Huntingdon Borough Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

The Huntingdon Borough Council Meeting was held in the Borough Council room, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

The Huntingdon Borough Council meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Johnathan Hyde.

The Invocation was given by Mayor David Wessels.

The Pledge of Allegiance was presented by President Johnathan Hyde.

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Richard King.

The following were present for this meeting, President Johnathan Hyde, Vice-President Sean Steeg, Councilman David Quarry, Councilman David Fortson, Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown, Councilman James Bair, Councilman Terry Green, Mayor David Wessels, Engineer Ann Reynolds, Solicitor Richard Wilson, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Chief of Police Jeff Buckley was excused due to working.

President Johnathan Hyde welcomed the visitors that were present and asked for their comments.

Visitors present were Gary Cramer, Jennifer Clark, Jay Brouse, Kathy Jones, Kylie Young, Nicole Houck, and Madison Troha.

There were no comments made by the visitors present.

President Johnathan Hyde said we will have a presentation given by Mayor David Wessels at this time.

Mayor David Wessels presented Nicole Houck with her rocking chair.

Mayor David Wessel said that Nicole was his mentor and with her spirits and progress, she does the right thing for this borough. David said that Nicole was Council President from 2016 – 2019. David said her career path had changed and she now has her teaching certification and working on her second master’s degree.

A round of applause was given to Nicole Houck.

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

* Borough Council Meeting – March 16, 2021
* Water & Sewer Committee Meeting – April 1, 2021
* Community Development Committee Meeting – April 1, 2021
* Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee Meeting – April 1, 2021
* Maintenance Committee Meeting – April 6, 2021
* Public Safety Committee Meeting – April 6, 2021
* Administrative Committee Meeting – April 6, 2021

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to accept the above minutes and second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde called for a motion and second to approve the payment of the April 2021 bills.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the payment of the April 2021 bills and second was made by Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

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

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the March 2021 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 reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve the pledge of $8,500.00 per year for 5-years to Huntingdon Landmarks for a Main Street Managers position in Huntingdon Borough.

**A motion was made by Vice-President Sean Steeg to approve the pledge of $8,500.00 per year for 5-years to Huntingdon Landmarks for a Main Street Managers position in Huntingdon Borough and second was made by Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

Councilman David Quarry reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to authorize Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson to take the steps necessary to repeal Ordinance 643, Chapter 177, Section 177-16 on the specifications to remove section A pertaining to bricks in sidewalks.

(Section A. All sidewalks and curbs on both sides of Washington Street between Eighth Street and Fourth Street, on both sides of Fifth Street between Washington Street and Allegheny Street, and on both sides of Penn Street between Sixth Street and Fourth Street shall be constructed, reconstructed and repaired in a manner consistent with the sidewalks and curbs as those constructed between Eighth Street and Seventh Street on the North side of Washington Street. Every owner of property in this designated area shall follow the plans and specifications adopted from time to time by the Borough Council for construction of sidewalks and curbs.)

**A motion was made by Councilman David Fortson to authorize Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson to take the steps necessary to repeal Ordinance 643, Chapter 177, Section 177-16 on the specifications to remove section A pertaining to bricks in sidewalks and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

Councilman David Quarry reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to authorize Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson to take the steps necessary to repeal Ordinance 918, Section 7A, to remove numbers A1 and A2, pertaining to the snow emergency routes on vehicles parked on all borough streets, shall be moved to the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses the weekday following the issuance of the Official Snow Removal Alert, with no parking on the even-side of the street, and the second weekday, vehicles to be parked on the even-numbered addresses side with no parking on the odd-side.

(Section 7A – 1, All vehicles parked on all Borough streets shall be moved to the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses the weekday following the issuance of the Official Snow Removal Alert and no parking may be permitted on the even-side of all Borough streets from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. or until such time as plowing, salting and/or cindering has been completed.)

(Section 7A – 2, All vehicles parked on all Borough streets shall be moved to the side of the street with even-numbered addresses the weekday following the issuance of the Official Snow Removal Alert and no parking may be permitted on the odd-side of all Borough streets from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. or until such time as plowing, salting and/or cindering has been completed.)

**A motion was made by Vice-President Sean Steeg to authorize Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson to take the steps necessary to repeal Ordinance 918, Section 7A, to remove numbers A1 and A2, pertaining to the snow emergency routes on vehicles parked on all borough, shall be moved to the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses the weekday following the issuance of the Official Snow Removal alert, with no parking on the even-side of the street, and the second weekday, vehicles to be parked on the even-numbered addresses side with no parking on the odd-side and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Community Development Committee report.

Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown reported the Community Development Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-07 requesting a 2nd stage Keystone Community Grant of $125,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the construction of a community amphitheater on Flag Pole Hill, with Huntingdon Borough committing $5,000.00 as an in-kind match from borough force personnel and equipment towards this project for a project grand total of $130,000.00.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve Resolution No. 2021-07 requesting a 2nd stage Keystone Community Grant of $125,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the construction of a community amphitheater on Flag Pole Hill, with Huntingdon borough committing $5,000.00 as an in-kind match from borough force personnel and equipment towards this project for a project grand total of $130,000.00 and a second was made by Councilman David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown reported the Community Development Committee recommends a motion to sign the Community Development Block Grant Administrative Agreement between Huntingdon County & Huntingdon Borough for the FFY 2020 CDBG-CV in the amount of $69,001.00 to be given to the Center for Community Action for distribution.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens explained that this was extra CDBG COVID money and we agreed to have the Center for Community Action administer these funds for heat, rent etc.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to sign the Community Development Block Grant Administrative Agreement between Huntingdon County & Huntingdon Borough for the FFY 2020 CDBG-CV in the amount of $69,001.00 to be given to the Center for Community Action for distribution and second was made by Vice-President Sean Steeg. Motion Carried.**

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Maintenance Committee report.

Councilman Terry Green reported the Maintenance Committee recommends a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to sign the resolution of the PennDOT Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to authorize the Borough Manager to sign the resolution of the PennDOT Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

Councilman Terry Green reported the Maintenance Committee recommends a motion to accept the lowest bid of $167,057.00 from Grannas Bros. for the paving of Huntingdon Borough streets.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to accept the lowest bid of $167,057.00 from Grannas Bros. for the paving of Huntingdon Borough streets and second was made by Vice-President Sean Steeg. Motion Carried.**

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

Councilman David Fortson reported the Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee recommends a motion to accept the bid of $33,484.00 from Lawnscape LTD for the City League Baseball Field Fence Project.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said this money is money is remaining from the $125,000.00 grant and will not cost the taxpayers.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to accept the bid of $33,484.00 from Lawnscape LTD for the City League Baseball Field Fence Project and second was made by Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

Councilman David Fortson thanked the borough employees for the work they did at Weaver Park.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said that CMA Church was there to clean up Weaver Park.

Councilman David Fortson said that the Boy Scouts will be at Portstown Park to clean the area.

Councilman David Fortson said the Parks Commission did place mulch at Portstown Park and the Dog Park.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Public Safety Committee report.

Councilman James Bair thanked the Police Department, Fire Department and Ambulance Division for their work and dedication.

Councilman James Bair reported the Fire Department had 38 calls in March and 91 calls for Year to date.

Councilman James Bair thanked the Police Department for keeping the public safe.

Councilman James Bair said the streets will be blocked for Mayfest and the Fire Department will need to use Washington Street to get down thru town because of projects going on. Jim said that when you hear the whistle blow to do your best to clear the street.

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

Vice-President Sean Steeg reported the Water & Sewer Committee recommends a motion to approve the payment of Application No. 3 from HRI in the amount of $63,491.40 for work completed on the 4th Street CSO project.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the payment of Application No. 3 from HRI in the amount of $63,491.40 for work completed on the 4th Street CSO project and second was made by Councilman James Bair. Motion Carried.**

Vice-President Sean Steeg reported that Colten Neubauer had passed all of his necessary test for the water plant and should be commended.

Executive Session was not called for.

President Johnathan Hyde called for any old business.

There was nothing reported under old business.

President Johnathan Hyde called for any new business.

There was nothing reported under new business.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the President’s report.

President Johnathan Hyde reminded everyone that Mayfest was this Saturday, April 24th, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

President Johnathan Hyde thanked all of the borough employees for their hard work and dedication.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Mayor’s report.

Mayor David Wessels thanked all of the community for this past year during the pandemic and said we still need to be cautious, and be respectful to others.

Mayor David Wessels said this year Mayfest will be shorten by one block. David said we will have 3 stages of entertainment and fewer vendors.

Mayor David Wessels reminded again that if you hear the fire whistle, we need to maintain a 12 foot fire lane.

Mayor David Wessels thanked everyone for be patient with the traffic patterns in town and the fires we have had.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Engineer’s report.

Engineer Ann Reynolds reported that we have received the permit for the Soft Launch.

President Johnathan Hyde called on the Borough Solicitors report.

Solicitor Richard Wilson said he had nothing to report and said this is the first since last year that everyone was present.

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

Borough Manager Chris Stevens updated everyone on what had happened on Mifflin Street and said they should be back to one lane of travel on Friday.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens updated everyone on the Muddy Run Bridge replacement at 7th & Penn Street, saying they will start this project on Sunday, May 2nd and will be working 4 days 24 hours a day, 2 days at 12 hours a day and will not be working on Sunday’s. Chris said this project is to be completed by June 7th, then Penn Street should be open. Chris said on June 8th, they will be starting the Muddy Run Bridge replacement at 9th & Moore Street and this should be done before school opens up.

Vice-President as Chris to update everyone on the complete 4th Street CSO project.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said they are ahead of schedule on this project. Chris reminded everyone that this project and the Trickling Filter project cost the borough around five million dollars and we didn’t even have to raise taxes.

President Johnathan Hyde called on any other business.

Jay Brouse asked if the yard waste area was open?

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said it is open now, and Hollenbaugh is there Monday thru Friday all day, and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. until noon.

Gary Cramer asked if we were going to have police officers on duty during the Mayfest?

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said that Chief Buckley is bringing in an extra officer that day for the Mayfest.

After no further business, the Huntingdon Borough Council meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary