

HULMEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Hulmeville Borough Council was held on the above date via Zoom. This meeting was advertised in the Courier Times, notice was posted at the Borough Hall and on the Borough website.

Roll call was taken by Mr. Wheeler

Councilmembers Present

Thomas Wheeler, President
Dan Mandolesi, Vice President
Mayor Debbie Mahon
Doug Harris
Nicholas Toth
Doug Edge
Judy Coleman

Staff in Attendance

Solicitor Robert DeBias
Chief Baran
Water & Sewer President Kurt Ludwig
Secretary Dorothy Omietanski
Treasurer Diane McKairnes
Fire Marshall William Wheeler
Amanda Fuller, Borough Engineer

Councilmembers Absent: none

Councilmembers Late to Arrive: Nick Lodise

Staff Absent: none

Guests in Attendance: Marce Heald and Tricia Boyle

Call to Order: Mr. Wheeler called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Wheeler Stated:

We are holding this meeting by zoom pursuant to Senate Bill SB814, passed as Act 15 of 2020 as a result of the Emergency Declaration issued by Governor Wolf and the stay at home and shelter in place orders that have been issued by Governor Wolf. This meeting was advertised in the Courier Times and notice was posted at the Borough Hall and on the Borough Website. This meeting is being recorded and will be placed on the Borough Website. A draft of the minutes will promptly be placed on the website as well.

Minutes:

Motion made by Mr. Harris seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to approve the minutes of October 5 & 20, 2020; Motion Passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

Mayors Statement:

As Hulmeville Borough continues to honor the guidelines from the Bucks County Department of Health with staying in the Green Phase, I was humbled by the respect our recent trick-or-treaters gave to one another. Although not everyone had on masks, social distancing was followed.

With the holidays fast approaching, I encourage everyone to make the tough decisions that will help to keep your family and friends safe and secure. I wish everyone a safe & Happy Thanksgiving!

Nick Lodise arrived at 7:37pm

Public Comment: none

Police Report:

- The police report was submitted for the month of October 2020: 30 incident reports, 3 accident reports, 8 assist, 1 EMS call, 4 summary citations, 34 traffic citations, 1 criminal arrests, 1 parking, 16 hours district court and 0-hour county court or total hours worked: 244, Total Salary \$6,127.50.
- Clothing Allowance – The Mayor reminded council that the police officers clothing allowance has been increased to \$225 per person.
- Drug Take Back Day – The Drug Take Back Day took place on 10/24 and this time it was a drive by drop off event. The police department collected 22.72 lbs. of medication, which was a little lower than the last event, however the most collected in the county.
- National Night Out – Turnout was low this year for National Night Out.
- Election Day – Chief Baran will be on duty during Election Day, and the Constable will be at the poll booth. Everyone will be allowed to vote regardless as to whether they are wearing masks. Mayor Mahon will also be present for most of the day, and can assist if there are any issues.
- T Shirt Sale – The money to fund the t-shirt sale is coming out of the Borough's account, and will be paid back as shirts are sold. The sales from each shirt will be used to cover the cost of the shirts and the balance to pay for community events. Both Ms. McKairnes and Chief Baran need to keep track of the additional money collected.

Mayors Report:

- Playground Signs – Mayor Mahon reminded council that Covid-19 related signs are still needed for the playground
- Playground Cleanup – Mayor Mahon recommended that council schedule for clean-ups of the playground into 2021. Volunteers are needed to take this task on.
- 150th Celebration Plans – The 150th Celebration planning is moving forward. As mentioned, anyone interested is welcome to reach out to the Mayor and she will point them in the right direction of what committee is in need of help. Mayor Mahon would like to schedule a zoom meeting for November 19th at 7:30.

- Holiday Gathering – Mayor Mahon informed council that Alex the owner of Johnson Hall Coffee House did offer his building again this year for the Holiday party. Mayor Mahon suggested in order to maintain a safe environment council could use the pavilion or her yard to host a holiday gathering this year. She will send out an email and ask what everyone prefers and report back.
- Food Delivery – Mayor Mahon knows a person who receives food delivery to their home and will be away for a few weeks. They are looking for someone in need who may like to have the delivery. If anyone has a suggestion please let her know.

Emergency Management Coordinator:

- Election Day – Emergency Management is on standby if any issues should arise on Election Day. A disinfectant team is also available if needed.
- RDA Grants – Mr. DeBias will request payment from the RDA in the amounts of \$37,238.36 for police equipment and \$4,445.88 for emergency management equipment.

Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi and seconded by Mr. Lodise to approve the requests for payment from the RDA for the amounts of \$37,238.36 for police equipment and \$4,445.88 for emergency management equipment; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.

Fire Marshal:

- Open Burn Ordinance – Fire Marshal Wheeler distributed through email the modifications to the Open Burn Ordinance. Council can either choose to modify the original or repeal the whole ordinance or enact a new one. Council agreed to rewrite the whole ordinance. Mr. Wheeler will work on creating a whole new ordinance and will present it at the December meeting for advertising.

Authority:

- Grout Repairs – All but one grout repair have been completed
- BCWSA Rates – There will be no rate increase from BCWSA this coming year.
- Sewer Flow Rates – The sewer flow rates are still low.

Borough Property:

- Law Suit – The Borough insurance company is taking the Borough tenant to court for the toilet overflow water damage claim. They are requesting that a representative of Borough Council attend the court case. Mr. Mandolesi offered to be the representative for the Borough. Before the court date Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Harris, Mr. DeBias and Mr. Mandolesi will meet to review the incident.

Trash: no report

Lights: Still one light out at Fairview and Walnut.

Streets:

- Potholes – Mr. Lodise has been having a difficult time getting companies to provide an estimate for repairing the streets in the Borough. Gilmore and Assoc offered to assist. Mr. Lodise will reach out to Gilmore for a list of recommended companies.
- Street Signs – Mr. Lodise informed council that another street sign for Park Ave. has been taken.

Personnel:

- Zoning Officer – Judy Buchhofer has decided to resign from the zoning officer position. She will stay in the position until the Borough can find her replacement.

Finance:

- Budget 2021 – The budget needs to be approved for advertising.

Motion made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to advertise the budget for adoption at the December meeting; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.

- Credit Cards – Mr. Harris is still finalizing the credit cards.

Planning:

- 111 Green St – The engineer working for the owner of 111 Green Street is looking for a signature block. Ms. Omietanski forwarded to Mr. Wheeler the email she received regarding the request and Mr. Wheeler will follow up regarding the matter.

Storm Water Committee Meeting: no report

MS4:

- News Letter – The winter 2020 newsletter is in the planning stages
- Reimbursement – Mayor Mahon is submitting a reimbursement request for \$499.99 for the purchase of trees for the November 14th tree planting being held at the Borough pavilion. Mayor Mahon proposed to start the event at 10:00 am and suggested having the holes dug prior to the event. The plantings are incorporating memorials for Harriet Black (Summer flowering Stewartia), Alma Reetz (Spring flowering Japanese Snowbell), and Ferd Reetz (Silver King Sweet Gum). Anyone planning on attending please let the Mayor know by November 9th. Mayor Mahon also asked Marce if she could reach out to the Black family to invite them to the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Coleman along with Mr. Mandolesi and Mr. Wheeler will assist Mayor Mahon in digging the holes on 11/11/20 at 4pm.

TMDL / BMP's: Permit years 2018-2022 – DEP will be doing their permit inspections. Samantha Brinker from Gilmore and Associates will keep us informed of that inspection. Due to Covid-19, this has been postponed.

- TMDL No 1: encouraged riparian forest buffers for all residents along the creek
- TMDL No 2: conduct site inspections to encourage storm water control measures
- TMDL No 3: installation of 2 deciduous trees in open space or within the borough proper
- TMDL No 4: reduce infiltration
- TMDL No 5: modify basins for increased infiltration reduction
- TMDL No 7: encouraged home owners to install rain barrels
- TMDL No 8: additional provisions:
 - Continued with the 4 leaf pick-ups through the fall/winter season
 - Sump Pump inspection enforcement
 - Decide on sediment reduction project
 - Lawn and garden pick up 4/1-12/1 weekly

Floodplain:

- Open Space Margareta Ave - The properties along Margareta Avenue have reached out in regard to dead limbs in trees, dead trees and standing water within the Open Space areas that surround their properties. The county was contacted, via email on June 17, 2020, but has not yet replied.
- Property Inspections – All floodplain property inspections are on hold due to the possible hiring of Gilmore and Associates as the Floodplain Coordinator. The Storm Water Committee is recommending hiring Gilmore & Associates as Hulmeville Borough's MS4 Coordinator/Flood Plain Administrator effective December 1, 2020. Mayor Mahon emailed council a proposal from Gilmore & Assoc. for the professional services they would provide if offered the position. The cost of their services should not exceed \$10,000 per year. They will charge the Borough for these services on the current hourly rate for Gilmore. Any issues that arise will go through the Borough and be copied to both Mayor Mahon and Gilmore and Assoc. for resolution. Gilmore will invoice on a monthly basis depending on the work load.

Motion made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Mr. Edge to hire Gilmore and Assoc as the MS4 Coordinator and Floodplain Administrator starting on 12/1/20 at a rate set forth by Gilmore and Assoc annually; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.

Storm Water:

- Storm Drains – The Storm Water Committee recommended FRANCO Environmental for the storm drain cleaning project at a cost of \$16,440.00. This approval is pending confirmation that FRANCE can achieve all the needed traffic control measures to complete the work. After much discussion and review of the three bids collected, council decided that it needs more information on added costs for Pipe Data View Services, the lowest bid submitted for the project before being able to make a final decision. Mr. Wheeler will call Leck and inquire on a price for renting dumpsters to remove an estimated 8 tons of waste. Mr. Ludwig confirmed that if they use water at the fire house it would be used at a cost of \$5/1,000 gallons. Gilmore and Assoc will reach out to Pipe

Data and ask if they can utilize dumpsters if placed at the firehouse, and use the water from a hydrant behind the firehouse. Mayor Mahon will talk to the police department and discuss if traffic control on Trenton Rd could be provided from them for this project. The vote was postponed until 11/17 when council has information on the costs of the additional items so they can determine which company will be the best choice.

- Updated Data Base – Mayor Mahon appreciates any updates and contact information for new residents that have moved into our town in that storm water affects all residents and not just those who live in floodplain.
- McCarthy Ave – Mr. Young on McCarthy Ave contacted Tina Davis’ office, again, with his sincere concern with stormwater issues that affect not just his property, but his home. Council needs to schedule a follow up meeting with Gilmore and Assoc to discuss findings from the Hulmeville Water Authority’s report.

Zoning: no report

Solicitor:

- December Meeting – The meetings for December need to be advertised if council plans to continue on Zoom.

Motion made by Mr. Lodise and seconded by Mr. Toth to continue to have the December 7th regular council meeting, and December 15th work session via zoom; motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.

- 2021 Meeting Schedule – Ms. Omietanski distributed the Borough meeting schedule for 2021. The only date in need of adjustment is 7/5 to 7/12 Council meeting due to the July 4th holiday.

Motion made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to approve the 2021 meeting schedule presented with one correction to 7/5 making it 7/12; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.

- Hulmeville Ave Bridge – Ed Preston has reached out the surrounding boroughs to ask for support to rename the Hulmeville Ave Bridge when construction is completed next year to John Elton Candy a Vietnam Veteran who lost his life in battle. PFC. Candy’s parents are still residents of Langhorne Manor Borough.
- Vietnam Memorial – Mr. DeBias informed council that Ed Preston will be reaching out to council to invite them to a unveiling of a replica of the new Vietnam Veteran memorial on November 11th.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer’s Report for November 2, 2020 was made available for inspection:

- **General Fund Checking** Balance as of October 1, 2020: \$ 409,043.37
Expenses Totaled: \$ -32,200.28
Income Totaled: \$ 17,681.88

General Fund Checking Balance as October 31, 2020:	\$ 394,524.97
• Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of October 1, 2020:	\$ 34,855.76
Expenses Totaled:	\$ -18,033.53
Income Toted:	<u>\$ 35,887.67</u>
Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of October 31, 2020:	\$ 52,709.90
• Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of September 1, 2020:	\$ 227,743.95
Interest	\$ 1.93
Deposit	\$ 0
Expense	<u>\$ 0</u>
Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of September 30, 2020:	\$ 227,745.88
• Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of September 1, 2020:	\$ 51,963.58
Interest	\$.44
Deposit	\$ 0
Expenses	<u>\$ -29.29</u>
Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of September 30, 2020:	\$ 51,934.73
• General Fund PLGIT Balance as of September 1, 2020:	\$ 324,822.51
Interest	\$ 2.33
Deposits	\$ 5,989.40
Expenses Total:	<u>\$ 15,984.51</u>
General Fund PLGIT Balance as of September 30, 2020:	\$ 264,831.73

Bills: A copy of the bill list dated October 31, 2020 was provided to Council and offered for review by the public. Two bills were added: Platinum Paving \$4,709.00 and Debbie Mahon \$499.99.

• General Fund beginning balance as of November 2, 2020:	\$ 392,853.43
ending balance as of November 16, 2020:	\$ 356,871.72
• Sewer & Water beginning balance as of October 30, 2020:	\$ 53,450.64
ending balance as of November 2, 2020:	\$ 41,105.29

A motion made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Lodise and carried unanimously to approve the bill list dated November 2, 2020; Motion carries 7-0-0.

New Business;

- Shed at Borough Hall – There will be roughly \$2,500 left over from both Borough RDA grants and Mr. Wheeler asked the RDA if one of the balances could be used to purchase a shed to store some of the emergency equipment purchased with the grant moneys.
- Letter Scam – Mr. Edge received a letter in the mail asking for personal information. He will scan it and distribute it to council for their information.

Old Business:

- Traisr – Next Traisr meeting is Friday. Traisr is recommending that council purchase the Bucks County GIS Agreement at a one-time cost of \$500. This service will allow the Borough to access County information.

Motion made by Mr. Lodise and seconded by Mr. Edge to purchase the Bucks County GIS Agreement at a cost of \$500; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm; motion made by Mr. Edge seconded by Mr. Lodise; carried 7-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski
Secretary Hulmeville Borough