

HULMEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
July 6, 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 Dorothy Omietanski

Councilmembers Present

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

Staff in Attendance

Solicitor Robert DeBias
Chief Baran
Water & Sewer President Kurt Ludwig
Secretary Dorothy Omietanski
Fire Marshall William Wheeler

Councilmembers Absent: Judy Coleman and Doug Edge

Councilmembers Late to Arrive: Nick Lodise

Staff Absent: Treasurer Diane McKairnes

Guests in Attendance: Marce Heald, Mike Wasson, Trisha Boyle, Sheri Wheeler, Pat Slater, and Jay Moser

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 June 1 & 16, 2020; Motion Passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

Mayors Statement: Bucks County is now in the Green Phase and I encourage everyone to continue to honor the guidelines with wearing face masks and practicing social distancing. The Hulmeville Borough Police department is being vigilant with updating and adopting policies and Internal Management Procedures. I invite you share your input directly to Chief Baran.

Public Comment:

- Soccer Fields – Ms. Slater asked council when the soccer fields were going to be cleaned up. Mr. Mandolesi stated that the work should start sometime this week.
- 935 Bellevue – Ms. Boyle asked if the Borough could address the trash issue at 935 Bellevue Ave. Their front porch is piled from floor to ceiling with boxes and bags. Mr. DeBias will check the ordinance book to see if any ordinance applies to the issue. Mr. Harris suggested council consider adopting the International Property Maintenance Code, which would address the matter. Council will review it at a future meeting.

Police Report:

- The police report was submitted for the month of June 2020: 12 incident reports, 0 accident reports, 6 assist, 0 EMS call, 0 summary citations, 27 traffic citations, 1 criminal arrests, 0 parking, 12 hours district court and 4-hour county court or total hours worked: 254, Total Salary \$6,373.00
- July 4th – The Hulmeville Police Department received no calls about fireworks in the Borough the evening of July 4th. The officer on duty did stop at 8 homes in the Borough and gave out warnings and information on why it is illegal to set off fireworks. Most people were not aware that setting off fireworks is illegal. All residents complied to the request to cease activity. Middletown Police Department was overwhelmed with calls from residents complaining of fireworks activities. Mayor Mahon will outline why setting off fireworks is illegal in the next newsletter.
- Credit Card – Mr. Harris provided Mr. DeBias information regarding protocols for use of credit cards. Mr. DeBias will work on creating the protocols for the Borough for council to review.

Nick Lodise arrived 7:45pm

- Computer – Mr. Toth is working on two Dell computer configurations for the police department. Both computers have a 5-year shelf life. He would like to reach out to Mr. Omietanski to pass it by him before presenting it to council. He should be able to have the information to present for the work session.
- National Night Out – Many municipalities have cancelled National Night Out due to Covid. Other municipalities have moved the date back to October 6, 2020. Mayor Mahon said that the Police Department does not want to cancel it yet, but will put it on hold for now.
- RDA Grant – Chief Baran has all his items purchased with the exception of the police bike. Once he is able to order the bike, he will submit his paperwork to Mr. DeBias to prepare the request for payment from the RDA.
- Body Camera Policy – Mayor Mahon is recommending council adopt the new body camera policy for the police department.

Motion made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to adopt the Body Camera Police Policy; motion passed with all in favor 5-0-0.

Mayors Report:

- COVID Signage – Mayor Mahon would like to post a sign on the playground reminding people to wear masks and social distance. Mayor Mahon also suggested posting the same sign at the soccer fields. She will design the sign and forward the design to Mr. Wheeler to order the signs from Middletown Township.
- 150 Celebration – A resident provided the committee with a puzzle book printed free of charge that the committee can use as a future fundraiser.
- Jr. Council Members – Mayor Mahon wanted to recognize Sarah and Stanley Omietanski's graduation from Neshaminy High School and wish them well as they start college. She also thanked them for their service as Jr. Council Members. Stanley Omietanski was also highlighted in the Borough magazine this month under Jr. Council Member.

Emergency Management Coordinator:

- Yellow Phase – Bucks County went to green phase on June 26, 2020.
- COVID Cases – As of June 5, 2020 Bucks County had reported 5,477 confirmed cases and Hulmeville has less than 10 of those cases.
- RDA Grant – Fire Marshal Wheeler is having difficulty with purchasing items due to issues with the tax exempt status and receiving proper exemptions. The last item should be on order as of tomorrow.

Fire Marshal:

- Inspections – Fire Marshal Wheeler has conducted three inspections in June and should be completing 4 to 6 inspections per month moving forward.
- Open Burns – Fire Marshal Wheeler will be investigating other policies from other municipalities regarding open burns and will present at an upcoming meeting.

Authority:

- Remote Meter Reader – Last week Mr. Toth and Ms. Wheeler had a meeting to discuss and resolve issues Ms. Wheeler is experiencing with the remote reader. They resolved most issues.
- Work Session – The Authority is holding a work session meeting in July to discuss the budget.
- Meter Replacement – Currently the Authority has replaced 107 meters out of 300 meters in the Borough. There have been no replacements done since January due to Covid. However meter replacement has always been a slow process.

Borough Property:

- Parking Lot Paving Project – The Borough received a total of 7 bids for the RDA parking lot paving project. The highest bid was \$16,825, and the lowest \$6,095 from Platinum Paving and Resealing. Mr. DeBias received 4 references from the company and the

references all gave great feedback regarding their service. Mr. DeBias recommends that council proceed with the bid. Platinum Paving said they could complete the job in August and it would take 2-3 days to do. Mr. Wheeler confirmed that the extra RDA Grant funds could be used to repair curbs and sidewalks at Borough Hall.

Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi and seconded by Mr. Lodise to award the bid to Platinum Paving and Seal Coating to pave the Borough parking lot at a cost of \$6,095; motion passed with all in favor 5-0-0.

Mr. DeBias will send letters to all bidders enclosing a bid tabulation and notifying the bidders of the awarding of the project to Platinum Paving and Resealing.

- Gazebo – The Historical Society would like to pay for the instillation of lighting and electrical outlets in the Gazebo at Borough Hall. Mr. Mandolesi will work on getting them a price.
- Damage at Memorial Park – Thanks to Joe Heald for repairs he made at Trenton and Bellevue. A car took down a pole as well as uprooted a few shrubs. Mr. Heald replanted the bushes and reinstalled the pole.
- Drain Flies – There are drain flies in the mens room at Borough Hall. Chief Baran purchased a bug killer, and after investigation believes the mens urinal is not flushing completely which may be the cause of the problem. Mr. Mandolesi will investigate.
- Rain Barrel Donation – Mr. Mandolesi has a friend who would like to give the Borough 15 rain barrels. Mayor Mahon would like to take them. She said she would discuss the matter further with Mr. Mandolesi after the meeting.
- Lawn Cutting – Mr. Mandolesi had a discussion with Boone Lawn Service regarding cutting the soccer fields. Once the field is cleared, they will have no issues maintaining the cutting of the expanded area.

MS4:

- Newsletter – Mayor Mahon is currently working on the next newsletter. If you have any updates or information to add please send it to Mayor Mahon by July 11, 2020.
- Tree Planting – The tree planting is scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2020.
- Committee Meeting – Mayor Mahon would like to schedule a committee meeting so they can work on completing letters for the community that cover the Best Management Practices for TMDL #7.

TMDL / BMP's: Permit years 2018-2022 –Due to Covid-19 the DEP inspection 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

Floodplain:

- Open Space – The properties along Margareta Ave. have reached out in regards to dead limbs in trees, dead trees and standing water in the county owned Open Space areas that surround their properties. Mayor Mahon contacted the county on June 17, 2020, and has not received a response back to date. However, the grass has been mowed in the area in question.
- Neshaminy Creek – Mayor Mahon suggested since more people have been visiting the creek area that more signs should be posted in open space areas to discourage dumping, night time visitors, open fires, fireworks and graffiti. Chief Baran will contact the park rangers to see if there is anything they can do. Mr. Lodise will install a pole in the area, so they can attach their signage to the pole instead of trees.
- Property Evaluations – The Mayor is requesting a meeting to print, fold, stuff, stamp and label the letters for the 2020 Property Evaluations.

Storm Water:

- Storm Drains – Amanda Fuller, Gilmore and Assoc. is working on an RFP to get the storm drain inlets cleaned.
- 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.

Finance: Mr. Harris is still collecting information for the budget, and he is designing a form for committees to use to request budget items for 2021.

Zoning: no report

Trash:

- Bulk Trash – Mr. Lodise addressed a few issues in the Borough with regarding to bulk pick up. Leck asks that residents limit their bulk pick up to one item a week.

Solicitor:

- Traffic Light Pole Maintenance – PennDOT sent out information regarding an issue a township had with a traffic light pole eroding and falling down. PennDOT sent the letter to remind municipalities that traffic light pole maintenance is their responsibility, and to

be aware of light poles that are embedded into the concrete. PennDOT recommended that poles should be inspected regularly for cracks, corrosion, holes, loose nuts, missing bolts and deformation. Mr. Wheeler did inspect the Borough traffic light poles, and they are not the type of light poles that is in question. The Boroughs light poles are raised above the ground, which allows water to flow underneath the poles, which prevents corrosion. Mr. Wheeler saw no signs of decay. Mr. Harris recommended hiring Armour Electric or Gilmore and Assoc. to inspect the lights. Mr. Mandolesi explained that our style of lights would not have the issue described in the letter, and they would do a visual inspection like Mr. Wheeler did. Mr. Lodise offered to inspect the light poles.

- RDA Grant Vietnam Memorial – Hulmeville Borough sponsored the Vietnam Memorial Fund for \$50,000. Mr. Preston has contracted a sculpture for the memorial and has requested the funds.

Motion made by Mr. Lodise and seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to request payment for the RDA Grant for the Vietnam Memorial Fund of \$50,000; motion passed with all in favor 5-0-0.

- Township Meetings – Mr. DeBias explained to council that the Courier wrote an article explaining how different townships are managing reopening their meetings.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer’s Report for July 6, 2020 was made available for inspection:

• General Fund Checking Balance as of June 1, 2020:	\$ 427,792.76
Expenses Totaled:	\$ -31,018.22
Income Totaled:	<u>\$ 38,120.82</u>
General Fund Checking Balance as June 30, 2020:	\$ 434,895.36
• Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of June 1, 2020:	\$ 32,681.31
Expenses Totaled:	\$ -20,643.57
Income Toted:	<u>\$ 2,830.03</u>
Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of June 30 2020:	\$ 14,867.77
• Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of May 1, 2020:	\$ 270,426.82
Interest	\$ 135.51
Deposit	\$ 0
Expense	<u>\$ -33,743.55</u>
Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of June 30, 2020:	\$ 236,818.78
• Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of May 1, 2020:	\$ 52,104.71
Interest	\$ 29.07
Deposit	\$ 0
Expenses	<u>\$ -148.19</u>
Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of June 30, 2020:	\$ 51,985.59
• General Fund PLGIT Balance as of May 1, 2020:	\$ 314,259.23
Interest	\$ 168.49

