Huntingdon Borough Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

The Huntingdon Borough Council meeting was held in person and virtually by Webex Conference in the Borough Council Room, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

President Johnathan Hyde called the Borough Council meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

The invocation was given by Mayor David Wessels.

The Pledge of Allegiance was presented by President Johnathan Hyde.

Roll call was taken by Borough Secretary Richard King.

Members present in the Borough Council room were President Johnathan Hyde, Councilman David Quarry, Councilman David Fortson, Councilman James Bair, Mayor David Wessels, Chief of Police Jeff Buckley, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Members virtual were Vice-President Sean Steeg, Councilman Terry Green, Engineer Ann Reynolds and Solicitor Richard Wilson.

Huntingdon Borough Police Officers present in the Borough Council room were Officer Andy Young and Officer Chris Malliband.

Guest present in the Borough Council Room were Tim Furlong and James Grissinger from the Huntingdon Regional Fire & Rescue.

Guest virtual were Kylie Young, Preston Raffensberger and Jamie Roberts.

President Johnathan Hyde welcomed the guest present and virtually and asked if they had any comments or concerns.

There were no comments made.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the review and act on the minutes of the following meetings.

* Borough Council Meeting – December 15, 2020
* Water & Sewer Committee Meeting – January 7, 2021
* Community Development Committee Meeting – January 7, 2021
* Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee Meeting – January 7, 2021
* Maintenance Committee Meeting – January 12, 2021
* Public Safety Committee Meeting – January 12, 2021
* Administrative Committee Meeting – January 12, 2021

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to accept the above mentioned 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 January 2021 bills.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the payment of January 2021 bills and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

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

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

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to the committee reports.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Administrative Committee report.

Councilman David Quarry said the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-01 to appoint John C. Stevens as the Chief Financial Officer for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Fortson to approve Resolution No. 2021-01 to appoint John C. Stevens as the Chief Financial Officer for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

Councilman David Quarry said the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-02 to appoint John C. Stevens as the Chief Financial Officer for the Police Pension Plan.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Fortson to approve Resolution No. 2021-02 to appoint John C. Stevens as the Chief Financial Officer for the Police Pension Plan and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Community Development Committee report.

President Johnathan Hyde in Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown absence, said the Community Development Committee recommends a motion to approve Application for Payment No. 1 in the amount of $32,795.90 to John C. Yenter Associates for the CDBG Sidewalk Project.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the Application for Payment No. 1 in the amount of $32,795.90 to John C. Yenter Associates for the CDBG Sidewalk Project and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

Vice-President Sean Steeg asked how much money was left in the project.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said there was between $60,000.00 and $70,000.00 left that we could put towards another project.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Maintenance Committee report.

Councilman Terry Green had nothing to report.

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

Councilman David Fortson said the Parks, Recreation and Public Property Committee recommends a motion to send a letter of support to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy for the Juniata Watershed Management Plan update.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to send a letter of support to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy for the Juniata Watershed Management Plan update and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

Councilman David Fortson said the Parks, Recreation and Public Property Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-03 supporting the efforts of Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and Partners for the Juniata Watershed Management Plan update.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve Resolution No. 2021-03 supporting the efforts of Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and partners for the Juniata Watershed Management Plan update and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Public Safety Committee report.

Councilman James Bair said the Public Safety Committee recommends a motion to support Resolution No. 2021-04 for the Huntingdon Regional Fire & Rescue to pursue a governmental loan thru Kish Bank as a tax exempt bond, at a reduced interest rate loan to purchase a 2022 E-one Typhoon HR 100 ladder truck for a price of $1,149,386.00.

Vice-President Sean Steeg questioned this.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens read two paragraphs of the letter and said that there will be no liability for this loan or financial interest if the fire company goes under.

Vice-President Sean Steeg was good with this.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to support Resolution No. 2021-04 for the Huntingdon Regional Fire & Rescue to pursue a governmental loan thru Kish Bank as a tax exempt bond, at a reduced interest rate loan to purchase a 2022 E-one Typhoon HR 100 ladder truck for a price of $1,149,386.00 and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

Councilman James Bair thanked the Fire Department, Police Department, Ambulance Division and 1st Responders for their support and hard work.

Councilman James Bair said the fire company had 28 calls in December and 353 calls year to date.

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

Vice-President Sean Steeg said the Water & Sewer Committee recommends a motion to accept the quote from GHD of $9,500.00 for the Risk Analysis and Emergency Response Plan for the Water Treatment Plant.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to accept the quote from GHD of $9,500.00 for the Risk Analysis and Emergency Response Plan for the Water Treatment Plant and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

Vice-President Sean Steeg said the Water & Sewer Committee recommends a motion to amend the Amendment to the Agreement with GHD for the Vulnerability Risk & Resiliency Assessment and Emergency Response Plan Update for the Water Treatment Plant.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to amend the Amendment to the Agreement with GHD for the Vulnerability Risk & Resiliency Assessment and Emergency Response Plan Update for the Water Treatment Plant and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

Vice-President Sean Steeg said the Water & Sewer Committee recommends a motion to approve the Application for Payment No. 2 to HRI in the amount of $39,600.22 for material purchased for the 4th Street CSO Project.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the Application for Payment No. 2 to HRI in the amount of $39,600.22 for material purchased for the 4th Street CSO Project and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

Executive Session was not called for.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to Old Business.

There was nothing reported under Old Business.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to New Business.

There was nothing reported under New Business.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to the President’s report.

President Johnathan Hyde thanked the Borough employee’s and all of the 1st Responders.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to the Chief of Police Report.

Chief of Police Jeff Buckley had nothing to report on.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to the Mayor’s report.

Mayor David Wessels thanked the front line workers during this hard time and COVID event.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to the Engineer’s report.

Engineer Ann Reynolds said the Chemical Bid was awarded in December 2020.

Engineer Ann Reynolds said we have received an extension of time on the Water Bulk Tank.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to the Solicitor’s report.

Solicitor Richard Wilson said he had nothing to report for this meeting but he would have business to discuss at the next Administrative Committee meeting.

**Jamie Roberts joined the meeting at 7:45 PM.**

President Johnathan Hyde welcomed Jamie Roberts to the meeting and asked if he had any comments for this meeting.

Jamie Roberts said he just wanted to participate in a Borough Council meeting. He said he has never been to one.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to the Borough Manager’s report.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said that we need to remind the resident’s on 4th Street and the Business’s on HRI starting this project in February 2021.

Councilman Terry Green asked if we could get a hold of Ned Craft to let him know.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said that the stabilization work will begin on the Blair House building on February 12, 2021 and will take 3 to 4 weeks to finish.

President Johnathan Hyde proceeded to Any other Business.

Councilman David Fortson said he wanted to thank the Huntingdon Police Department. David said he has heard from people on how they like the Police Officers and they are doing a great job.

Vice-President Sean Steeg asked about the Human Relations Commission Committee.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said he has contacted all but 2 people that was mentioned for this committee. Chris said that when he contact the other 2, then we will appoint.

After no further business, the Huntingdon Borough Council meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary