

# REGULAR MEETING OF HALLAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

December 11, 2023

The regular meeting of the Hallam Borough Council was held at the Hallam Borough Municipal building, located at 250 West Beaver Street, Hallam, PA 17406 at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Susan Horner, President Bill Fitzpatrick, VP Harry (Chip) Smith, Jr., Scott Nelson, Dan Harsh, Kim Krotzer and Cindy Knox.

Sharon Dupler, Secretary, Sherry Myers, Zoning Officer and Treasurer, Derek Rinaldo, C.S. Davidson Inc., Attorney Devon Myers, CGA Law Firm and to the best of my knowledge the following attendees: Chief Doug Pollock (Hellam Township Police Department), Barry Miller, Howard Gromling and Carl Newcomer (Hallam Borough Road Crew), Nicholas Troutman, Shane Dupler, Derek Dietz, Axel Ulrich, Rhonda Smeltzer, Michael Dugan (LNP Media) and Steph Felix.

**Chip moved, seconded by Cindy to approve the November 13<sup>th</sup> Council meeting minutes as written. Yes-Bill, Chip, Dan, Kim, Cindy. Abstained due to absence-Scott. Motion passed.**

Police Report – Chief Pollock gave the monthly police report. There were 88 calls for the month of November in the Borough. Officer Crater attended a week-long class to become a de-escalation instructor and Detective Mills attended a one-day class in understanding and tracing IP addresses. The police department participated in community events in the Borough and Hellam Township. There were no questions on the report.

Ambulance Report – There was no ambulance report submitted. Chief Pollock announced that Adam Marden has resigned from Penn State Health Life Lion; therefore, monthly ambulance reports may no longer be distributed.

Fire Company Report –In Chief Strittmatter’s absence, the monthly fire company report was distributed to Council prior to the meeting. There were 7 calls and 1 false alarm in Hallam Borough for the month of November. There were no questions on the report.

Solicitor Report: Devon requested action on Ordinance 2023-03, Repealing Ordinance 2022-03, Creating the Position of Independent Auditor. **Chip moved, seconded by Kim to approve Ordinance 2023-03, Repealing Ordinance 2022-03, Creating the Position of Independent Auditor. Motion passed unanimously.**

Attorney Myers announced that Scott Nelson has tendered his resignation from Borough Council on December 7, 2023. Council tabled filling the vacancy to allow those interested to submit a letter of interest.

Devon is reviewing comments from Wrightsville Borough’s Solicitor regarding the Regional Fire Commission Intermunicipal Agreement. There will be no action at this time. There is a Fire Strategic Planning committee meeting scheduled for January 10, 2024 at the Hellam Township Municipal building.

Engineer report: Local Share Grant: The committee met in November and tabled a decision until January.

2024 Street Maintenance: Council tabled discussion regarding the 2024 street maintenance until the January meeting.

Public Works: There was no report. Shane Dupler, 123 South Prospect Street, stated there is a speed limit sign on South Prospect Street that will need to be relocated due to the construction of a driveway at the south side of his property.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Zoning Officer: Sherry submitted a written report with minor notations. She received a rendering of the proposed building upgrade to Susquehanna Micro at the corner of West Beaver and Church Streets. She is still waiting on the formal application to be submitted.

Treasurer’s Report: The report was distributed prior to the meeting. Sherry prepared a copy of the 2024 General Fund Budget for the public to review.

Checking Account Balance.....	\$24,175.37
Receipts – Deposits + Interest.....	\$68,602.97
Trans In.....	\$0.00
Void Check.....	\$0.00
To Debit.....	\$0.00
Expenditures..... Check #8126 to Check #8150.....	\$45,883.09
Trans Debit.....	\$0.00
To War Memorial.....	\$0.00
Checking Account Balance.....	\$46,895.25

**Cindy moved, seconded by Chip to approve the Treasurer’s report. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Cindy moved, seconded by Chip to approve the Highway Aid with a balance of \$661.59. Motion passed unanimously.**

Secretary Report: There were several donation requests received. Council declined the donation to the Susquehanna Senior Center, located at the Lower Windsor Township building. Council asked Sharon to contact the senior center to ask how they serve Hallam Borough. **Chip moved, seconded by Scott to donate \$500.00 to the Horn Farm Center. Motion passed unanimously.** Council declined the donation request for the York County Quick Response Team.

