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

Guest present were Jennifer Clark, Joe Meyash, Joe Thompson, Tim Furlong, Jim Savory, Donna Lane, Clyde Lane, Deb Hickes, Patty Cox, Janice Moberg, Kathie Renninger, Debbie Higgins, Salli Hockenberry and Amy Jackson.

President James Bair called the Borough Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

President James Bair reported that we will include into the agenda, Resolution No. 2022-21 to apply for a Small Water & Sewer grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority in that amount of $521,600.00 to be used for water line replacement on Washington Street.

The invocation was given by Mayor Thomas Yoder.

The Pledge of Allegiance was presented by President James Bair.

Roll Call was taken by Borough Secretary Richard King and the following were present:

President James Bair, Vice-President David Fortson, Councilman David Quarry, Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown, Councilman Terry Green, Councilwoman Jennifer Powell, Borough Engineer Kevin Nester, Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson, Chief of Police Charles Streightiff, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Mayor Thomas Yoder said we have an elite group, Take Note, here to sing to us Christmas songs.

The group, Take Note, then sang three Christmas songs.

Mayor Thomas Yoder then presented the Sharon Gutshall Award.

Mayor Thomas Yoder said the Sharen L. Gutshall Outstanding Citizen of the Month Award for December 2022 is presented to Deb Hickes.

Mayor Thomas Yoder said Deb has been doing the planning and coordination for the Borough Christmas Tree Lighting for many years. Tom said she has amazing attention to detail, which makes this celebration a memorable one for our community, year after year and it’s a labor of love for her. Tom said she even strung the lights on the Christmas Tree this year.

Mayor Thomas Yoder said he can’t imagine the Tree Lighting without Deb at the helm.

Mayor Thomas Yoder then presented the Wanda Meyash Outstanding Citizen Award for 2022 is presented to Dr. James Savory.

Mayor Thomas Yoder said Jim has served many years on the Shade Tree Commission and could be seen planting, watering, or trimming a tree anywhere in the Borough at any given time. Tom said when you think of a shade tree, of course, you think of James Savory!

Mayor Thomas Yoder said that Jim’s office was next to his house for many years, and it didn’t take me exceptionally long to realize how much he cared for Huntingdon and this community. Tom said of course, if you had the opportunity to know Jim’s mother, Elaine, you could easily understand where his kind spirit and his passion for people came from.

Mayor Thomas Yoder said Jim has always been generous and supportive of Huntingdon Borough and we greatly appreciate that.

President James Bair recognized the guest present and ask for their comments.

There were no comments made by the guest present.

President James Bair called on the review and act on the minutes of the following meeting minutes:

* Borough Council Meeting – November 15, 2022
* Maintenance Committee Meeting – December 6, 2022
* Water & Sewer Committee Meeting – December 6, 2022
* Community Development Committee Meeting – December 6, 2022
* Public Safety Committee Meeting – December 6, 2022
* Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee Meeting – December 6, 2022
* Administrative Committee Meeting – December 6, 2022

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the minutes above and second was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair called on the approval of the December 2022 bills.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the payment of the December 2022 bills and second was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair called on the approval of the November 2022 Financial Statements of all borough accounts.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the November 2022 Financial Statements of all borough accounts and second was made by Councilwoman Jennifer Powell. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair called on the Committee reports.

President James Bair called on the Maintenance Committee report.

Chairman Terry Green reported the Maintenance Committee recommends a motion to accept the highest bidders for the following vehicles:

* 1995 Ford F-350 Dump Truck for $3,657.00
* 1999 Ford F-350 Pickup Truck for $1,502.00
* 2008 Ford F-150 Pickup Truck for $1,250.00
* 2011 Crown Victoria for $552.00

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to accept the highest bidders for the above vehicles and second was made by Councilwoman Jennifer Powell. Motion Carried.**

Chairman Terry Green reported the Maintenance Committee recommends a motion to approve the payment to Tel-power of $54,772.20 for the Penn Street Signal Modernization project.

Borough Engineer Kevin Nester said that this amount should be $49,294.98.

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Jennifer Powell to approve the payment of $49,294.98 to Tel-power for the Penn Street Signal Modernization project and second was made by Councilman David Quarry. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair called on the Water & Sewer Committee report.

Chairman David Quarry reported the Water & Sewer Committee recommends a motion to approve the following Chemical Bids for the Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Water Treatment Facility:

Wastewater Treatment Facility

* Univar for DelPAC 1525, 8,500 gallons $35,445.00
* Brenntag Northeast for Methanol, 30,000 gallons $61,200.00

Water Treatment Facility

* Univar for DelPAC 2020, 26,000 gallons $91,390.00

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown to approve the above chemical bids for the Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Water Treatment Facility and second was made by Vice-President David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

Chairman David Quarry reported the Water & Sewer Committee recommends a motion to purchase a 2022 F-250 Supercab Pickup Truck for the Wastewater Treatment Facility from Laurel Ford at a cost of $36,035.00.

**A motion was made by Vice-President David Fortson to approve the purchase of the 2022 F-250 Supercab Pickup Truck for the Wastewater Treatment Facility from Laurel Ford at a cost of $36,035.00 and second was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

Chairman David Quarry wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years.

President James Bair called on the Community Development Committee report.

President James Bair reported in place of Chairman Robert Jackson that the Community Development Committee recommends a motion to approve the plans for the Calvary Christian Academy.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the plans for the Calvary Christian Academy and second was made by Councilwoman Jennifer Powell. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair reported the Community Development Committee recommends a motion to sign the contract between the Huntingdon County Commissioners on behalf of Huntingdon Borough Council, Huntingdon Borough Council, First Presbyterian Church, Huntingdon County Landmarks and Balzer Family Clock Works for $194,370.00 for the Town Clock restoration.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to sign the contract between the Huntingdon County Commissioners on behalf of Huntingdon Borough Council, Huntingdon Borough Council, First Presbyterian Church, Huntingdon County Landmarks and Balzer Family Clock Works for $194,370.00 for the Town Clock restoration and second was made by Vice-President David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair called on the Public Safety Committee report.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown had nothing to report.

President James Bair called on the Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee report.

Chairman David Fortson reported the Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee recommends a motion to pay $8,226.00 from the General Fund for the playground equipment for Portstown Park. This amount is over and above the $60,100.00 from COVID money.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the payment of $8,226.00 from the General Fund for the playground equipment for Portstown Park and second was made by Councilwoman Jennifer Powell. Motion Carried.**

Chairman David Fortson reported the Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee recommends a motion to amend and approve the agreement with GHD to prepare structural and architectural drawings for the Amphitheatre on Flag Pole Hill and permitting not to exceed $25,000.00.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to amend and approve the agreement with GHD to prepare structural and architectural drawings for the Amphitheatre on Flag Pole Hill and permitting not to exceed $25,000.00 and second was made Councilwoman Jennifer Powell. Motion Carried.**

Chairman David Fortson wished everyone a safe and happy holidays.

President James Bair called on the Administrative Committee report.

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to go with the lowest electric bid of Freepoint at a cost of $0.08677 KWh.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to go with the lowest electric bid of Freepoint at a cost of $0.08677 kWh and second was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to increase the hourly rate of the part-time dispatchers from $12.00 to $13.25.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to increase the hourly rate of the part-time dispatchers from $12.00 to $13.25 and second was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve the 2023 Huntingdon Borough Budget.

**A motion was made by Vice-President David Fortson to approve the 2023 Huntingdon Borough Budget and second was made by Councilman David Quarry. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-977 fixing and levying the tax rate for the fiscal year commencing on January 1, 2023 for fire purposes of 2 mills and General Borough purposes of 18 mills.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve Ordinance No. 2022-977 fixing and levying the tax rate for the fiscal year commencing on January 1, 2023 for fire purposes of 2 mills and General Borough purposes of 18 mills and second was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-978 amending the Borough’s Taxation Ordinance pertaining to the effect of failure to receive Real Estate Tax Notices, pursuant to Act 57 of 2022; repealing prior inconsistent ordinances and parts of ordinances; providing for severability clause; and containing and effective date.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve Ordinance No. 2022-978 amending the Borough’s Taxation Ordinance pertaining to the effect of failure to receive Real Estate Tax Notices, pursuant to Act 57 of 2022; repealing prior inconsistent ordinances and parts of ordinances; providing for severability clause; and containing an effective date and second was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-979 amending Chapter 15, Section 15-907 of the code of the Borough of Huntingdon to designate a stop intersection at the intersection of 2nd Street and Allegheny Street, and designate a portion of Allegheny Street as a two-way street.

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown to approve Ordinance No. 2022-979 amending Chapter 15, Section 15-907 of the code of the Borough of Huntingdon to designate a stop intersection at the intersection of 2nd Street and Allegheny Street, and designate a portion of Allegheny Street as a two-way street and second was made by Councilman David Quarry. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-19 for the schedule of fees to be charged for various licenses, permits, and services to be effective January 1, 2023.

**A motion was made by Vice-President David Fortson to approve Resolution No. 2022-19 for the schedule of fees to be charged for various licenses, permits, and services to be effective January 1, 2023 and second was made by Councilwoman Jennifer Powell. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-20 to apply for a H20 grant of $1,270,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Infrastructure repair.

**A motion was made by Vice-President David Fortson to approve Resolution No. 2022-20 to approve Resolution No. 2022-20 to apply for a H2O grant of $1,270,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Infrastructure repair and second was made by Councilman David Quarry. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-21 to apply for a Small Water & Sewer grant in the amount of $521,600.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for water line replacement on Washington Street.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve Resolution No. 2022-21 to apply for a Small Water & Sewer grant in the amount of $521,600.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for water line replacement on Washington Street and second was made by Councilwoman Jennifer Powell. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve the Administrative appointments for the 2023 year of:

* Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson
* Borough Engineer Kevin Nester, GHD
* Borough Treasurer Cheryl Shope
* Borough Manager Chris Stevens
* Borough Secretary Richard King
* Borough Code Enforcement Officer James Morris
* Borough Zoning Officer James Morris
* Borough Right to Know Officer James Morris
* Borough Vacancy Board James Grace
* Borough EMA Director / Coordinator Shaun Magill
* Cemetery Superintendent Travis Gutshall
* Depository of borough funds Mid Penn Bank and First National Bank

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Jennifer Powell to approve the Administrative appointments above for the 2023 year and second was made by Councilman David Quarry. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve the committee appointment or reappointment of:

* Civil Service Commission Daniel Varner
* Human Relations Commission Attorney Ray Ghaner
* Human Relations Commission Tammy Stuber
* Human Relations Commission Alternate Thomas Yoder
* Planning Commission Karl Lang
* Tree Commission Matt Powell
* Tree Commission Jack Barlow
* Water & Sewer Authority John Kenyon

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown to approve the appointments or reappointments of the above committees and second was made by Councilman David Quarry. Motion Carried.**

**Executive Session was called at 7:33 PM for Personnel and/or Litigation.**

**Executive Session ended at 7:45 PM with the following action.**

* **To remove Officer Izac Benson from Probationary Status to full Civil Service Status within Huntingdon Borough.**

President James Bair called on Old Business.

There was nothing reported under old business.

President James Bair called on New Business.

There was nothing reported under old business.

President James Bair called on the President’s report.

James Bair thanked the Police Department, Fire Department and Ambulance Division for the job they are doing.

James Bair thanked all borough employee’s for the job they are doing.

James Bair wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years.

President James Bair called on the Chief of Police report.

Charles Streightiff reported we had received a PCCD grant of $285,357.00, in which he applied for a $1,000,000.00 grant. Charles said this was consistent with our size.

Charles Streightiff said that he and Chris Stevens will be looking at reconfiguring the budget with this grant.

Charles Streightiff reported that on the Police Departments Facebook page, they will be doing a Santa report, Christmas Eve at 8:00 PM.

Vice-President David Fortson ask Chief of Police Charles Streightiff why we do not put information in the police log of the newspaper.

Chief of Police Charles Streightiff said that there are things that if placed in the daily newspaper would interfere with their investigation.

Chief of Police Charles Streightiff said that if it is for safety or necessary, this will be placed in the newspaper.

President James Bair called on the Mayor’s report.

Thomas Yoder said he tries to have lunch at the Senior Center at least once a week and said what a wonderful group of people, that it lifts his spirits every time he is there. Tom said if you are over 60 you should give it a try.

Thomas Yoder said that Adam Steel has made some amazing improvements to the Borough’s website, that it is much more user friendly for our citizens as well as visitors to our community. Tom said it promotes Discover Downtown Huntingdon and other important features of the Borough. Tom said that the interactive map of the business district will be included soon.

Thomas Yoder said he continues to attend the Huntingdon Landmarks and HCB&I Board meetings.

Thomas Yoder said he is a member of the Visitors Bureau, Marketing committee. Tom said we are currently putting the final touches on the 2023 Visitors Guide, which will have feature stories on Discover Downtown Huntingdon.

Thomas Yoder reported that Chris Stevens and he met with Dr. Troha from Juniata College, that it is important to have a strong relationship with them.

Thomas Yoder reported that we have been working with KISH Bank, who purchased the former FNB Office at 14th & Moore Street. Tom said there is a stipulation in the deed that another bank cannot open at this location for 5-years.

Thomas Yoder said on a happier note, KISH decorated the building for Christmas even though it is vacant right now.

President James Bair called on the Borough Engineer’s report.

Kevin Nester thanked Borough Council for reappointing GHD and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years.

President James Bair called on the Borough Solicitor’s report.

Richard Wilson thanked Borough Council for reappointing him and said that he is proud to continue to serve this council and live in this borough.

President James Bair called on the Borough Manager’s report.

Chris Stevens thanked Borough Council, Mayor Thomas Yoder and Solicitor Richard Wilson for working with him and making things go smoothly.

Chris Stevens said that the Merchants are happy now.

Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown said we need to thank you for your help and support.

President James Bair thanked Chris and said you have saved this community a bunch of money.

President James Bair called on Any Other Business.

Vice-President David Fortson said there are 5 members that are not Council members that without them this council would be lost and thanked them for their support.

Vice-President David Fortson said it is amazing how this Borough Council has turned around and appreciates everyone.

Vice-President David Fortson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years.

Councilman David Quarry thanked the 5 members and said we need to thank the supervisors also.

Councilman David Quarry wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years.

After no further business, the Borough Council meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary