

HULMEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2014

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

Councilmember's Present

Thomas Wheeler, President
Raymond Johnson, Vice President
Dan Mandolesi
Debbie Mahon
Dale Walton Jr.
Mayor Dave Harris

Staff in Attendance

Solicitor Robert De Bias
Sargent Bob Juno
Treasurer Diane McKairnes
Secretary Dorothy Omietanski
Authority Chair Jim Clark

Councilmember's Absent: Nick Lodise and Judy Coleman

Guests in Attendance: Ron Robbins and Rob Loughery, County Commissioner

Call to Order: Mr. Wheeler called the meeting to order at 7:39 pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Walton to approve the minutes of April 7, 2014.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Loughery spoke to Council. His goal was to visit all municipalities when he first started office back in 2012. He updated the council on what important tasks his office is focused on. One of the hot topics of discussion since he has taken office is the budget. When he started in 2012 they had a 24 million dollar deficient. He focused his attention immediately on reducing the deficit. Half of the reduction came from a modest tax increase and another major reduction came from reducing the work force of the government. Most of the work reduction came from not refilling jobs when they became vacated. They did have to lay off a few employees and out sourced some positions, like nursing staff in the prisons. They were able to reduce the overall work force from 2,600 to 2,300 employees. Since the staff reduction some employees have been hired back. They realized they needed increased staffing in the nursing homes, children and youth services, and general services (carpenters, masons that focus on bridge repair). The new justice center will be opening soon and a plan to refurbish the existing courthouse will begin. Their plan is to use the old court house for meetings and community rooms and the extra space will allow them to sell off some of the surrounding buildings. Some of the other areas of focus have been on the radio project, open space and economic development programs. They have just invested 2 million in a venture capital fund that has matching funds so they will have 4 million to invest in new businesses.

The council voiced their concerns to Mr. Loughery about the storm and sewer issues that we are currently facing. He was not aware of the issues the boroughs are facing or the huge costs that may be involved with the new regulations. He took some notes on the issues at hand, noted the municipalities involved and said he would look into it further.

Police Report: Mr. Johnson read the report for the month of April 2014: 9 Incidents, 16 Traffic, 5 Parking, 0 Accidents, 3 Assists, 0 Summary, 0 Criminal, 5 District Court, 0 County Court, 1 EMS for a total hours worked: 238.0, Total Salary \$5,026.16.

- Mr. Johnson informed the board that three applicants were interviewed for the position of police officer and that a final selection has been made. They have chosen to hire Kevin Carragher who resides in Levittown. He needs to take his state test before being sworn in.
- Sargent Juno was filling in for Chief Walton. Sargent Juno informed council that Chief Walton is out of work with pain in his back or leg. Chief Walton went to the hospital today and is being kept overnight for testing. Sargent Juno informed council of a landlord dispute in Hulmeville that was called in as a robbery which is why three police cars (Hulmeville Boro, Langhorne Manor and Penndel) arrived on the scene.

Public Comment:

- Mr. Robins provided an update on Neshaminy Methodist's heater installation. The heater has been installed and the oil tank is scheduled to be removed tomorrow. Mr. Mandolesi is going to call BIU regarding the heater installation to make sure an inspection is completed for insurance purposes. Mr. Robins also has someone who is willing to relocate the telephone poles which are now located between the church and boro hall. Mr. Robins was asking for any suggestions as to a good place to relocate them. No suggestions were approved.
- Ms. McKairnes informed council that a part of Main Street located down by the old Hulmeville dump on the Neshaminy creek side is collapsing. The collapse is now past the white line and moving in toward the roadway. Ms. Mahon offered to send an email to Mr. Lodise to inform him of the problem so he can contact the appropriate authorities.

Authority:

- Mr. Clark announced the resignation of Roberta Turner as Water and Sewer Manager. She will be replaced by Mike Whittker. Mr. Clark is coordinating the transfer and will be present for the meeting between Ms. Turner and Mr. Whittker. In the meeting they will transfer knowledge, equipment and training on the job responsibilities. Mr. Whittker will be paid a flat fee plus the salary Ms. Turner was being paid for Water and Sewer Manager. Mr. Clark will also be asking Mr. Whittker to keep track of hours worked for the new position and may adjust his pay based on how much time the new position requires.
- John Butler and an employee from CSL came to discuss the 537 plan. The 9,000 unit increase was all INI which must be coming from laterals or sub pumps. Mr. Clark ran a report that shows velocity levels and gallons per day through April 1 and saw no major spikes in the report that would explain the increase.
- Mr. Clark met with Max Stoner to start filling out the check list for DEP. Ms. Mahon, Mr. Wheeler need to set up a meeting time with Mr. Clark to start adding content to the report. After the check list is completed the next step will be the needs assessment. Mr. Clark asked Mr. Stoner for the last update of the 537 plan. Mr. Stoner said there is none. He will send the Sewage Feasibility Report to borough hall. Mr. Stoner also suggested that the borough draft an ordinance for sub pumps. He suggested any time a house is sold part of the process should be an inspection of plumbing to make sure sub pumps are installed and running properly. He also suggested getting a sub meter to help isolate problems with laterals. The council decided to contact BIU and let them know that they need to inspect sub pumps and laterals as part of inspection and rental properties will have sub pumps inspected every other

year as part of rental inspections. Ms. Mahon is drafting an insert flyer which will be placed into the next water and sewer bills to be sent out explaining the homeowner's responsibilities regarding sub pumps and laterals. She will list dos and don'ts as well as the Clean Water Act 167.

- Mr. Clark has tried on numerous occasions to contact the Colonial Inn regarding their grease trap that is either not functioning properly or does not exist. The Colonial Inn is not returning his calls so he is suggesting we send them an official letter. Mr. Clark will draft up a letter which he will email to Ms. Omietanski to place on letterhead send to the Colonial Inn.

Storm Water:

- Ms. Mahon suggested it might help if we added an extension on the borough phone and provide a link on our web site for storm water.
- Pendot street sweeping has been completed on Trenton Rd and Bellevue Ave.
- Ms. Mahon is attending a meeting on May 22 for Streamside Land Management

Maintenance on Borough Hall:

- Mr. Mandolesi spoke to Mark Boone, lawn maintenance, to confirm that the charge for cleanup will be the same as the charge for lawn mowing. Mr. Boone confirmed that the charge will be the same. **A motion was duly made by Ms. Mahon seconded by Mr. Walton to sign a contract for lawn maintenance with Mark Boone.**
- The down spout was reinstalled onto borough hall.
- A new state flag replaced a well-worn flag at borough hall.

Zoning:

- Debbie Juno worked 5 hours for the months of March and April addressing complaints. The issues she worked on were: research and draft of letter to Langhorne Wood Products, sign research provisions for Old Borough Hall building and email to Ms. Nocito, additional email from Ms. Nocito and response to same, meeting with council president Mr. Wheeler and council person Mr. Mandolesi, continued additional meeting with Ms. Nocito, borough area checks for complaint on vehicles parking on grassy areas and additional trash/rodent complain, and research and email for residential fence provisions.
- Ms. Juno needs to be notified if someone sees illegal dumping. If she sees the act in progress she will be able to fine the individual. The police may also be notified as well.
- Mr. Mandolesi suggested that Ms. Juno contact him first with all complaints and Mr. Mandolesi will determine if she should handle the issue or let him take care of it.
- Paul Buchhofer at BUI mentioned interest in sub pump checks with every inspection.

Street Signs: The inventory and maintenance report on street signs has been completed on Bellevue Ave from Pennel Hulmeville line down to Trenton Road, Fairview and Walnut St. McCarthy, Green St. and Neshaminy St still need to be completed.

Electric for Boro Hall: Note a correction to the work session meeting minutes April 14, 2014 the emergency measure vote that was taken was not 6-0-0 but 5-1-0. **A motion was duly made by Ms. Mahon seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to switch electric company suppliers back to PECO. Motion passed with all in favor 5-0-0.** Mr. Wheeler explained that we can switch electric suppliers

on May 12th. Mr. Wheeler called various suppliers to compare fixed rates and was told that very low rates always have hidden fees that you need to be aware of. Ron Smith an electric consultant we have used in the past has offered his services. Mr. Smith will provide us with three electric company quotes if we choose to go with one of his recommendations his fee will be paid by the electric company we choose. For right now we can switch back to PECO at \$.09 and wait to see what quotes Mr. Smith is able to provide.

