Huntingdon Borough Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

The Huntingdon Borough Council meeting was held by Webex Conference, in-person, virtually and placed on the Huntingdon Borough Facebook page, 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, Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown, Councilman James Bair, Councilman Terry Green, Mayor David Wessels, Chief of Police Jeff Buckley, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Members virtual were Vice-President Johnathan Hyde, Borough Engineer Ann Reynolds and Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson.

Huntingdon Borough Police Officers present were Corey Stuller and Chris Malliband.

Guest present were Kylie Young and Jay Brouse.

Guest virtual was Stacia-Fe Gillen.

President Johnathan Hyde welcomed the guest present and asked for their comments.

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

* Borough Council Meeting – January 19, 2021
* Water & Sewer Committee Meeting – February 4, 2021
* Community Development Committee Meeting – February 4, 2021
* Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee Meeting – February 4, 2021
* Maintenance Committee Meeting – February 9, 2021
* Public Safety Committee Meeting – February 9, 2021
* Administrative Committee Meeting – February 9, 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 the February 2021 bills.

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

President Johnathan Hyde called for a motion and second to approve the January 2021 Financial Statements for all borough accounts.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the January 2021 Financial Statements of 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 proceed in signing the Legal Service Agreement for a grant and loan for 169 Waterworks Avenue thru the United States Department of Agriculture for repairs and upgrades to the municipal building, repairs and upgrades to the maintenance building and the purchase of a municipal vehicle in the amount of $23,345.00.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Fortson to proceed in signing the Legal Service Agreement for a grant and loan for 169 Waterworks Avenue thru the United States Department of Agriculture for repairs and upgrades to the municipal building, repairs and upgrades to the maintenance building and the purchase of a municipal vehicle in the amount of $23,345.00 and second was made by Councilman Terry Green. Motion Carried.**

Councilman David Quarry said the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to proceed in signing the Legal Service Agreement for a grant and loan for 530 Washington Street thru the United States Department of Agriculture for repairs and upgrades to the municipal building, repairs and upgrades to the maintenance building and the purchase of a municipal vehicle in the amount of $80,386.79.

**A motion was made by Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown to proceed in signing the Legal Service Agreement for a grant and loan for 530 Washington Street thru the United States Department of Agriculture for repairs and upgrades to the municipal building, repairs and upgrades to the maintenance building and the purchase of a municipal vehicle in the amount of $80,386.79 and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

Councilman David Quarry said the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-05 for authorization of submittals for modification #2 of the 2017 Community Development Block Grant Contract C000069514.

**A motion was made by Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown to approve Resolution No. 2021-05 for authorization of submittals for modification #2 of the 2017 Community Development Block Grant Contract C000069514 and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

Councilman David Quarry said the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to appoint the following people to the Human Relations Commission, Attorney Ray Ghaner, Thomas Guisler, Ned Craft, Thomas Yoder, Tammy Stuber, Anthony Bullet and Adam Steele with term limits set by Ordinance No. 2019-962.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Fortson to appoint the following people to the Human Relations Commission, Attorney Ray Ghaner, Thomas Guisler, Ned Craft, Thomas Yoder, Tammy Stuber, Anthony Bullet and Adam Steele with term limits set by Ordinance No. 2019-962 and second was made by Councilman Terry Green. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Community Development Committee report.

Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown had nothing to report.

President Johnathan Hyde called for the Maintenance Committee report.

Councilman Terry Green said the Maintenance Committee recommends a motion to purchase a 2020 Chevy Silverado 2500 HD for $38,641.44, to replace the 1999 truck that will not pass inspection, to be paid for from the Water account.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to purchase a 2020 Chevy Silverado 2500 HD for $38,641.44, to replace the 1999 truck that will not pass inspection, to be paid for from the Water account and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

Councilman Terry Green said the Maintenance Committee recommends a motion to purchase a 2020 Chevy Silverado 3500 HD for $41,472.64, to replace the other 1999 truck , that is a limited amount of time before it will not pass inspection, to be paid for from the General, Water, Sewer and Recycling accounts.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to purchase a 2020 Chevy Silverado 3500 HD for $41,472.64, to replace the other 1999 truck that it is a limited amount of time before it will not pass inspection, to be paid for from the General, Water, Sewer and Recycling accounts and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

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

Councilman David Fortson had nothing to report.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Public Safety Committee report.

Councilman James Bair said the Public Safety Committee recommends a motion to purchase 3 speed control devices for $11,000.00, which will not cost the taxpayers, to be reimbursed back to the General Fund from the Huntingdon Police Foundation donations.

