**Huntingdon Borough Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 16, 2024**

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

Guest present were Joe Meyash, Larry Strait, Andy Cipar, Sue Cipar and Joe Thompson.

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

Mayor Thomas Yoder gave the invocation.

President James Bair presented the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by Borough Secretary Richard King and the following members were present, President James Bair, Vice-President David Fortson, Councilman Robert Jackson, Councilman David Wessels, Councilwoman DeeDee Brown, Councilman Terry Green, Councilwoman Jennifer Powell, Borough Engineer Andy Glitzer, Mayor Thomas Yoder, Chief of Police Charles Streightiff, Borough Manager Chris Stevens, and Borough Secretary Richard King.

President James Bair called on the mayor to present the Sharen L. Gutshall Award.

Thomas Yoder reported that the Sharen L. Gutshall Outstanding Citizen of the Month Award for January 2024 is presented to Larry Strait.

Thomas Yoder said that Larry has worked tirelessly over the years for those in need in our community.

Thomas Yoder said he is endlessly doing fund raising projects, cooking, making hoagies, or providing transportation to support our senior citizens, those who are underprivileged, and those faced with catastrophic emergencies.

Thomas Yoder said Larry, thank you for your outstanding service to the people of Huntingdon Borough; your willingness to serve is commendable.

President James Bair then asked the mayor to present the Wanda Meyash Award.

Thomas Yoder reported the Wanda Meyash Outstanding Citizen Award for 2023 is presented to the Cipar Family, Susan, Andrew, and their family.

Thomas Yoder said the Cipar family has been a longtime supporter of Huntingdon Borough, beginning with Stan and Susan and continuing with their children.

Thomas Yoder said recently, they again showed their support for the Amphitheater project on Flagpole Hill.

Thomas Yoder said the Cipar family has always been generous and supportive of Huntingdon Borough, and we greatly appreciate that.

Thomas Yoder said thank you for your outstanding service to Huntingdon. Your family has made a difference in our community.

President James Bair said we will now review and act on the minutes of the following meeting:

* Borough Council Meeting – December 19, 2023
* Reorganizational Meeting – January 2, 2024
* Maintenance Committee Meeting – January 9, 2024
* Water & Sewer Committee Meeting – January 9, 2024
* Community Development Committee Meeting – January 9, 2024
* Public Safety Committee Meeting – January 9, 2024
* Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee Meeting – January 9, 2024

**Motion was made by Councilwoman DeeDee Brown to approve the above meetings, and second was made by Councilman Robert Jackson. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair said we will now approve the payments of January 2024 bills.

**Motion was made by Vice-President David Fortson to approve the payments of January 2024 bills, and second was made by Councilman David Wessels. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair said we will now approve the December 2023 Financial Statements for all borough accounts.

**Motion was made by Vice-President David Fortson to approve the December 2023 Financial Statements for all borough accounts, and second was made by Councilman Robert Jackson. Motion Carried.**

President James Bair called on the committee reports.

President James Bair called on the Maintenance Committee report.

Chairman Terry Green said he had nothing to report on.

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

Chairman Robert Jackson said the Huntingdon Borough Water & Sewer Authority will be meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 5:30 PM in the Borough Conference Room.

President James Bair called on the Community Development Committee report.

Chairwoman Jennifer Powell said she had nothing to report on.

President James Bair called on the Public Safety Committee report.

Chairwoman DeeDee Brown reported the Public Safety Committee recommends a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2024-985, to amend Section 15-903 of the Code of the Borough of Huntingdon to designate and confirm Fifteenth Street from Mifflin to Oneida Street as a one-way street.

**Motion was made by Councilman Robert Jackson to approve Ordinance No. 2024-985, to amend Section 15-903 of the Code of the Borough of Huntingdon to designate and confirm Fifteenth Street from Mifflin to Oneida Street as a one-way street and second was made by Councilman Terry Green.**

President James Bair said we will now have a roll call vote.

Borough Secretary Richard King then took the roll call vote.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens reported that a NO vote is to keep the streets two-way, and a YES vote is to approve the ordinance and make it one-way streets.

Borough Secretary Richard King then proceeded to take a roll call vote.

 President James Bair No

 Vice-President David Fortson Yes

 Councilman Robert Jackson No

 Councilman David Wessels No

 Councilwoman DeeDee Brown No

 Councilman Terry Green Yes

 Councilwoman Jennifer Powell Yes

Borough Secretary Richard King reported there were 3 Yes votes and 4 No votes, and majority rules, so the streets will be two-way.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said we are working on a traffic count study, speed study, and pedestrian study.

Chairwoman DeeDee Brown reported the Public Safety Committee recommends a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2024-986, amending Chapter 15, Section 15-907 of the Code of the Borough of Huntingdon to designate a stop intersection on Arbor Bluff Drive and the placement of stop signs at the following intersections: Arbor Bluff Drive and Autumn Wood Drive.

**Motion was made by Councilman Robert Jackson to approve Ordinance No. 2024-986**. **amending Chapter 15, Section 15-907 of the Code of the Borough of Huntingdon to designate a stop intersection on Arbor Bluff Drive and the placement of stop signs at the following intersections: Arbor Bluff Drive and Autumn Wood Drive and second was made by Councilman David Wessels. Motion Carried.**

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

Chairman David Fortson said he had nothing to report.

President James Bair called on the Administrative Committee report.

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to allow the Huntingdon County Courthouse to use the Borough Council Room for Jury Trials while renovations are being done.

**Motion was made by Councilman David Wessels to allow the Huntingdon County Courthouse to use the Borough Council Room for Jury Trials while renovations are being done and second was made by Councilwoman Jennifer Powell. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-01, naming John Chris Stevens as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the non-uniform pension plan.

**Motion was made by Councilman David Wessels to approve Resolution No. 2024-01, naming John Chris Stevens as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the non-uniform pension plan and second was made by Councilwoman DeeDee Brown. Motion Carried.**

Chairman James Bair reported the Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-02, naming John Chris Stevens as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the police pension plan.

**Motion was made by Councilman Robert Jackson to approve Resolution No. 2024-02, naming John Chris Stevens as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the police pension plan and second was made by Councilman Robert Jackson. Motion Carried.**

Executive Session was not called for.

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 recognized all the borough employees, borough police, first responders, fire department and ambulance division for the work they are doing.

President James Bair called on the mayor’s report.

Thomas Yoder said the borough has received many positive comments on the new white Edison lights that were hung across Washington Street downtown. The borough maintenance department installed them when they took the Christmas lights down.

Thomas Yoder said that the Borough Council held its reorganizational meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Councilman Wessels was sworn in at this time.

Thomas Yoder said that Jana Weaver, president of the Merchants Association, is the new borough events coordinator. Thomas said she has a lot of experience in this area and is a great organizer.

Thomas Yoder said that Joe Thompson, from the Daily News, and Jay Shuck are working on informational articles and videos to support ParkMobile, the borough’s online program for parking payments.

Thomas Yoder said the borough met with Matt Bjorkman, the Transportation Program Manager from the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, concerning the Moore Street corridor, and especially the 14th Street intersection. Thomas said that he will begin with traffic counts.

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

Andy Glitzer said he had nothing new to report on.

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

Chris Stevens said that Merrilees will be starting on the traffic signal modernization on January 29, 2024. Chris said their bid for this was over $500,000 and the Green Light Go grants was $256,000 and we will be using Liquid Fuels money to finish the project.

President James Bair called on any other business.

President James Bair reported the committee meetings will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, starting at 2:00 PM and the Borough Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

After no further business, the Borough Council meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary