Huntingdon Borough Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

The Huntingdon Borough Water & Sewer Committee meeting was held in the Huntingdon Borough Council Room, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

Members present were Chairman James Bair, President Johnathan Hyde, Vice-President Sean Steeg, Councilman David Quarry, Councilman David Fortson, Councilman Terry Green, Mayor David Wessels, Acting Chief of Police Charles Streightiff, Code Enforcement Officer James Morris, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Guest present were Jennifer Clark, Gary Cramer, Linda Dearmitt and Dean Harris.

Chairman James Bair called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Chairman James Bair recognized the guest present and asked for their comments.

Gary Cramer said that we should have Juniata College security people out on the street when the students are changing classes.

Gary Cramer said that the Fire Department and Ambulance Division should slow down at the intersections before someone get hurt.

Chairman James Bair said this has been addressed and he will get with the Fire Department person in charge.

Chairman James Bair called on the Code Enforcement Officers report.

Code Enforcement Officer James Morris asked if there were any questions on his report.

Code Enforcement Officer James Morris updated everyone on the Blair House building by saying that everyone has received a copy of the engineers report. James said this report was not positive coming close to the winter months. James said he has contacted the owner and they will be signing a contract on September 15th and then there will be a 90 day planning review which will run into December.

Chairman James Bair said after reading the engineers report, it was not promising and if the roof doesn’t get done then there will be more damage. James said they are taking advantage of Huntingdon Borough.

Code Enforcement Officer James Morris said he is good with the timeline and they are working on the insurance from the second fire and keeping things separate.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said they need to supply the borough and PennDOT every 30 days with an engineer’s report.

Dean Harris ask what plans does the borough have if she walks away from this.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said we are holding $1.2 Million dollars in escrow if they walk away.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said that it has been over a year for water & sewer services so they will need to purchase another 58 EDU’s for water and 58 EDU’s for sewer.

Chairman James Bair said it is such an eyesore with the building and the fence around it.

Chairman James Bair asked the Code Enforcement Officer James Morris to update everyone on the Huntingdon Electric side.

Code Enforcement Officer James Morris said the insurance company has made an offer and the family is reviewing another outfit to either purchase the property or lease the property. James said they have a meeting coming up that they will discuss this to see if it is permissible or not to purchase or lease.

Chairman James Bair asked the Code Enforcement Officer James Morris to update everyone on the Food Truck Ordinance.

Code Enforcement Officer James Morris said this was discussed and he has changed some of the language in it.

Mayor David Wessels asked if we can make exceptions if we need them?

Chairman James Bair said that we can wave the fee for special events.

Vice-President Sean Steeg asked about a home application for food trucks and if this needs to go thru the Zoning Hearing Board?

Code Enforcement Officer James Morris explained the difference between a major home occupation and a minor home occupation.

Vice-President Sean Steeg said we will need to make changes to Chapter 27 of the ordinance.

Vice-President Sean Steeg said we need to bump this ordinance down to minor instead of major and having to go to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Vice-President Sean Steeg asked about the lighting on the food truck vehicles.

Code Enforcement Officer James Morris said they can have lights as long as it does not affect the residents or other vehicles at night.

Chairman James Bair asked the Code Enforcement Officer James Morris to update everyone on the Knox Box Ordinance.

Code Enforcement Officer James Morris said there needs to be more changes and corrections to this ordinance.

There was a discussion on the Knox Box Ordinance.

Chairman James Bair called on the Acting Chief of Police report.

Acting Chief of Police Charles Streightiff said he has updated everyone on line item #9 and #10 of his report.

Acting Chief of Police Charles Streightiff said that Officer Dishong and Officer Stetchock have completed the FTO and are now on their own shifts.

Acting Chief of Police Charles Streightiff said there were 15 Civil Service Applications that were picked up and only 8 have been returned. Charles said that one of these is already Act 120.

Acting Chief of Police Charles Streightiff said there will be more officers training done on becoming instructors.

Chairman James Bair called on the Mayor’s report.

Mayor David Wessels asked if everyone had looked at the Park Mobile Agreement and asked if there were any questions.

Mayor David Wessels said he will call the person and tell him we approve this and then we will test it on Washington Street.

Chairman James Bair called on the Borough Managers report.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens had nothing to report.

Chairman James Bair called on the Fire Companies report.

Chairman James Bair said the fire department had received 38 calls in August and the year to date calls was 269.

Chairman James Bair called on old business.

Chairman James Bair asked if everyone has looked at the Fireworks & Noise Ordinance?

There was a discussion on this and that sparklers should not be included, but should read aerial or projectiles.

Chairman James Bair called on new business.

Linda Dearmitt asked about here curb being painted yellow.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said that as soon as we can get the paint we will be doing the curbs.

Executive Session was not called for.

Chairman James Bair called on any other business.

There was nothing reported under any other business.

After no further business the Public Safety Committee meeting was adjourned at 5:13 PM.

Minutes submitted by,  
  
  
  
Richard S. King  
Borough Secretary