

HALLAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
250 West Beaver Street, Hallam PA 17406
Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2026 – 6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The April 13, 2026 meeting of the Hallam Borough Council was called to order by Council President, Sue Horner, followed by the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT – Sue Horner, President – Derek Dietz, Vice President – Axel Ulrich – Rhonda Smeltzer – Stephanie Felix – Daniel Harsh – Mayor Nicholas Troutman

ALSO PRESENT - Sharon Dupler, Secretary – Sherry Myers, Treasurer – Devon Myers, CGA Law Firm – Derek Rinaldo, C.S. Davidson, Inc – Howard Gromling, Public Works – Barry Miller – Gary Dube – Rick Garner

ACTION ON MARCH 9, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Dan moved, seconded by Derek to approve the March 9, 2026 meeting minutes. Motion carried 6-0.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT

- Duane Ness, 300 E. Market St., addressed his concerns with Council since the ordinance was passed making S. Oak St. no parking on both sides. He stated that it has been a challenge for his business to ship and/or receive deliveries and was hoping that Council would make some accommodation to make operating his business easier. Other than the side door, there is no other access to the middle level of the building where the business is set up to ship and/or receive deliveries. No action was taken at this time.

POLICE, FIRE AND AMBULANCE

- Police – The police report was submitted with 103 calls for the month of March in the Borough. Chief Pollock introduced K9 Officer Martin-Steele and K9 Storm to Council. They have completed their training and are now on patrol in Kreutz Creek and Wrightsville Elementary Schools to assist in any de-escalation cases.
- Fire – The fire company report was distributed for Council’s review. There were 10 calls and 1 false alarm in Hallam Borough for the month of March. Members attended various trainings. The station hosted a Spring gun raffle.
- Ambulance – The ambulance report for March was submitted with 23 calls in the Borough.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

- 235 West Market Street – Attorney Myers stated that she is working on the enforcement notice pertaining to the two zoning violations. She will contact Jodi Heffner, Zoning Officer, to obtain additional information to enforce the second violation and issue the notice to the property owner this week.
- Discussion/Action on Data Centers – Discussion continued from last month regarding data centers. Devon provided a draft model ordinance for Council to review. The Mayor will review the model ordinance and make recommendations to Council regarding designating a permitted zone and also defining the permitted use; either by conditional use or special exception. Devon also advised Council that if other changes are needed to the zoning ordinance, this would be the time to do that.
- Ambulance Service Contract – President Horner provided information regarding ambulance service which was discussed during the recent monthly meetings of the Emergency Services Commission. The current ambulance service agreement with Penn State Health Life Lion expires June 30, 2026. The Commission received three proposals for renewing and providing ambulance services to the Borough. Penn State Health Life Lion, First Capital and UPMC. President Horner provided details of each proposal. Penn State Health Life Lion’s proposal was for a 10-year contract with no cost for the first five years and \$5.00 per capita each year for the second five years (roughly \$13,875/year). First Capital EMS, an independent provider, was a five-year contract with the least of the cost being \$72,000 per year divided amongst Hallam Borough, Hellam Township and Wrightsville Borough. UPMC proposed a five-year contract with no fees for years one and two, \$20,000 for years three and four and \$30,000 for year five which is then divided amongst Hallam Borough, Hellam Township and Wrightsville Borough. The Commission negotiated with UPMC and were able to propose no cost for years one, two and three; \$7,500 for Hallam Borough for year four; \$11,000 for Hallam Borough for year five. It was proposed that Wrightsville Borough would pay the same as Hallam Borough and Hellam Township would pay

less because they are housing the ambulance. Devon reviewed the draft ambulance service contract with UPMC (Community LifeTeam) and advised Council of some minor changes that she will address with the Solicitors from Hellam Township and Wrightsville Borough. A termination notice will be sent to Penn State Health Life Lion.

Motion: Derek moved, seconded by Dan to enter into a contract with Community LifeTeam to provide ambulance service to Hallam Borough for a period of 5-years, beginning July 1, 2026 and terminating on June 30, 2031, contingent on the changes agreed upon by the Solicitors of Hallam Borough, Hellam Township and Wrightsville Borough. Motion carried 6-0.

- Policy regarding proposals for contracts – There was discussion regarding creating a policy stating that all proposals for contracts received by commissions and/or committees are distributed to Council for review. It was determined that the commissions and/or committees would review all proposals received and make all recommendations to Council and that all proposals will be kept as Borough record by the Borough Secretary.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

- 2025 LSA -Category 4 Grant - The 2025 LSA Category 4 grant submission for the repaving of East Beaver Street from South Wilson Lane to Buttonwood Lane in the amount of \$208,313.82 has been approved. Derek is working on completing the evaluations of the existing sidewalks and ADA ramps and will prepare notifications to the property owners of the upcoming street improvement projects in 2027. Project 1 will consist of paving Buttonwood Lane from South Wilson to South Prospect Street (using Liquid Fuels funds) and Project 2 will consist of paving East Beaver Street from South Wilson Lane to Buttonwood Lane (using LSA Grant).
- Light Pole Design – Howie and Jake spoke to Derek regarding some changes to the light pole design. He will make those changes accordingly.
- 2025 Crack Sealing Contract – Russell Standard is in the process of scheduling the remaining crack sealing work from the Change Order approved at last month’s meeting.
- 2024 Storm Sewer Improvements – PA Small Water and Sewer Grant – This project was substantially completed July 10, 2025 and carries a one-year maintenance bond, which expires July 10, 2026. Kinsley has been notified of required repairs to the inlets on Emig Street and the fence near the storm sewer outfall at Keller Run.

PUBLIC WORKS

- The public works department have replaced the caps on the retaining wall at Emig Park by the basketball courts. They have started replacing the borders around the lower playground area.

ZONING

- The report was submitted for Council’s review.

SECRETARY

- First Energy LED Conversion Program – Met-Ed told Sharon there are no programs available to municipalities to convert customer-owned street lights to LED as they will not maintain customer owned streetlights. The solar street lights on Robin Ann Court and Steven Drive are not shedding enough light and is a safety concern to the residents. Council requested Sharon contact Ascom Electric to obtain a quote on replacing the two solar street lights on Robin Ann Court and one solar street light on Steven Drive with LED.
- Update on the Volunteer Tax Credit Eligibility List – Sharon prepared the Official Tax Credit Register for Council’s review. There were five volunteer fire fighters that submitted the proper paperwork to be eligible for a real estate tax and fire tax refund for the taxes paid in the year 2025. Sherry will issue the tax credits.
- Action on April 23, 2026 Council meeting -

Motion: Dan moved, seconded by Derek to cancel the April 23, 2026 Council meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

TREASURER

- The Treasurer’s report was provided for Council’s review.

Motion: Dan moved, seconded by Derek to approve the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion: Dan moved, seconded by Derek to approve the Liquid Fuels report. Motion carried 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Emergency Services – There was no report.
- Emig Park – Tomlinson Bomberger Proposal: A park committee meeting was scheduled for March 23, 2024. Cindy and Stephanie were in attendance. There was discussion regarding the placement of the Tricolor Beech tree and Mountain Laurel earmarked for Duffy and Marie Harms as well as placement of the Liberty Tree to be

planted by the Rotary Club in celebration of the 250th U.S. Anniversary. A proposal from Tomlinson Bomberger for the planting of one tri-color Beech tree and five Mountain Laurel in Emig Park in the amount of \$1,449.01. A separate proposal was provided by Franklin Bronze Plaques in the amount of \$393.00 for the memorial plaque honoring Duffy and Marie Harms.

Motion: Dan moved, seconded by Axel to accept the proposal from Tomlinson Bomberger in the amount of \$1,449.01 for the planting of one tri-color Beech tree and five Mountain Laurel in Emig Park and to accept the proposal from Franklin Bronze Plaques in the amount \$393.00 for the memorial plaque naming Duffy and Marie Harms, using the funds received from the Kreutz Creek Lions Club earmarked for Duffy and Marie Harms with any remaining cost to be expended from the Hallam Borough Park Capital Reserve fund. Motion passed 6-0.

- Hellam, Hallam, Wrightsville Comprehensive Plan (HHW Plan) – The HHW Plan report was provided to Council by Cindy Knox. The Project Team met with Michael Baker International on March 25, 2026 to discuss Chapters 1, 2 and 3 of the HHW Comprehensive Plan draft. There were several comments and changes to be made to these chapters. The committee will meet again on April 23, 2026 at the Hellam Township building to review the remaining chapters of the Plan with target completion still on point for early Spring.
- EYRA – Meeting minutes from the March 4, 2026 Board meeting were distributed to Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjourning, there was some discussion regarding the issue between neighbors regarding no parking on South Oak Avenue. There was no action taken at this time regarding the issue.

Motion: Dan moved, seconded by Rhonda to adjourn at 8:26 PM. Motion carried 6-0.

Secretary,