**Huntingdon Borough Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 18, 2020**

President Johnathan Hyde called the Huntingdon Borough Council meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the Huntingdon Borough Council Room, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

Mayor David Wessels gave the Invocation.

President Johnathan Hyde presented the Pledge of Allegiance.

Borough Secretary Richard King took roll call.

Members present were President Johnathan Hyde, Vice-President Sean Steeg, Councilman David Quarry, Councilman David Fortson, Councilman James Bair, Councilman Terry Green, Mayor David Wessels, Engineer Ann Reynolds, Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson, Chief of Police Jeff Buckley, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Borough Police Officers present were Andy Young and Chris Malliband.

Guest present were Gary Cramer, Jennifer Clark, Mike Smith, Robert Jackson, Rebecca Berdar, Dean Harris, Emil Nagengast, Claire Holzner, Lisa Roth, Elizabeth Smolcic, Nick Miller, and Seth Long. George Conrad was on line.

President Johnathan Hyde welcomed the guest present and said if you are here to talk about the Forest Management Plan or Timber cut to please wait, because we will be talking about this later in the agenda and you will be pleased.

Robert Jackson talked about the cleanup days and said there was vacant properties last year that people brought items in and drove our cost up.

Borough Manger Chris Stevens said if this happens, we will address each individual and this year, there is a contract limit for the cleanup days.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to review and act on the minutes of the following meetings:

Borough Council Meeting – July 21, 2020  
 Water & Sewer Committee Meeting – August 6, 2020  
 Community Development Committee Meeting – August 6, 2020  
 Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee Meeting – August 6, 2020  
 Maintenance Committee Meeting – August 11, 2020  
 Public Safety Committee Meeting – August 11, 2020  
 Administrative Committee Meeting – August 11, 2020

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the minutes of the above meetings and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde called for a motion and second to approve the payment of August 2020 bills.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve payment of the August 2020 bills and second was made by Vice-President Sean Steeg. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde called for a motion and second to approve the Financial Statements of all borough accounts for July 2020.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the Financial Statement of all borough accounts for July 2020 and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to the Committee reports.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Administrative Committee report.

Vice-President Sean Steeg read the following for Nicole Houck who was absent.

The Administrative Committee recommends a motion to have the borough office hours 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Fortson to have the borough office hours 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM and second was made by Councilman David Quarry. Motion Carried.**

The Administrative Committee recommends a motion to rescind the Huntingdon Borough Timber Contract with Garner Lumber, due to an unforeseen change in circumstances.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to rescind the Huntingdon Borough Timber Contract with Garner Lumber, due to an unforeseen change in circumstances and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Community Development Committee report.

Councilman David Quarry announced the Huntingdon Borough Cleanup days being September 11th thru the 13th for setting items out, and reported on the items that will not be accepted. David Quarry said this is just for Huntingdon Borough residents only.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Parks, Recreation and Public Property Committee report.

Councilman David Fortson reported that Huntingdon Borough had received a $125,000.00 grant thru the Keystone Communities Program, approved by the Department of Community and Economic Development for the City League Ballfield Improvement project.

Councilman David Fortson said that the bids for this project will be due by August 28th at 12:00 Noon.

Councilman David Fortson said there will be a special meeting for the bid opening on August 31, 2020.

The Parks, Recreation and Public Property recommends a motion, pending the solicitors recommendation to sign an agreement with the Chesapeake Bay group for a forest management plan.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry pending the solicitors recommendation to sign an agreement with the Chesapeake Bay group for a forest management plan and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde asked if there were any comments from the public.

Seth Long wanted to know what had happened for the borough to rescind the contract with Garner Lumber.

Sean Steeg responded to him and said that Borough Council does listen to what the residents do say and mentioned there were some good idea. Sean Steeg said this was brought up in Executive Session and cannot be mentioned.

Lisa Roth said she wanted to reiterate what she had said at the last Park, Recreation and Public Property Committee meeting, that if a name was not picked for the park on Washington Street, that we should consider naming this after Robert Bob Geissinger.

Lisa Roth said at the dog park by Laney’s and where the soft boat launch will be, she would like to see a sign made for the 2nd largest Cottonwood Tree placed.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Maintenance Committee report.

Councilman Terry Green had nothing to report.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Public Safety Committee report.

Councilman James Bair said the Public Safety Committee recommends a motion to approve the changes to the Civil Service Commission By-Laws and adopt this. These changes would include eliminating being act 120 certified, a physical ability test to be given following medical clearance as described by the Municipal Police Officers’ Education & Training Commission (MPOETC) guidelines and all four sections of the MPOETC test must be passed at the 30th percentile.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the changes to the Civil Service Commission By-Laws and adopt this and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde said that after the training is completed, they will be Act 120 Certified.

Councilman James Bair thanked the Police Department and Fire Department for their excellent work. James Bair said the fire company had 39 calls this month.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Water & Sewer Committee report.

Vice-President Sean Steeg begged forgiveness for tearing up the town, but it will be a lot nicer when they are done.

The Water & Sewer Committee recommends a motion to pay D & M Contracting $32,785.34 as payment No. 1 for the 400 block of Penn Street water line replacement.

**A motion was made by Councilman James Bair to pay D & M Contracting $32,785.34 as payment No. 1 for the 400 block of Penn Street water line replacement. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde asked if we needed to call for an Executive Session.

Executive Session was not called for.

President Johnathan Hyde called for any Old Business.

Nothing was reported under Old Business.

President Johnathan Hyde called for any New Business.

Nothing was reported under New Business.

President Johnathan Hyde gave his report at this time and said that he praised the 1st responders and the Borough employee’s.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Chief of Police report.

Jeff Buckley had nothing to report.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Mayor’s report.

Mayor David Wessels said he performed one wedding.

Mayor David Wessels said he praised the community members during the COVID-19 and mentioned that when we get back to normal to remember your neighbors and businesses.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Engineers report.

Ann Reynolds had nothing to report.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Borough Solicitors report.

Solicitor Richard Wilson said that since we have rescinded the Timber Contract that he would like to draw up letters to be sent to Garner Lumber and Randy Fickes.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said that when he talked to them, he said they will be receiving a letter.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Borough Manager report.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said the 400 block of Penn Street is completed and the 500 block of Penn Street should be completed by August 28th.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said he had conversations with PennDOT and said we will be moving the fence to have one lane of travel on 6th Street and one lane of travel on 7th Street to go out of town under the arch.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said the traffic lights on 8th and Washington Street will stay on flash, since the paving took out the sensors and school will be starting so the school buses will not be backing up traffic.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said the 11th and Moore Street bridge replacement will be done by the 2nd week of September.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said that HRI will be starting the 4th Street CSO project around the 1st or 2nd week of September.

President Johnathan Hyde called for any other business.

After no further business, President Johnathan Hyde called for a motion to adjourn.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to adjourn the Borough Council Meeting at 7:46 PM.**

Minutes submitted by,  
  
  
  
Richard S. King  
Borough Secretary