

REGULAR MEETING OF HALLAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

February 8, 2021

The regular meeting of the Hallam Borough Council was held virtually using the GoToMeeting platform at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Glenn Wascovich, President Bill Fitzpatrick, VP Harry (Chip) Smith, Jr., Melody Stine, Matthew Flinchbaugh, Kim Krotzer, Cindy Knox and Crystal Weston.

Sharon Dupler, Secretary, Sherry Myers, Zoning Officer and Treasurer, Attorney Evan Gabel, CGA Law Firm, Derek Rinaldo, C.S. Davidson, Inc., and to the best of my knowledge the following attendees: Chief Doug Pollock (Hellam Township Police), Adam Marden (SVEMS), Phil Smith, Eric Strittmatter (Friendship Fire Co.), Rhonda Smeltzer and Rob Walker (Kreutz Creek Valley Elementary Principal), Deanna Graham and Susan Horner.

Due to an appointment, Adam Marden gave the ambulance report. There were 18 calls in the Borough for the month of January. There will be another EMT recruit academy beginning on April 19th for eight weeks. SVEMS just hired a new educator. There were no questions on the report.

Bill moved, seconded by Cindy to approve the January 11th minutes with the following correction to the Treasurer's report: Checking Account Balance.....\$17,393.62. Motion passed unanimously.

The monthly police report was distributed earlier. There were 64 calls for the month of January in the Borough. The police department has hired Mylinda Bull as an administrative assistant. There were no questions on the report.

The December fire company report was distributed. There was 1 call and 0 false alarms for the month of December in the Borough. There were no questions on the report.

The EYCEMA report was distributed earlier. There were no questions on the report.

Attorney Evan Gabel reviewed draft Ordinance 2021-1, Amending the Hallam Borough Code of Ordinances Chapter 21, Part 4, Section 403-Responsibility for Snow and Ice Removal. The reference to "crosswalks" could be confusing and should be removed. The ADA ramp is considered part of the sidewalk; therefore, the current ordinance is enforceable if the entire sidewalk is not cleared of snow and ice. The crosswalk reference will be removed and Sharon will advertise for adoption at the March meeting.

Evan prepared a draft COVID-19 employee policy for the Borough. He will forward to Sharon for Council's review.

There was some discussion on the parking situation at 275 South Prospect Street. The driveway on the south side of the property is located on Borough property (in Emig Park). There was a private agreement between the Borough and the property owner allowing them to use and be financially responsible for the maintenance of the driveway, with the understanding that the Borough has access to the driveway to enter park property. This agreement did not need to be a recorded document. The property is now under new ownership and the agreement did not transfer to the new property owner. Evan recommended a new agreement be made between the Borough and the new property owner. There was some discussion on the unpaved parking area on the north side of the property which is within the property limits. There must be a stable surface to park on if parking on the north side driveway depression. Evan will write a letter to the new property owner explaining the parking situation.

Derek gave the monthly engineer's report. Derek has been in contact with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) regarding the grant fund amount exceeding the project budget. He will be scheduling a meeting with the NFWF management committee to discuss the terms and conditions of the funding.

The structural designs have been completed for the Cherry Avenue bridge replacement project.

The 2021-2023 CDBG grant application for the Emig Park pedestrian bridge replacement and ADA improvements was submitted on January 15, 2021. It will be late April until an award is announced.

C.S. Davidson performed a site visit to 299 Frysville Road on January 29th to evaluate the property and begin to solicit quotes for demolition. Derek should have the quotes for Council's review at the March Council meeting. In preparation for demolition, the Borough will need to contact all utilities and request to have the services physically removed. As owner of record, the Borough will need a demolition permit from Code Administrators.

Phil is waiting for estimates he requested on the street repair work on Friendship Avenue between East Market Street and Forry Avenue.

Chip received a complaint from Ann Kunkel, 414 Arnold Lane, regarding vehicles being parked along Arnold Lane during a snow event when the snow needs to be plowed. After discussing, Chip, Phil and Chief Strittmatter will assess the streets to determine if snow emergency routes can be established within the Borough.

Rhonda Smeltzer and Dr. Rob Walker, Kreutz Creek Valley Elementary Principal, spoke to Council about the traffic congestion on North Lee Street about an hour before school and about an hour after the school dismisses. Parents are not adhering to the traffic pattern put in place by the school when dropping off and picking up their children. Rhonda and Dr. Walker requested Council post a sign that says no thru traffic between certain hours. After a lengthy discussion, Chip moved, seconded by Matthew to amend Chapter 15, Section 209 of the Code of Ordinances prohibiting turns onto North Lee Street during the hours of 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m. Motion passed unanimously. There

was further discussion. Chip rescinded the previous motion. Chip moved, seconded by Matthew to have a sign posted that reads “No Thru Traffic – Permitted Traffic Only from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m-3:30 p.m.” Motion passed unanimously. Sharon will contact Evan to see if a traffic study is required to be completed.

Sherry gave the Zoning Officer report. There were no questions on her report. There was no Planning Commission meeting held in January.

Sherry gave the monthly Treasurer's Report.

Checking Account Balance.....	\$17,393.62
Receipts – Deposits + Interest.....	\$34,815.84
From MM.....	\$95,000.00
Void Check	\$0.00
To Debit	\$1170.81
ExpendituresCheck #6918 to Check #6943.....	\$132,192.49
To Fire Tax	\$0.00
To War Memorial.....	\$0.00
Checking Account Balance.....	\$13,846.16

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

Crystal moved, seconded by Chip to approve the Highway Aid with a balance of \$87,401.13. Motion passed unanimously.

Kim compared the estimates from Steve Dellinger and Wit Works for restoring the War Memorial. He stated they are very similar but he recommended awarding the job to Wit Works because the cost estimate was lower than Steve Dellinger’s. Matthew moved, seconded by Chip to award the War Memorial restoration project to Wit Works in the amount of \$2,500.00 with the approval from Hellam Township and the Hellam VFW Post 7045. Motion passed unanimously.

Glenn gave the Mayor’s report. He received a complaint from a resident in the Wilson Springs development regarding the Wilson Springs Homeowner’s Association not clearing snow from the sidewalks. Sherry stated the sidewalks were cleared but she would monitor the situation in future snow events and send an enforcement letter to the Homeowner’s Association, if necessary.

Cindy moved, seconded by Chip to cancel the February 25, 2021 Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Cindy moved, seconded by Chip to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary,
/s/ Sharon L. Dupler