

HULMEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
May 4, 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
Debbie Mahon

Staff in Attendance

Solicitor Robert DeBias
Secretary Dorothy Omietanski
Treasurer Diane McKairnes
Police Chief Bob Juno
Water & Sewer Clerk Pat Slater
HHS President Marce Heald
Authority Chair Jim Clark
Fire Marshal Bill Wheeler

Councilmember's Absent: none

Staff Absent: none

Guests in Attendance: Dennis Mitchell, Nancy Mitchell, Ed Preston, Lois Vlassendo and Joe McKairnes

Call to Order: Mr. Wheeler called the meeting to order at 7:38pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion made by Ms. Mahon seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to approve the minutes of April 6 and April 22, 2015; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.

Public Comment:

- Dennis and Nancy Mitchell came to address the paper street where they reside at the end of Lincoln and Pennsylvania Ave. They have major concerns with the state of the road and would like to address the issues. They have issues with water run-off and large trees that are threatening their home. They are requesting that council vote to give up rights to the road and allow them to start working on these issues. The only other property owner attached to the road is Harriett Black. The Mitchells will make sure to present their improvement ideas to her before proceeding. Council has no issue with their proposal however Mr. DeBias will need to research the legal aspects of the request.
- Ed Preston came to the meeting to update council on the Memorial Day Parade. This year is the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. The parade committee contacted the D.O.D and they issued Hulmeville and Pennel a 2 year commemorative flag to be flown. He gave the flag to council and asked that they place it at the point flag pole in time for the parade. He also asked if anyone knows of a Vietnam vet who would like to be in the parade to contact him. They are also planning a trip to Washington DC late September to see the Vietnam Memorial.

- Lois Vlassendo lives at 827 Walnut Street and she needs council to address an issue that has arisen with her neighbor. They recently blacktopped their driveway and they extended their retaining wall. According to Ms. Vlassendo the wall was extended 3 feet to the street and 20 feet past the property line. She has an extremely difficult time getting out of her driveway now and has already scrapped the bumper of her car once on the wall. The property in question is to the right of 827 if you are looking at the house from the street and is owned by the Wagner's. Mr. Mandolesi will contact Ms. Juno and have her look into this matter.

Police Report:

- Mayor Harris read the report for the month of April 2015: 6 Incidents, 21 Traffic, 1 Parking, 0 Accidents, 1 Assists, 3 Summary, 1 Criminal, 10 District Court, 0 County Court, 0 EMS for a total hours worked: 219.0, Total Salary \$4,477.55.
- Mayor Harris updated council on the meeting with the turnpike commission. They did approve Hulmeville's request for financial support for more police hours. They have agreed to give Hulmeville \$5,000 a month to pay for more police hours to help assist with the speed of cars through Hulmeville during the detour. The police plan to increase the morning and afternoon hours worked which will cover rush hour. Chief Juno will need to keep a log of the extra hours to be submitted to the turnpike commission.
- Chief Juno told council citations have increased due to the speeding on Main Street. There will be more than one officer at a time patrolling Main Street and tickets will be issued to anyone over 35mph.
- There was a call from Hulmeville Inn claiming there was an assault which ended up being just an argument.

Water and Sewer:

- New Sewer Rates - Mr. Clark confirmed that the new sewer rate went into effect in the March billing and it was uneventful.
- BCWSA Contract – Carol Engineering met with DEP and expressed some concerns with their model. They made some minor changes and a revised contract will be sent out. The contract will not be presented at tonight's council meeting as planned, but will be postponed until the revised contract can be reviewed. On May 12th at 1:00 there will be another meeting in Norristown which Mr. Clark is planning on attending.
- Eric Schmid is searching for a new engineer to assist Hulmeville Water and Sewer. Mr. Clark is not happy with Glace and Associates who is located in Camp Hill. He would prefer to have someone closer to Hulmeville. He is concerned with changing engineers right now because he has an October 1st deadline for Act 537 plan and that will require assistance from an engineer to complete. He is considering using Carol Engineering.
- Act 537 – The current contract requires updating the Act 537 plan and as far as Mr. Clark is aware Hulmeville has none. Under the revised plan Hulmeville will need to start acting on lateral inspections. Mr. Clark's biggest concern with the laterals is who will pay the cost. BCWSA gave Mr. Clark a quote of \$185 per home to inspect both sub pumps and laterals. Ms. Mahon said that was a reasonable cost. She recently had it done and paid \$385. Mr. Clark also wanted to point out that Act 537 has a completion date of 10/01/15 and that this date is a firm date. Anyone who misses this date will be penalized by not being able to tie any additional connections into the sewer lines. Mr. Clark's next step will be to contact Max Stoner and have him investigate what Hulmeville's current plan should be as a starting point.

- Neshaminy Interceptor Future Capacity Evaluation 2015 – BCWSA on April 15 presented the evaluation. Carol Engineering created the rate structures. Their main goal is to reduce infiltration and ingress and to increase flow capacity by realigning the mains. Mr. Clark will forward this Evaluation to everyone on the board.
- Water and Sewer Overdue Fees - Sue Baker passed away last month. Before her passing she had sold the house to her son. In the process of switching ownership there was a mix up as to who was paying the water and sewer bill. Sue thought her son was paying the bill and her son thought she was paying the bill. Ends up neither were paying the bill. The family wants to settle the account and wanted Mr. Walton to ask council if there would be any consideration for dropping the penalties. They would like to pay the balance minus the penalties. Council all agreed they cannot waive any penalties for anyone at any time. There needs to be set and consistent rules as far as paying back charges.
- Electronic Meters – The owner of a house on Michelle Court approached Mr. Mandolesi regarding his water bill. He currently does not have an electronic meter on his house and he continually pays an estimated bill. First he wanted to know if this is a high estimation or low estimation. The answer from Ms. Slater is that they always estimate the usage low. Second someone in September approached him to install an electronic meter but never followed up. Is someone going to be installing one and if so who pays for the installation? Mr. Wheeler said they have hired someone who should be installing electronic meters at all homes who currently do not have one and it will be paid for by the water authority. He apologizes for the delay. The water authority has also had problems contacting the person they hired to complete these installations. Mr. Wheeler will once again try to reach the person and hopefully they will be in contact with the owner soon.

Floodplain:

- Ms. Mahon received FIRM and NFIP preliminary maps. They are asking that Ms. Mahon confirm all street names in the borough. The new maps should be enacted on March 2016. The preliminary maps will be posted to Hulmeville's website.
- Issue at 534 Main Street – The issue at 534 Main Street has been settled. The homeowner had to contact NFIP and FEMA and get a letter of determination or a community letter. They submitted this to the insurance company who then realized they had made a mistake when completing the paperwork. They made the corrections and the owner's insurance premium was adjusted to a normal rate.
- 404 Main Street – Ms. Mahon observed that the owner at 404 was doing work to his yard without a permit. He is doing a lot of ground clearing so she sent him a friendly email informing him of the changes to the rules for floodplain areas and outlined what he needs to be aware of as he completes the work. She also thought it was a good idea to go ahead and mail every homeowner in the floodplain a copy of the updates.

Storm Water:

- Earth Day – Earth Day went very well. Three residences from Hulmeville came to the table and one of them lives in the flood plain. Ms. Mahon had one student volunteer help set up the table and a copy of his community service log along with the earth day sign in sheet will be filed in NPDES.
- Permit for NPDES – Ms. Mahon will follow up with Mario.

- Street Sweeping – Mr. Wheeler will follow up on the street sweeping contract and schedule the cleaning for 5/20 or 5/21.

Maintenance on Borough Hall:

- **Motion made by Ms. Mahon seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to accept the lawn maintenance agreement with Boon Landscaping Design for \$195 per cut for 1 year; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.**

Trash:

- Trash issues – There were a few issues this month – 101 Main Street, 823 Walnut Street and 105 Reetz Ave. The issue on Walnut Street was slowly resolved. The homeowner had been away for an extended period of time and upon return placed 12 cans out for collection – eight cans have been collected and Mr. Lodise is working on getting the rest collected. Reetz Ave placed a mattress out for collection and it took two weeks for it to be picked up.
- Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program – Mr. Lodise wanted to point out to council that this year they will not be accepting computers. It will be up to each community to put together their own plan to deal with computer collection. Mr. Lodise will start by contacting Dominic at Republic and see what his thoughts are on computer collection. Ms. Slater pointed out that if you look in the paper sometimes you will see advertised collection events hosted by various organizations that are asking for old computer. She has seen collection sites at BCCC and Lower Makefield. The organizations do the collections as a way of raising money.
- Mr. Lodise will also follow up with Republic regarding the mailing that is to go out to all residence outlining trash pick up requirements.

Streets:

- PENDOT patched holes in the road. It was brought to Mr. Lodise attention that there is an issue at the area of 529 Main Street and 340 Main Street. The road has eroded around the grates and they are in threat of sinking.
- Three lights were replaced: one at Borough Hall, one at Fairview Ave and the third at Lincoln and Reetz.
- A homeowner on Beaver Street approached Mr. Lodise and asked that he present a proposal he is offering to place a street light on the corner at 1 Beaver Street. The homeowner will assist in paying for the cost of installation. The road is very dark and in need of a street light. Mr. Lodise said he would contact Armor and get a price on installing a light.
- There appears to be a sinkhole at around 226 Main Street which is 4 feet round. A call was made to Frank Farry's office and they did have someone out to cold patch it. The question is what is causing the sinking to occur. Could be a water line break causing the ground to sink. Mike Whittaker will call BCWSA to check. Another possibility is a sewer line leak.
- There is a crack in the parking lot of borough hall as well as a pothole at Reetz and Washington. CDU will be contacted regarding both issues.

Zoning Report:

- Mr. Mandolesi read Ms. Juno's zoning report. March's Zoning Report – During the month of March Ms. Juno worked a total of 2.5 hours. During that time she had email correspondences with Jaime Struble regarding Kiss Electric and council person Debbie Mahon regarding 209 Webster and 501 Main Street. April's Zoning Report – During the month of April Ms. Juno worked a total of 7.75 hours. During April she had a meeting with the contractor at 413 Lincoln Ave, complaint property checks at two addresses 342 Main Street and 935 Bellevue Ave, an email correspondence with a contractor for 413 Lincoln Ave, code review of storm sewer management of 209 Webster Ave, continual email from Mr. Jeff King at 103 Green Street, code review for curb replacement for 206 Ford Ave., compose notice of violation and mailing to Reifsneider residence at 209 Webster Ave for illegal diverting of water into storm sewer, email correspondence regarding U&O requirements 417 Main St, permit packet to 206 Ford Ave, email correspondence with Ruth Davidson of CK Performance for sign permit requirements and permit submission and email generated to Sarita Williams of PECO for Police report of road opening at Green Street and Bellevue Ave being done without obtaining permit or submission of escrow fees.
- At 303 Main Street on the sidewalk is a manhole cover that sticks up and is becoming a tripping hazard. The cement around the manhole has eroded over time and needs replacing. Mr. Mandolesi is going to let Ms. Juno know so she can draft a letter requesting it be repaired.

Old Business:

- During last month's meeting there was an oversight the Mayor brought to council's attention. Council neglected to formally appoint Bob Juno to police chief before swearing him in.
- **Motion made by Mr. Lodise seconded by Mr. Walton to appoint Robert Juno to the position of police chief at a rate of \$21.50 per hour effective April 6th, 2015; Motion passed with all in favor 7-0-0.**
- Owner of Johnson Hall paid April's water and sewer bill today.
- The Historical Society is trying to secure a grant for the repairs of the wall in front of Borough Hall. Mr. Mandolesi will contact Joe Heald and provide him all the information regarding costs he has obtained for fixing the wall. Mr. Mandolesi is recommending the Historical Society patch the wall now while waiting for the grant.
- Harriet Black will be having surgery tomorrow on her leg for a blood clot.

Mayor:

- Comcast will not drop wires down through the boroughs walls. They said they cannot work on historic buildings, however if we drop the wires they will make the connections.
- Mayor was invited to a safety day at the Philadelphia Expo on May 7th.

Solicitor Report:

- RDA Project – Solicitor inquired as to the status of the project and to date nothing has been done towards installing the emitter.

RDA Grant Request: A letter to council was received from William Penn Fire Company in conjunction with Middletown Township. The letter is requesting that Hulmeville Borough join with

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm; motion made by Mr. Walton seconded by Mr. Mandolesi.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omiotanski,
Hulmeville Borough Secretary