

HULMEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2015

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
Judy Coleman
Dan Mandolesi
Mayor Dave Harris
Dale Walton Jr.
Nick Lodise

Staff in Attendance

Solicitor Robert DeBias
Secretary Dorothy Omietanski
Treasurer Diane McKairnes
Police Chief Tom Walton
Water & Sewer Clerk Pat Slater
HHS President Marce Heald

Councilmember's Absent: Debbie Mahon arrived late

Staff Absent: Jim Clark and Fire Marshal Bill Wheeler

Guests in Attendance: Joe Heald and Bill Ruppert

Call to Order: Mr. Wheeler called the meeting to order at 7:41pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Lodise to approve the minutes of January 5, 2015; Motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

Police Report:

- Mr. Johnson read the report for the month of January 2015: 10 Incidents, 13 Traffic, 7 Parking, 0 Accidents, 2 Assists, 1 Summary, 0 Criminal, 5 District Court, 0 County Court, 2 EMS for a total hours worked: 221.0, Total Salary \$4,812.37.
- Ms. Slater had a question for Chief Walton. She wanted to know if it against the law to park your car on the sidewalk in your driveway. There is a resident on Reetz that jams cars into their driveway to the point where the cars are always blocking the sidewalk. Chief Walton said no one at any time is allowed to block sidewalks and he will look into it.
- Chief Walton pointed out several scams that are going on in neighboring communities. They are mostly targeting the elderly. The first scam was taking place in Bristol Borough. A man was dressed in a water company uniform. He was knocking on doors trying to get the seniors to come outside their homes or distracting them while someone entered the back of their house. Another scam took place in Middletown Township. The person offered to shovel the victim's driveway. The victim paid the person and they left without doing the work. Chief Walton wanted to stress please never let someone into your home and if you are going to have someone clear your driveway do not pay until the work is done and do not go out of your house check the work from inside your house and pay at the door.

- Mr. Johnson also wanted to point out a third scam he read about in the paper involving a man in a fake Verizon uniform.
- Chief Walton also wanted to remind everyone that your sidewalks need to be cleared of snow. If you know someone who is not clearing the snow you can contact the zoning officer Debra Juno.

Public Comment: none

Maintenance on Borough Hall: The apartment has been filled. The new tenant will move in March 1st. The rent will be \$1,050.

Note – Ms. Mahon arrived 7:52pm

Trash: Today Mr. DeBias sent Republic a mailing list of residence of Hulmeville Borough. Republic is required to send out a mailing notifying residence of current trash collection procedures. The mailing should be done within 15-30 days.

Streets:

- Mr. Lodise checked all the roads after plowing was completed and everything looked good. The plow company only had a few issues. They had an issue with the dumpster on Ford and a couple of cars parked on McCarthy.
- Mr. DeBias reminded council that the snow removal contract will be expiring this year. Late July council will need to advertise, bids will need to be collected for the September meeting and a contract will need to be signed by 10/15/15.
- The borough will be able to save some money on the new snow contract by providing the salt themselves. Hulmeville Borough can purchase salt through Middletown Township for \$34.80 versus the \$100 we currently pay for salt through the snow removal company.
- Ms. Mahon has been waiting on a letter from the snow removal company regarding calibrating their salt spreaders. Mr. Lodise will follow up with the company regarding the letter.

Water and Sewer:

- Mr. Walton is still waiting on photos for the ID's.
- Mr. Clark stopped by before the meeting to update council. He informed Mr. Wheeler that the Water and Sewer's last meeting was cancelled due to bad weather conditions. Mr. Clark also received a call from BCWSA who was asking for the signed contract to be returned to them; however Mr. Clark has not received the revised version of the contract to sign. Mr. DeBias will follow up to see exactly where the contract is and when Mr. Clark should expect to receive it.
- Ms. Mahon updated council on the progress of the adhoc committee. They reviewed the information Mr. DeBias had provided them regarding permits and applications for the new zoning ordinance. Ms. Mahon is hoping to create an application and check list which will guide residents through the process easily. She is also making it a goal to be able to provide all applications in a PDF format using adobe which will allow the user to

downloaded and complete electronically. The committee has also started working on a set fee schedule.

- Mr. DeBias suggested that we adopt the new flood plain ordinance. Mr. DeBias confirmed with Ms. Omietanski that the new ordinance was advertised in the Courier Times and posted outside of borough hall. Ms. Omietanski confirmed that this was completed.
- **Motion made by Ms. Mahon seconded by Mr. Walton to adopt the flood plain ordinance number 265; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.**
- Mr. DeBias will provide a copy of the signed ordinance to FEMA, Bucks County Planning Commission, Law Library and State.