Solicitor Report:

- Brightline has submitted a request for payment on the punch list for \$900. The punch list should be completed in one weeks' time. **A motion was duly made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Wheeler to pay Brightline Construction the amount of \$900. Motion passed with all in favor.**
- Mr. DeBias will make a correction to the property rental inspection ordinance to reflect that registration for landlords will be required every two years not every year. It was also agreed that a public notice should be sent to the Courier Times. Mr. DeBias will draft an advertisement which he will email to Ms. Omietanski to be sent to the newspaper. Mr. Wheeler will also verbally notify 4 of the landlords who own the most rental properties of the ordinance that will be going into effect soon. Ms. Mahon will post the ordinance and list of requirements on the boro web site.
- Mr. DeBias received a response from the Neshaminy Shore Picnics to a letter sent in April regarding amusement tax and nonprofit groups. Neshaminy Shore Picnics only wants to provide a tax exemption certificate and is offering \$.10 per tax exempt guest. **A motion was duly made by Ms. Mahon seconded by Mr. Johnson that Neshaminy Shore Picnics comply with section 24-313(3) of the Hulmeville Borough code in tax exempt files tax returns for each event with Berkheimer declaring amount realized by Neshaminy Shore Picnic for amusements and amusement tax applicable for such amounts motion carries 5-0-0.** Mr. DeBias will also make sure Neshaminy Shore Picnics signs the Certification document.

Mayor's Report: Mr. Harris will talk to Mr. Wheeler regarding the finance committee request for a survey on police consolidation. Mr. Harris officiated a wedding on Easter Sunday.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report of April 7, 2014 was made available for inspection:

• General Fund Checking Balance as of April 1, 2014:	\$ 12,385.39
Expenses Totaled:	-\$ 67,719.60
Income Totaled:	<u>\$ 74,877.76</u>
General Fund Checking Balance as of April 30, 2014:	\$ 19,543.55
• Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of April 1, 2014:	\$ 78204.52
Expenses Totaled:	-\$ 19,734.74
Income Totaled:	<u>\$ 36,549.58</u>
Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of April 30, 2014:	\$ 95,019.36

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| • Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of March 1, 2013: | \$350,671.83 |
| Interest April | \$ 3.40 |
| Deposit | \$ 0 |
| Expense | -\$ 0 |
| Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of March 31, 2014: | <u>\$350,675.23</u> |

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| • Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of March 1, 2014: | \$ 19,087.99 |
| Interest March | \$.31 |
| Deposit | \$ 18,803.74 |
| Expenses | -\$ 5,105.00 |
| Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of March 31, 2014: | <u>\$ 32,787.04</u> |

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| • General Fund PLGIT Balance as of March 1, 2014: | \$ 10,887.80 |
| Interest March | \$.11 |
| Deposits | \$ 0 |
| Expenses Total: | -\$ 0 |
| General Fund PLGIT Balance as of March 31, 2014: | <u>\$ 10,887.91</u> |

Bills: A copy of the bill list dated May 5, 2014 was provided to Council and offered for review by the public:

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| • General Fund beginning balance as of May 1 2014: | \$ 18,272.21 |
| ending balance as of May 5, 2014: | \$ 46,743.52 |

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| • Sewer & Water beginning balance as of May 1, 2014: | \$ 94,586.95 |
| ending balance as of May 9, 2014: | \$ 76,740.70 |

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| • Highway Aid beginning balance as of May 5, 2014: | \$ 8,342.24 |
| ending balance as of May 5, 2014: | \$ 8,291.69 |

A motion was duly made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Walton and carried unanimously to approve the bill list dated May 5, 2014; motion carries 4-0-1.

There being no further official business the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 pm; motion made by Mr. Walton seconded by Ms. Mahon.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski,
Hulmeville Borough Secretary