July 26, 2018 regarding the Muddy Run Culvert collapse. Motion Carried.

- Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. #13-2018, which confirms the intention of Huntingdon Borough to secure financing in the amount of \$300,000.00 to pay for the sinkhole project, and, authorizes and directs the manager, borough solicitor, bond council and financial advisor to begin the process to secure the financing.

Motion was made by Councilman David Quarry and Second by Councilman Robert Jackson to approve Resolution No. #13-2018, which confirms the intention of Huntingdon Borough to secure financing in the amount of \$300,000.00 to pay for the sinkhole project, and, authorizes and directs the manager, borough solicitor, bond council and financial advisor to begin the process to secure the financing. Motion Carried.

b) Community Development Committee (Councilman Johnathan Hyde)

- Community Development Committee recommends a motion to adopt Resolution No. #14-2018, reaffirming Huntingdon Borough's commitment to the multi-year revolving loan fund.

Motion was made by Councilman David Quarry and Second by Vice President Sean Steeg to adopt Resolution No. #14-2018, reaffirming Huntingdon Borough's commitment to the multi-year revolving loan fund. Motion Carried.

c) Maintenance Committee (Councilman Terry Green)

- Maintenance Committee recommends a motion to approve the lowest bid of **HRI**, for the replacement of the damaged 60" Stormwater overflow pipe contingent upon review and approval of the engineer and solicitor in the amount of **\$79,500.00**.

Motion was made by Councilman David Quarry and Second by Councilman Johnathan Hyde to approve the lowest bid of HRI, for the replacement of the damaged 60" Stormwater overflow pipe contingent upon review and approval of the engineer and solicitor in the amount of \$79,500.00. Motion Carried.

d) Parks, Recreation and Public Property Committee (Councilman Robert Jackson, Jr.)

- Councilman Robert Jackson, Jr. want to personally thank the Isett Foundation for their recent donation to the Isett Community Swimming Pool.
- Councilman Robert Jackson, Jr. mentioned that the bid packages will be out soon for the Isett Community Swimming Pool Splash Pad.

e) Public Safety Committee (Chairman James Bair, Jr.)

- Chairman James Bair, Jr. wanted to thank the Borough Police on their drug related work and the good job they are doing.
- He mentioned that the Halloween Parade will be on Monday, October 22, 2018 starting at 7:00 PM.

f) Water and Sewer Committee(Vice President Sean Steeg)

- Vice President Sean Steeg wanted to thank the Water and Sewer team on their hard work during the rain events.
- He stated that the Open House at the Water Treatment Facility will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2018 in the evening. Food and snacks will be provided by GHD Engineers.

OLD BUSINESS – Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS – Nothing to report

PRESIDENT’S REPORT –

- President Nicole Houck wanted to thank the Supervisors and Chief of Police Jeff Buckley for their efforts.
- Nicole reported on the picnic that was held and said it was a very nice day and everyone had a great time.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT –

- Chief Buckley mentioned that he will leave the Mayor give the report since he already has his items listed.

MAYOR’S REPORT –

- Mayor David Wessels reported that he officiated a wedding at the Huntingdon Country Club and a \$100.00 fee was assessed.
- Mayor Wessels reported that he attended the PA Association of Mayors conference in Lancaster.
- Mayor Wessels reported that fundraising for the K-9 Unit continues and to please call to see how you can help. He stated that currently we are at \$23,500.00 and our final goal for a matching grant is \$32,000.00. This will give us a total of \$64,000.00. He stated that there are several community fundraising events being planned or already in the works.
- Mayor Wessels reported that work continues on developing a web video info series for the borough’s website and face book pages and to please email any suggestions to Mayor@huntingdonboro.com.
- Mayor Wessels reported that the American Legion has finished its final camp. The program was wonderfully successful and he hopes to see more efforts like this in the years to come.

- Mayor Wessels wanted to thank Borough Council and borough employees that helped make the Employee summer picnic a success. A good time was had by all that attended and stated that this is a tradition that was long overdue to return to.
- Mayor Wessels is developing an awareness program for Ricky's Wheel to help educate the public on the services they offer and hopefully spur some new and much needed volunteerism for the organization.

SOLICITORS REPORT –

- Solicitor Richard Wilson stated that he would ask for a motion to approve the alternate bid for the removal of the extra material for the 60" Stormwater Overflow Pipe contingent upon review and approval of the engineer and solicitor in the amount of \$10,500.00 submitted bid by HRI.

Motion was made by Vice President Sean Steeg and Second by Council David Quarry to approve the alternate bid for the removal of the extra material for the 60" Stormwater Overflow Pipe contingent upon review and approval of the engineer and solicitor in the amount of \$10,500.00 submitted bid by HRI. Motion Carried.

- Solicitor Richard Wilson mentioned in reference to the Muddy Run Collapse at Crawford apartments and he ask that if anyone see's that their ground is sinking or if they have any holes appearing to immediately call the borough office and to not fill it in.

BOROUGHS ENGINEER REPORT –

- Engineer Ann Reynolds reported on the Muddy Run collapse and mentioned that they have poured concrete and will pour again in 2 to 3 days weather permitting.
- Engineer Ann Reynolds stated that she has reviewed the low bid from HRI for the 60" Stormwater Overflow Pipe replacement and it meets all of the requirements.

BOROUGH MANAGERS REPORT –

- Dan Varner reported that the banks and ditches have been done on Cold Springs Road and Warm Springs Road and that the new equipment has saved a lot of time.
- Dan Varner reported that the Jet Vac crew have cleaned 120 inlets in 2 weeks and they now will be cleaning lines. We are required to clean 25,000 feet of Sewer lines per DEP, which we will be doing.
- Dan Varner reported that on 4th Street, we will be cleaning and then Cameraing the line in preparation for designing the project to separate the CSO.
- Dan Varner stated that the employees have been doing an excellent job.
- Dan Varner stated that HRI has submitted their 1st request for payment in the amount of \$121,728.50 for the work on the Muddy Run culvert.

Motion was made by Vice President Sean Steeg and Second by Councilman David Quarry to approve the 1st request of payment to HRI in the amount of \$121,728.50 to be under emergency repairs for Muddy Run. Motion Carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS –

- Barb Hooper stated that since Dan Varner is back that it nice now to come to a meeting.

Motion was made to adjourn the Borough Council meeting by Councilman David Quarry and Second by Councilman Johnathan Hyde at 8:20 PM. Motion Carried.