**A motion was made by Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown to purchase 3 speed control devices for $11,000.00, which will not cost the taxpayers, to be reimbursed back to the General Fund from the Huntingdon Police Foundation donations and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

Councilman James Bair said the Public Safety Committee recommends a motion to purchase Dash Cams for the Borough Police vehicles at an estimated cost of $40,000.00, which will not cost the taxpayers, to be reimbursed back to the General Fund from the Huntingdon Police Foundation donations.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to purchase Dash Cams for the Borough Police vehicles at an estimated cost of $40,000.00, which will not cost the taxpayers, to be reimbursed back to the General Fund from the Huntingdon Police Foundation donations and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

Councilman James Bair thanked the Police department for their work and dedication.

Councilman James Bair said the fire department had 27 calls in January 2021.

Councilman James Bair thanked the Ambulance and fire department.

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

Vice-President Sean Steeg said the 4th Street CSO project is finally underway. Sean said this was talked about in old business since he went on Borough Council in 2018.

Vice-President Sean Steeg said the Water & Sewer Committee recommends a motion to go with the quote from Stoltzfus Service Corporation in the amount of $11,450.00, for the inspection of the Methanol Tank at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Sean said this quote was for cleaning, complete check and inspection, repair and paint.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to go with the quote from Stoltzfus Service Corporation in the amount of $11,450.00, for the inspection of the Methanol Tank at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

Executive Session was not called for.

President Johnathan Hyde called for old business.

There was nothing reported under old business.

President Johnathan Hyde called for new business.

There was nothing reported under new business.

President Johnathan Hyde gave his President’s report.

President Johnathan Hyde thanked all the borough employees for the work they have been doing.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Chief of Police report.

Jeff Buckley said the speed control devices was not for enforcement, but to show the speed of travel. Jeff said these will be located in busy areas of the borough.

Jeff Buckley said the speed control devices and the Dash Cams will be paid for from private donations. Jeff said that in the future, he would like to thank the donor’s for their donations.

President Johnathan Hyde said that Huntingdon is lucky we have people that care.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Mayor’s report.

Mayor David Wessels said that he had done 2 weddings with the accessed fee,

Mayor David Wessels said that he has participated in Zoom meetings of different agencies. Mayor said at these meetings they wonder how the borough is doing and they are pleased with what is being done.

Mayor David Wessels said he knows that the community will see a lot more being done and he said he has seen Huntingdon grow this past year.

Mayor David Wessels thanked the Huntingdon Borough employees and the Huntingdon Community.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Engineer’s report.

Ann Reynolds had nothing to report on.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Solicitor’s report.

Richard Wilson had nothing to report on.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Borough Manager’s report.

Chris Stevens said the 4th Street CSO project had started on Monday, February 15, 2021 and from the Smithfield side of the bridge to Penn Street will be closed to traffic. Chris said that it will take a month to 5 weeks per block to be completed.

Chris Stevens said the reason HRI has started now is that PennDOT and HRI have other projects. Chris said that PennDOT will be working at Jackson’s Corner on Route 26, HRI will be working at 7th & Penn Street replacing the Bridge replacement and 9th & Moore Street Bridge replacement over Muddy Run which is a PennDOT project.

Chris Stevens said we are working on a timeline and we are doing everything we can to be un-intrusive as possible.

Councilman David Fortson asked how long will the water be shut off, that businesses were posted.

Chris Stevens said it should only be off at the most for 3 hours.

Vice-President Sean Steeg said that we had a public meeting with businesses on this already.

Chris Stevens said that the Blair House stabilization has started on Monday also. Chris said that the estimated time is 3-4 weeks on Penn Street and then this will go to the PennDOT legal team to assure that nothing will fall and then hope to open Penn Street.

President Johnathan Hyde asked Chris to update why this has taken so long.

Chris Stevens said the borough has done everything they can. Chris said that Solicitor Wilson did an excellent job on working with their attorneys. Chris said the Code Enforcement Officer has sited them.

Chris Stevens said that Solicitor Wilson had done a great job explaining and straighten out the Borough Escrow Ordinance with them and we have received an insurance check to hold until this is completed. He said this has help to get them started.

Chris Stevens said there were so many legal issues.

President Johnathan Hyde called for any other business.

Councilman James Bair asked Chris Stevens to explain on the 4th Street CSO project.

Chris Stevens said that by the time the Blair House stabilization is done on the Penn Street side that HRI should be across Penn Street.

Chris Stevens said the Muddy Run Bridge replace is to begin in May and HRI is to have completed within 36 days and then they will move to 9th & Moore Street.

Chris Stevens said that when 4th Street is out of the way, that the traffic can flow smoothly.

Chris Stevens said our paving for this year will be out of the way to cause no problems. Chris said we have the 500 block of Washington Street to pave this year.

After no further business, the Borough Council meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary