**Huntingdon Borough Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, May 16, 2023**

The Huntingdon Borough Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President James Bair.

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.

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

Guest present were Gary Cramer, Jennifer Clark, Marsha Kyper, Joe Thompson and Tim Furlong.

President James Bair called on the Amphitheatre Bid Openings.

The following bids were received:

 Hickes Associates, Inc. $159,516.00
 KLA Roofing & Construction $156,000.00
 HRI, Inc. $181,719.00
 RC Bowman $205,776.00
 John C. Yenter Associates, Inc. $215,292.00

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to accept the lowest bid of KLA Roofing & Construction of $156,000.00 after they are reviewed by the Borough Engineer and Borough Solicitor and second was made by Vice-President David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair called on the Mayor to present the Sharon L. Gutshall award.

Thomas Yoder said the Sharon L. Gutshall Outstanding Citizen of the Month Award for May 2023 is presented to Marsha Kyper.

Thomas Yoder said that shortly after he became Mayor, Marsha approached him about doing volunteer work for the borough.

Thomas Yoder said that Marsha is currently refreshing the murals on the trestles at Portstown Park. But of course, it didn’t stop at that, Marsha and her husband Jim have done power-washing and general clean-up at the park. Thomas said Marsha picks litter up all over town and has cleaned leaves and debris up at an abandoned property.

Thomas Yoder said that Marsha volunteered to help with Mayfest on that cold, damp morning a few weeks ago.

Thomas Yoder said thank you Marsha, for your willingness to give back to your community and for your dedicated service to Huntingdon Borough.

Thomas Yoder ask Marsha to speak on her projects.

Marsha Kyper went over the projected work on the trestles, and said it should be completed in June. Marsha showed pictures on her phone that she had taken.

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 meetings:

* Borough Council Meeting – April 18, 2023
* Maintenance Committee Meeting – May 2, 2023
* Water & Sewer Committee Meeting – May 2, 2023
* Community Development Committee Meeting – May 2, 2023
* Public Safety Committee Meeting – May 2, 2023
* Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee Meeting – May 2, 2023
* Administrative Committee Meeting – May 2, 2023

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the above minutes and second was made by Vice-President David Fortson. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair called on the approval of payment of May 2023 bills.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the payment of the May 2023 bills and second was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair called on the approval of the April 2023 Financial Statements for all borough accounts.

**A motion was made by Councilman David Quarry to approve the April 2023 Financial Statements for all borough accounts and second was made by Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair then proceeded to the committee reports.

President James Bair called on the Maintenance Committee report.

Chairman Terry Green had nothing to report on.

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

Chairman David Quarry reported the Huntingdon Borough Water & Sewer Authority will hold a special workshop meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 5:30 PM to discuss a water and sewer rate increase.

Chairman David Quarry said it was 10 years ago that the rates were increased.

President James Bair said that water and sewer increases should have been done years ago with the prices of things going up in cost. James said the funds are getting low in the accounts.

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 had nothing to report.

President James Bair called on the Community Development Committee report.

There was nothing reported.

President James Bair called on the Administrative Committee report.

Chairman James Bair said he had nothing to report.

**Executive Session was called for at 7:19 PM to discuss contract issues.**

**Executive Session ended at 7:56 PM with the following information.**

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said the Executive Session was for contract issues between the Huntingdon Area School Board and the Borough. Chris said that there will be more discussion on contract with the school board.

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 new business.

President James Bair called on the President’s report.

James Bair said he wanted to thank all the employee’s for the excellent job they are doing. James said they are going above and beyond their expectations. James said the police department are always making Huntingdon Borough a safe place to live and visit.

President James Bair called on the Chief of Police report.

Charles Streightiff said the Local Law Enforcement Grant funds have been released.

Charles Streightiff reported on the M. H. Deforrest Memorial Scholarships and said they did not pick one last year so there will be 2 scholarship presented this month.

Charles Streightiff then said he had a Huntingdon Borough Police Department commendation letter that he would like to read.

*As we conclude the 2023 National Police Week, we take the opportunity to recognize the Officers of the Huntingdon Borough Police Department.*

*Let this letter serve as a formal commendation for the Officers of the Huntingdon Borough Police Department on their dedication and commitment to the Police Department and the Huntingdon community. The Officers of the Huntingdon Borough Police Department sacrifice many hours away from their families and homes, so that those within this community can feel safe and secure in their daily lives.*

*We formally recognize:*

*Cpl. Funk, CPL Franks, Cpl. McCready, Detective Kagarise, Detective Border, Officer McBride, Officer Stuller, Officer Stetchock, Officer Benson, Officer Pheasant, Officer Conrad and K9 Tony.*

*Thank you for your exceptional service.*

*Charles T. Streightiff*

*Charles T. Streightiff
Chief of Police*

President James Bair called on the Mayor’s report.

Thomas Yoder said that Mayfest was a great success for Downtown Huntingdon even though it started out cold and misty. Thomas said that we are looking forward to future events downtown.

Thomas Yoder said the WTAJ Skynet skycam will be located on the roof of Penn Highlands Hospital featuring a fantastic view of the Borough, including Juniata College. Thomas said he would like to thank John and Angie Thompson for sponsoring the skycam.

Thomas Yoder said he spoke at the Huntingdon Rotary Club on current Borough projects and there are many.

Thomas Yoder said that Jay Shuck did the preliminary video work on the 911 center, which will be featured on the Borough webpage in the very near future.

Thomas Yoder said he had a meeting with the chairperson of the Blair Park and Roads Commission and they will be attending the Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee meeting in June.

Thomas Yoder said the Downtown Merchants continue to meet on the first Thursday of the month. They have a very active group committed to making a difference downtown.

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

Kevin Nester said he had nothing new to report on.

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

Richard Wilson said he had nothing to report on that he would save it for the Administrative Committee meeting next month.

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

Chris Stevens said on May 31, 2023 at 5:30 PM, there will be a public hearing on the CDBG FFY2023.

Chris Stevens said the county will award the bid on the 6th Street Parking Lot and Notice to Proceed on Tuesday, May 23, 2023.

Chris Stevens said the Isett Community Swimming Pool will open on May 27, 2023.

Chris Stevens said he wanted to thank David Fortson for his help at the pool.

President James Bair called on any other business.

Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown said the Gateway Garden will start tomorrow planting flowers.

President James Bair said he wanted to thank Dee Dee Brown and Perry Keller for everything they have done at the flower garden and other areas.

After no further business, the Borough Council meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary