

HULMEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Hulmeville Borough Council was held on the above date at the Borough Hall, 321 Main Street.

Councilmembers Present

Thomas Wheeler, President
Jim Pio
Judy Coleman
Doug Harris
Nick Lodise
Naz Atabas, Junior Council

Staff in Attendance

Bill Wheeler, Borough Manager
Dorothy Omietanski, Secretary
Diane McKairnes, Treasurer
John Baran, Chief of Police
Thomas Panzer, Solicitor
Debbie Mahon, Mayor
Amanda Fuller, Gilmore and Assoc.

Council Members on Zoom: Dan Mandolesi, Vice President

Councilmembers Absent: Nick Toth

Councilmembers Late to Arrive: none

Staff on Zoom: none

Staff Absent: Kurt Ludwig, Water and Sewer President

Guests in Attendance: Joe Hahn, Robert Nathan, Ryan Cloak, Patrick Nicastro, Ed Dutill, Patricia Taggart, Sandy Carroll, Sheri Wheeler and David Steininger

Call to Order: Tom Wheeler called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Wheeler announced that an executive session was called at the end of the March 21, 2023 work session to discuss a personnel matter.

Minutes:

Motion made by Ms. Coleman seconded by Mr. Pio to approve the minutes of March 6, 2023 Council Meeting; Motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

Motion made by Ms. Coleman seconded by Mr. Pio to approve the minutes of March 15, 2023 Special Council Meeting; Motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

Motion made by Ms. Coleman seconded by Mr. Pio to approve the minutes of March 21, 2023 work session; Motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

Borough Engineer:

- Bid Tabulations for Paving Project – Amanda Fuller came to present the bids for the 2023 road paving project. Gilmore Engineering received 5 bids on the base project plus three added alternates. The base will include all of Beaver St, Fairview Ave and Pennsylvania Ave. The alternate will add all of Reetz Ave, Walnut St and Water St. Due to the cost of paving the RDA grant will only cover part of the project. Bray Brothers Inc came in with the lowest bid, however the bid is \$38,000 over the RDA grant monies.

Ms. Fuller explained that council could cut out one road to lower the cost but did recommend completing as many roads as possible due to economy of scale. Tom Wheeler did remind council that road maintenance is in the budget and the money is there to spend the additional \$38,000. Tom Wheeler also reminded council that the grant money does not include engineering fees which is estimated to be an additional \$20,000.

All roads on the list were considered to be in the worse condition, with a rating of 3.5 during the 2021 road survey. Liquid Fuels funds do not cover repaving of roads. Ms. Coleman inquired about curbs and sidewalks. Tom Wheeler explained that it could not be included in this round of paving due to timing, however it could possibly be included in future phases. Ms. Fuller warned that roads without curbs may require a large amount of funds to add curbs due to flooding concerns. Once curbs are added it potentially adds to flooding of streets so storm drains would need to be added as well.

Bill Wheeler suggested also adding an ordinance to discourage digging up roads that are paved for a period (for example 5-year time frame) after paving. Ms. Fuller explained we could require certain standards be followed if someone needs to dig and she provided guidelines used by other municipalities. Ms. Fuller will notify the utilities of the roads that will be paved.

Council will vote at the work session on who they would like to use for the paving project and how much they want to spend.

- Thank You – Mayor Mahon thanked Gilmore Engineering for the letter they sent to residents on March 29, 2023 regarding BCWSA Neshaminy Interceptor Sewer Replacement Project that will start around April 3, 2023.
- Stucco Project – The Borough received three bids for the stucco project at Borough Hall. All the bids were over the budgeted amount. One company suggested using a different material that would reduce the cost. Carroll Engineering has been asked to review both recommendations and provide an explanation of each and which process they would recommend. Bill Wheeler is suggesting rebidding the project based on Carroll Engineering's response and this time include painting of the building as well. Bill Wheeler should have updated information for the work session.

