

REGULAR MEETING OF HALLAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

July 10, 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, Kim Krotzer, Cindy Knox and Crystal Weston.

Sharon Dupler, Secretary, Sherry Myers, Zoning Officer and Treasurer, Derek Rinaldo, C.S. Davidson Inc. and to the best of my knowledge the following attendees: Howard Gromling and Carl Newcomer (Hallam Borough Road Crew), Adam Marden (Penn State Health Life Lion), Eric Strittmatter (Hellam Fire Co. Fire Chief), Derek Dietz, Rhonda Smeltzer, Drew Heistand (Hellam Township Police Department), Dave and Sherry Nace and Barry Miller.

Cindy moved, seconded by Kim to approve the June 12th Council meeting minutes as written. Yes-Bill, Chip, Scott, Kim, Cindy. Abstained-Crystal. Motion passed.

There was some discussion on having a better timely monthly reporting method from the police department. Sharon stated that she has email correspondence from Corina Mann, Hellam Township Manager. She will forward the monthly police report the Township Supervisors receive prior to their monthly meetings to Sharon for distribution to Council. These reports contain reporting data for Hellam Township, Hallam Borough and Wrightsville Borough whereas, the reports the Borough was receiving have reporting data for only Hallam Borough.

Ambulance Report - The ambulance report was submitted prior to the meeting. There were 13 calls for the month of June in the Borough. There were no questions on the report.

Fire Company Report - Chief Eric Strittmatter gave the fire company report. For the month of June, there were 5 calls and 1 false alarm in the Borough. Several fire company members attended training on fire attack in attic fires and participated in a tabletop exercise as part of planning for active shooter incidents. The Brush committee held a preconstruction meeting for production of a completed Brush truck. Delivery is anticipated to be between December 2023 and April 2024. There were no questions on the report.

Solicitor Report: **Chip moved, seconded by Crystal authorizing Ordinance 2023-01, Authorizing Execution of a Cable Franchise Agreement Between the Borough of Hallam and Comcast of Southeast Pennsylvania, LLC. Motion passed unanimously.**

There was discussion regarding the earned income and property tax values being considered for the Volunteer Tax Credit Program. There are currently fifteen (15) fire volunteers that are Borough residents and nine (9) that own property. If the earned income tax credit is passed, which would allow a maximum rebate of \$500 per person, the total cost to the Borough would be a maximum of \$7,500.00. If the real property tax credit is passed at a maximum of 100% of the Borough tax, it would cost the Borough \$5,348.43 at the current millage rate of 5.2 and an average assessed property value of \$114,282. Devon will draft a resolution for Council's consideration using the same two-level eligibility criteria as York County's resolution; one level receiving a twenty-five percent (25%) credit for earning 50 eligibility points and a second level receiving a fifty percent (50%) credit for earning 100 eligibility points.

Devon spoke to Council regarding adopting a policy or procedure for who is allowed access to the Borough Solicitor between meetings so the Solicitor is clear on what she is permitted to do. There was some discussion with no resolution.

Devon also spoke to Council regarding adopting a policy or procedure regarding handling information pertaining to committee meetings because Sharon is not receiving committee information/documents that the entire Council should be aware of prior to the monthly Council meeting. After discussion, Devon will draft a policy requiring the committee chair to submit a committee meeting summary to the Borough Secretary seven (7) calendar days prior to the next Council meeting for inclusion in the meeting packet for Borough Council.

Devon stated that she spoke with Ted Evgeniadis from the Lower Susquehanna Valley Riverkeepers. He would like to coordinate a time to pick up his signs that were taken down in Emig Park. Devon invited him to come back to a Council meeting if he wanted to make a new request.

Sharon provided Council with a contract for code enforcement services from Commonwealth Code Inspection Services for review and consideration. **Kim moved, seconded by Cindy to appoint Commonwealth Code Inspection Services, Inc. as the code enforcement agency and authorize Commonwealth Code Inspection Services, Inc. to perform the services identified in the agreement contingent upon the agreement being satisfactory to the Borough Solicitor and being fully executed. Yes-Bill, Scott, Kim, Cindy, Crystal. Abstained-Chip. Motion passed.**

Police Report: Lieutenant Heistand gave the monthly police report. Officers participated in several training classes. Jason Test retired as a Hellam Township Police Officer and is now the Hellam Township Zoning Officer. Lieutenant Heistand stated the department is having difficulty viewing the park camera footage. They are working to resolve the issue.