Sharon received an email from a resident on North Lee Street requesting to have individual parking spaces painted on the street due to the congested parking situation. Derek commented that often times space to park is lost when you create individual painted parking spaces. Sharon replied to the email inviting the resident(s) to attend the Borough Council meeting to address the concerns; there was no response. Howard Gromling submitted an application for the Park Caretaker position. **Cindy moved, seconded by Kim to appoint Howard Gromling to the Park Caretaker position. Motion passed unanimously.** Sharon will contact Ron Gromling to see if he would be interested in the backup park caretaker position.

President Report: Bill stated the Strategic Fire Planning meeting was tabled until January. He thanked all who have served for the support over his last ten years on Council.

Mayor Report: There was no report. Mayor Horner thanked Council for her two years of service as Mayor and is looking forward to her new role as Council member.

Committee Reports: There was no EYCEMA report. There was no written report by the Media and Technology committee. Chip reported that he joined Sharon at the Borough office for a virtual website training. Chip stated that Ascom Electric will be working with the Borough to install the first solar street light on Steven Drive. A second solar street light was ordered to be installed on the Borough maintenance garage. The ARPA committee submitted a report. These funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and spent by December 31, 2026. The Health and Sanitation report was distributed with some noted collection issues. The merry-go-round has been repaired and freshly painted and will be placed back in Emig Park. Sharon received a 2024 weed maintenance proposal from Tomlinson Bomberger for Emig Park in the amount of \$1,161.00. **Cindy moved, seconded by Bill to accept the 2024 weed maintenance proposal from Tomlinson Bomberger for Emig Park in the amount of \$1,161.00. Motion passed unanimously.** After discussion at last month's meeting, the Building Committee received a second estimate to have a security system installed at the Borough office. An estimate from Advantage Security was submitted, with an initial cost of \$610.00 for installation and the equipment and also included a monthly monitoring fee of \$29.00. **Chip moved, seconded by Cindy authorizing Advantage Security to install a security system in the Borough office which will include an initial cost of \$610.00 for the installation and equipment as well as a monthly monitoring fee of \$29.00. Motion passed unanimously.** The consultant for the Regional Comprehensive Plan has scheduled an online committee meeting for Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

Eastern York Recreation Authority: The Authority has signed a new lease with the school district for use of the ball fields. There was some discussion on Mike Jacobson's, the Borough resident representative to the Recreation Authority, lack of attendance at the required monthly meetings. The Authority Board does not have a clause that states a member can only miss so many meetings so they cannot have him removed. Sharon has made several failed attempts to contact Mr. Jacobson. Council advised her to try once again to contact Mr. Jacobson to submit his resignation if he is unable to represent the Borough on the Eastern York Recreation Authority.

Unfinished Business: There was some discussion on the Proposed 2024 General Fund Budget. **In the absence of Crystal, Chip moved, seconded Cindy to give a one percent (1%) raise to all Borough employees. Yes-Chip, Cindy, Dan, Scott. No-Bill, Kim. Motion carried. Kim moved, seconded by Chip to adopt the 2024 General Fund Budget. Motion passed unanimously. Chip moved, seconded by Dan to pass Resolution 2023-07, Fixing the Tax Rate for the Year 2024. Motion passed unanimously.**

New Business: **Cindy moved, seconded by Kim to cancel the December 28, 2023 Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Cindy moved, seconded by Dan authorizing advertisement of the 2024 meeting schedule. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mark Wallerius, 535 Hengst Court, submitted a letter of interest for the Hallam Borough Planning Commission. **Chip moved, seconded by Cindy appointing Mark Wallerius as a member of the Hallam Borough Planning Commission to fulfill an unexpired term which ends on December 31, 2025. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Dan moved, seconded by Kim to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.**

Secretary,  
/s/ Sharon L. Dupler