Public Comment:

- Playground Maintenance – Ms. Wheeler observed on the playground a few items in need of repair. The bridge bolts look very rusted and the chains to the swings are missing their coating. Ms. McKairnes will schedule an inspection.
- New Signs at Trenton & Main – There are new signs posted at all four corners of Trenton and Main making it illegal to cross. Tom Wheeler explained that he believes this is an error. The Borough agreed to make the one side illegal to cross, however the other side was to get the new handicap ramps and allow pedestrians to cross. He will look into the matter.
- Party Status for Conditional Use Meeting – Ms. Carroll asked if people could still request party status. Ms. Panzer stated anyone can request party status up to the end of the meeting.
- Green Street Traffic Issues – Mr. Dutill is complaining of traffic jams occurring on Green Street due to there not being enough room for two cars to pass each other on the street. He also explained that people still do not stop at the stop signs. Cars use the road as a cut through during rush hour. Mr. Dutill would like to make it a one-way street coming off of Bellevue Ave. Tom Wheeler suggested Carroll Engineering conduct a traffic study of the road. In the meantime, Mr. Lodise will put up a no thru traffic sign to try to discourage cars cutting through. Mr. Pio recommended what they do in Philadelphia when residents want a change to their street is to get at least 50% of the residents to sign a request for the change.
- Parking Issue – A resident on Mr. Dutill’s Street is still parking blocking the sidewalk. Chief Baran has talked to the resident who claimed she was unaware and moved the vehicle. Chief Baran will speak to the resident again regarding the issue.

Police Report:

- Police Report – Chief Baron read the report for the month of March 2023:

Incident Reports - 24	Summary Citations - 0
Accident Reports - 2	Traffic Citations - 38
Assists - 8	Criminal Arrest - 2
EMS Calls - 3	Parking Ordinance - 1
Court Local – 11.5	Court Doylestown - 0
Hours Worked - 226.50	Salary - \$6,563.40

- New Vehicle Arrival Update – The new police vehicle is due to arrive sometime this week. There is one issue that still needs to be resolved with the body camera system. The company sent the wrong dock for the body cameras so until that is resolved the cameras will not link to the car system.
- Easter Egg Hunt – The Easter egg hunt was a great success. They had 50 children participate. A big thank you to all of the volunteers that attended and helped to make the day memorable and for those who helped stuff eggs. There are pictures posted to the Facebook page.
- New Police Building – The police committee has had two meetings to discuss the options for a possible new police building. Chief Baran explained that the two main driving

issues right now is lack of storage for his records that must be maintained for 7 years and no buffer area for prisoners that need to be held. Mr. Nicastro suggested that the department go to electronic filing which would be a cheaper solution. Chief Baran is open for any suggestions. The matter will be discussed further at the work session.

Mayor:

- Senator Frank Farry Meeting – Senator Frank Farry is hosting a meet and greet tomorrow evening 6pm at Langhorne Manor Borough Hall.
- Paranormal Investigation Request – A group has reached out to the Mayor and is interested in doing a paranormal investigation at Borough Hall. They would need two hours in an evening and this would be no cost to the Borough. The group does this as a hobby and do not plan to post it anywhere but if they did the Borough would be contacted first for permission. They will sign any waivers required. Ms. Omietanski and Mr. Lodise would like to assist with the project. Council agreed to let Mayor Mahon proceed with the project.

Storm Water/Floodplain/MS4:

- Act 167 & 537 Follow Up – Gilmore and Assoc still has no forward plans for project status.
- Borough News Letter – The spring newsletter has been delayed. It will be completed this weekend.
- Earth Day Event – The Earth Day Event will be held April 29, 2023, 11am – 2 pm at Core Creek Park at the Tollgate Road park entrance. The Borough will be giving away wild flower seeds. Mayor Mahon is asking for volunteers.

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

- TMDL No1: 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

Borough Manager:

- KC Tomlinson Borough office hours – KC Tomlinson’s office hours at the Borough will be starting next Thursday April 13th, from 11-1. She will have office hours the same time every 2nd Thursday of the month.
- Multi Modal Improvement Plan – Middletown Township is holding three meetings to discuss biking paths and related matters and then they will be developing a plan for the community. Bill Wheeler will attend the meeting tomorrow night April 6th.

Fire Marshal: no report

Emergency Management Coordinator: no report

Zoning/ Code Enforcement:

- Old Mill – The owner of the Old Mill will be at district court tomorrow at 9:30 to challenge a citation. The next step would be to request a search warrant of the property.
- 524 Main St – Ms. Coleman is concerned with the property at 524 Main St. The property looks abandoned. Chief Baran will look into the matter.

Water and Sewer:

- Meter Replacement – Ms. Wheeler explained that some residents should be receiving a letter soon regarding meter replacement. The letter will be on Borough letterhead and is a request to replace the meter in their home.
- Rate Increase – The new ordinance will be advertised for 5 days mid-April and will be available at Borough Hall for viewing by the public. The new ordinance should be in effect by July 1st.

Borough Property:

- TruGreen Contract – Mr. Mandolesi does not have the new price yet for TruGreen. This will be tabled for the work session.
- Lawn Maintenance Contract – Bill Wheeler contacted four companies regarding lawn maintenance and only heard back from two. The lowest price came from PowerPlay the company the Borough used last year. Their rate is \$225 per mowing, plus other services which Bill Wheeler will outline in the contract. Estimating 30 cuts a year the total cost will be \$8,150 compared to the other companies total cost of \$20,403.80.

Motion to contract with PowerPlay Landscaping, LLC for the 2023 lawn maintenance, at a cost of \$225 per mowing, plus other services, subject to confirmation of the scope of work; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

- Borough Soccer Field Redevelopment Project – Bill Wheeler would like to form a committee for the soccer fields project. He would like to notify the two churches and place

an announcement in the newsletter. He would like to have ideas for the project by year end.

Trash:

- Aqua Seal – There was an issue with trash overflow at Aqua Seal. The issue has been resolved.
- 946 Bellevue – Mayor Mahon noticed that the residents at 946 Bellevue Ave. are not putting their trash out for collection. Mr. Pio inquired into someone on council becoming the code enforcement officer to speed up the process of dealing with issues and save the Borough money. Bill Wheeler will address the matter of the trash at 946 Bellevue Ave.

Lights: no report

Streets: no report

Personnel: no report

Solicitor Report:

Motion made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Ms. Coleman to ratify all action taken during the March 21, 2023 regular monthly work session of Borough Council; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer’s Report for April 3, 2023 was made available for inspection:

• General Fund Checking Balance as of March 1, 2023:	\$ 256,658.74
Expenses Totaled:	\$ -43,773.68
Income Totaled:	\$ <u>27,621.55</u>
General Fund Checking Balance as March 31, 2023:	\$ 240,506.61
• Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of March 1, 2023:	\$ 55,718.86
Expenses Totaled:	\$ -20,762.28
Income Toted:	\$ <u>4,974.29</u>
Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of March 31, 2023:	\$ 39,930.87
• Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of March 1, 2023:	\$ 245,882.88
Interest Totaled:	\$ 937.36
Deposit Totaled:	\$ 0
Expense Totaled:	\$ <u>0</u>
Sewer Fund PLGIT Balances as of March 31, 2023:	\$ 246,820.24
• Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of March 1, 2023:	\$ 88,836.04
Interest Totaled:	\$ 338.65
Deposit Totaled:	\$ 0
Expense Totaled:	\$ <u>- 2.79</u>
Highway Aid PLGIT Balances as of March 31, 2023:	\$ 89,171.90

- **General Fund PLGIT** Balance as of March 1, 2023: **\$ 1,088,208.79**
- Interest Totalled: \$ 4,147.89
- Deposit Totalled: \$ 0
- Expense Totalled: \$ - 67,277.21
- General Fund PLGIT Balances as of March 31, 2023: **\$ 1,025,079.47**

Bills: A copy of the bill list dated March 30, 2023 was provided to Council and offered for review by the public.

- **General Fund** beginning balance as of April 1, 2023: \$ 226,493.04
- ending balance as of April 6, 2023: \$ 220,247.93

A motion made by Mr. Pio seconded by Mr. Lodise and carried unanimously to approve the bill list dated March 30, 2023; Motion carries 6-0-0.

Jr. Council Person:

- Article for Newsletter – Ms. Atabas wrote an article for the newsletter on gardening.

Correspondence: none

Old Business:

- Rental Inspection – Mr. Pio has been working on the rental inspection ordinance. He will email what he has completed to the committee members. The committee will meet on April 13, 2023 to work on it.

New Business:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm; motion made by Mr. Pio seconded by Mr. Harris.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski,
Hulmeville Borough Secretary