Solicitor Report:

- Mr. DeBias reviewed with council the current state laws regarding bid collection. If the cost is under \$10,500 no bids are required. If the cost falls between \$10,500 and \$19,400 three telephonic or written bids are required and if the cost is over \$19,400 council is required to advertise in the newspaper and collect three written bids.
- Mr. Canales sent a letter notifying council that the Maintenance Bond is going to expire on March 27, 2015 for the Main Street Bridge Replacement project. He included a punch list of eight items that must be repaired before this work will be considered complete. Mr. Canales is recommending that council extends the Maintenance Bond by six months which will give council the time needed to complete the work.
- Mr. DeBias informed council that Pennel Borough did publicly thank Hulmeville Borough in the newspaper for cosigning the RDA grant. Mr. DeBias is recommending council sign three resolutions. The first resolution is to sign the RDA grant for Pennel, the second resolution is to sign the sub grantee agreement with Pennel and the third is to authorize Thomas Wheeler, Council President Hulmeville Borough, Arlene Harms, Council President Pennel Borough and Marie Serota, Secretary Pennel Borough as signers for the RDA grant.
- **Motion made by Ms. Mahon seconded by Mr. Lodise to sign the RDA grant on behalf of Pennel Borough as sub-recipient; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.**
- **Motion made by Mr. Lodise seconded by Ms. Mahon to sign the RDA sub-grantee agreement with Pennel Borough; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.**
- **Motion made by Mr. Lodise seconded by Ms. Mahon to authorize Mr. Wheeler, Ms. Harms and Ms. Serota as authorized signers for the RDA grant; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.**
- Mr. DeBias recommended council address the zoning ordinance amendments at the next work session.

Mayor:

- Mayor Harris wanted to thank everyone for their condolences regarding the loss of his mother.
- Mayor Harris asked council about the status of the Verizon cell tower. Mr. Wheeler informed council that Verizon did take a second look at the location off of Main Street but at the zoning meeting again stressed that the location would not work as an option. The location off of Main Street would overlap coverage areas that they already have in place.

They have made a very strong push for the location at the firehouse. Mr. Wheeler has had numerous conversations with Mr. DeBias regarding whether or not council should get involved in the Verizon cell tower issue. Mr. DeBias stressed that the only reason council should ever step in would be if the application involves the health, safety or welfare of the citizens of Hulmeville. The council can however attend the zoning board meeting and express their concerns as a citizen of Hulmeville. The Mayor feels that the council has a responsibility to protect the community and should attend the zoning meeting to express their feelings regarding the placement of the tower. The next hearing is scheduled for 2/11/15. The community was notified of the meeting by the ZHB solicitor as required by law. One issue to keep in mind if council were to choose to get involved is the cost that would be incurred. Council would have to pay the solicitor to participate in the meetings and would have to pay for experts to question the validity of Verizon's claims. Mr. Wheeler proposed that council not take a position on the Verizon cell tower but allow the zoning board to work through the issues. Mr. Johnson feels the benefits of the tower outweigh the negative aspects. The tower will provide income to the fire department and better reception to the residents.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report of February 2, 2015 was made available for inspection:

• General Fund Checking Balance as of January 1, 2015:	\$ -1,528.09
Expenses Totaled:	\$ -27,149.12
Income Totaled:	<u>\$ 29,490.02</u>
General Fund Checking Balance as of January 31, 2015:	\$ 812.81
• Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of January 1, 2015:	\$111,704.91
Expenses Totaled:	\$ -14,725.20
Income Totaled:	<u>\$ 32,811.03</u>
Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of January 31, 2015:	\$ 129,790.74
• Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of December 1, 2014:	\$380,719.45
Interest December	\$ 3.42
Deposit	\$ 0
Expense	<u>\$ -0</u>
Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of December 31, 2014:	\$380,722.87
• Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of December 1, 2014:	\$ 26,009.34
Interest December	\$.23
Deposit	\$ 0
Expenses	<u>\$ -36.15</u>
Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of December 31, 2014:	\$ 25,973.42
• General Fund PLGIT Balance as of December 1, 2014:	\$ 18,336.23
Interest December	\$.17
Deposits	\$ 200.21
Expenses Total:	<u>\$ 0</u>
General Fund PLGIT Balance as of December 31, 2014:	\$ 18,536.61

Bills: A copy of the bill list dated February 1, 2015 was provided to Council and offered for review by the public. Note one bill was added for \$700.80 for Tire City for the police car.

- **General Fund** beginning balance as of February 2, 2015: \$ -6459.30
ending balance as of February 5, 2015: \$ -27,542.05
- **Sewer & Water** beginning balance as of February 2, 2015: \$ 129,333.36
ending balance as of February 13, 2015: \$ 111,492.89
- **Highway Aid** beginning balance as of February 2, 2015: \$ 25,917.18
ending balance as of February 2, 2015: \$ 21,157.18

A motion was duly made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Lodise and carried unanimously to approve the bill list dated February 2, 2015; motion carries 7-0-0.

Earth Day: Ms. Mahon updated council on the meeting she attended at Middletown Township. They will be running an Earth Day event on April 25, 2015 at Core Creek Park. Ms. Mahon would like to have Hulmeville Borough participate in the event. She would like the garden club to participate as well. Ms. Coleman has offered to assist Ms. Mahon in helping to prepare for the event. Ms. Mahon said participating in the event it will go a long way to fulfilling the requirements of NPDES and best management practices.

Chief Walton's Retirement Party: The retirement party for Chief Walton will take place at the April 1st council meeting. Ms. Mahon will create a formal invitation that will be mailed to his family, Penndel Police Chief, Langhorne Manor Police Chief, Langhorne Borough Police Chief and all Hulmeville police force. Ms. Heald will make a cake for the event and needs one weeks' notice on the number of people planning to attend the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm; motion made by Mr. Walton seconded by Mr. Mandolesi.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski,
Hulmeville Borough Secretary