Engineer report: York Water/Columbia Gas Project: Columbia Gas had to submit for another Highway Occupancy Permit through PennDOT and is currently under review.

PA Small Water and Sewer Grant: There is a delay at the State so this award may not happen until August or September.

2023 Street Maintenance: Construction is anticipated to begin in August.

West Beaver Street Swale Erosion (Keller Run): Land Studies provided the Borough a formal monitoring report in June 2023. After reviewing the permit monitoring conditions, two corrective measures are required: the addition of some hand-placed R4 sized riprap in the channel downstream of the pedestrian bridge to prevent any further channel incision and to replant some shrubbery with some sort of deer protection fencing. The Borough maintenance crew is planning to address these issues.

Public Comment: Sherry and Dave Nace, Hellam Township residents, requesting Council establish one safe pedestrian crossing from the north side of Market Street to the south side of Market Street by erecting a rapid-flashing beacon type sign. Sherry Nace contacted Kristin Phillips-Hill regarding pedestrian crosswalks and shared the email with Sharon for Council's consideration.

Zoning Officer: The report was distributed for Council's review. Several enforcement letters were issued as noted in the report.

Treasurer's Report: The report was distributed prior to the meeting. Sherry attached a report of income/expense compared to budget for the first six months of 2023.

Checking Account Balance.....	\$57,647.22
Receipts – Deposits + Interest.....	\$63,935.34
Trans In.....	\$0.00
Void Check.....	\$0.00
To Debit.....	\$881.97
Expenditures..... Check #7938 to Check #7982.....	\$75,380.00
Trans MM.....	\$0.00
To War Memorial.....	\$0.00
Checking Account Balance.....	\$45,320.59

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 \$97,632.89. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Report: There was some discussion regarding a dedication ceremony to be held on August 20th at Emig Park for Linda Stillinger by her family. Charles Stillinger, Linda's husband, requested Council make an announcement or advertise the dedication to the public. Council chose not to announce or advertise to the public as this was an event the family chose to have and did not follow the current social media policy. Mayor Sue did offer to speak at the dedication.

President Report: Bill spoke about the Fire Strategic Planning Services draft document which contained a culmination of monthly meetings held with emergency services to possibly establish a regional fire commission. A future public meeting will be advertised to hear all of the details regarding the Fire Strategic Planning Services.

Mayor Report: Mayor Horner attended the Fire Strategic Planning meeting on June 28, 2023 at the Hellam Township building. She handed out several yellow courtesy reminder cards along Market Street as a reminder to residents of their responsibility for outside maintenance. Mayor Horner will be performing a wedding on August 12, 2023.

Committee Reports: The EYCEMA report was submitted prior to the meeting. There was no written report submitted by the Media and Technology committee. Crystal knew someone that was able to spruce up a previous design for a Borough logo for Council's consideration. **Cindy moved, seconded by Scott to adopt the submitted design as the Borough logo. Motion passed unanimously.** There was no ARPA report submitted. The Health and Sanitation report was distributed prior to the meeting with some noted collection issues. A reminder will be posted on the Borough's Facebook page informing residents that they must call Republic Services to have a large item pre-scheduled for collection day. On-line requests cannot be made at this time. There is a large tree next to the Oak pavilion at Emig Park that is dying. Jake and Howie got an estimate from Ray's Tree Removal in the amount of \$1,200.00 to have it cut down. Council agreed that because of the location it should be removed. Ron Gromling, Park Caretaker, submitted a resignation letter to Sharon, effective October 31, 2023. **Chip moved, seconded by Kim to accept Ron Gromling's resignation, with regrets. Motion passed unanimously.** Sharon will distribute the park caretaker job description to Council for considering a replacement. The Building committee met June 26, 2023 to further discuss the possibility of retaining the existing building for offices and adding a front porch vestibule and an addition for a meeting room to the eastern side of the building. Discussion continued on improvement possibilities. The committee will meet again on July 24, 2023 and report back to Council. There was no update on the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The committee is waiting on the award announcement from the State.

Eastern York Recreation Authority: There was no report.

Chip moved, seconded by Cindy to cancel the July 27, 2023 Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Cindy moved, seconded by Chip to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary,
/s/ Sharon L. Dupler