

REGULAR MEETING OF HALLAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

November 13, 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 6:31 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Susan Horner, President Bill Fitzpatrick, VP Harry (Chip) Smith, Jr., Dan Harsh, Kim Krotzer, Cindy Knox and Crystal Weston.

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), Eric Strittmatter (Hellam Fire Co. Fire Chief), Derek Dietz, Axel Ulrich, Rhonda Smeltzer, Michael Dugan (LNP Media) and Steph Felix.

President Fitzpatrick announced an Executive Session was held at 6:00 p.m. to discuss salaries for the 2024 budget.

Chip moved, seconded by Crystal to approve the October 26th Council meeting minutes as written. Yes-Bill, Chip, Kim, Cindy, Crystal. Abstained-Dan. Motion passed.

Police Report – The monthly police report was distributed prior to the meeting. There were 100 calls for the month of October in the Borough. Several officers completed various training classes. The police department received a generous donation from Don’s Kawasaki and Polaris. The funds were used to purchase three “door breaching kits” to be stored in the patrol cars and new medical supplies to stock the “go bags” in the patrol cars for trauma style injuries. Chief Pollock reported there are meetings continuing to be held regarding active shooter planning. There were no questions on the report.

Ambulance Report - There were 13 calls for the month of October in the Borough. There were no questions on the report.

Fire Company Report –Chief Eric Strittmatter gave the fire company report. There were 3 calls and 1 false alarm in Hallam Borough for the month of October. Four sets of turnout gear were received from a new manufacturer and put into service for evaluation.

Solicitor Report: Ordinance 2023-02, Amending Ordinance 2015-2 and 2019-03, Hallam Borough False Alarms was distributed to Council for approval. **Crystal moved, seconded by Chip to approve Ordinance 2023-02, Amending Ordinance 2015-2 and 2019-03, Hallam Borough False Alarms. Motion passed unanimously.**

Resolution 23-06, Amending Resolution No. 13-04, The Compensation to be Paid to Appointed Members of the Board of the Eastern York County Sewer Authority was distributed to Council for approval. This resolution would increase the compensation from \$150.00 to \$175.00 per meeting to the appointed Board members. The increase will take effect January 1, 2024 but members are not entitled to the increase until appointed to new term. **Cindy moved, seconded by Crystal to approve Resolution 23-06, The Compensation to be Paid to Appointed Members of the Board of the Eastern York County Sewer Authority. Motion passed unanimously.**

There was discussion regarding continuing with an independent auditor or reverting to elected auditors. By ordinance, there is currently an independent auditor in place. Council will either need to appoint, by Resolution, an independent auditor for next year within 30 days of the end of this year or repeal the existing ordinance for independent auditor to allow elected auditors. **Crystal moved, seconded by Kim authorizing advertisement to repeal Ordinance 2022-03, Creating the position of Independent Auditor. Motion passed unanimously.** Devon will draft a repeal to be advertised.

A Notice of Sheriff Sale was mailed to CGA Law Firm and the Borough office for 182 South Prospect Street. This means that the Borough is guaranteed to receive the funds for the sidewalk lien that was placed on this property from the 2012 South Prospect Street Project.

Devon reminded Council that the January meeting will be an organizational meeting and will be held on January 2, 2024.

Bill forwarded an email to Devon and Borough Council for review. The email was from the emergency services committee containing a proposed Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement establishing a Regional Fire Commission. After reviewing the agreement, Devon had several questions and Council did not have the agreement in enough time to review it prior to the Council meeting. The proposed Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement will have to go back to the emergency services committee for continuity before all three (3) municipalities can present it to their respective Boards for a vote. Discussion was tabled until the December Council meeting.

Engineer report: *PA Small Water and Sewer Grant:* An award announcement is still being delayed by the State. Derek advised Council to wait a couple more months to see what happens before moving on to another funding source.

Statewide Local Share Grant: At the last Council meeting, there was some discussion on pursuing dollars for the potential expansion of the Borough office. After reviewing the architectural drawings, Derek estimated applying for a grant amount of around \$600,000.00. Derek requested authorization to submit a Local Share Grant application for the potential expansion of the Borough office. There was some discussion regarding what has already been budgeted toward

a possible building expansion and the amount available in the Capital Reserve account. Derek stated there is enough currently budgeted to get the grant submitted. **Chip moved, seconded by Crystal authorizing C.S. Davidson to proceed with applying for the grant and within the grant, state that the Borough has a capital reserve fund of \$125,000 and will consider spending a bulk of that towards the project. Yes-Chip, Crystal, Dan. No-Bill, Kim, Cindy. Motion tied. With a deciding vote of “No” cast by the Mayor, motion failed.**

Hake Avenue Drainage: After evaluating drainage improvements to Hake Avenue between Franklin Street and Church Street and finding that there are currently no storm sewer facilities on this street or in the general vicinity to extend to, Derek recommended rebuilding the alley to provide an inverted crown in the center of the street (as was recently completed on West Forry Avenue between South Broad Street and South Prospect Street) and convey runoff via surface flow to Franklin and Church Streets. Derek estimated a construction budget for this project of \$75,000-\$80,000. There was some discussion to install storm sewer to carry the water away. Cost for the installation of the new storm sewer would be roughly \$150,000. There was no decision made at this time on the Hake Avenue drainage improvements.

Public Works: There was no report.

Public Comment: Rhonda Smeltzer, 260 Meadowbrook Avenue, requested permission to proceed with gathering information to have Hometown Hero banners installed in Hallam Borough. **Dan moved, seconded by Cindy authorizing Rhonda Smeltzer to proceed with gathering information to have Hometown Hero banners installed on the utility poles in Hallam Borough. Motion passed unanimously.**

Zoning Officer: Sherry is expecting a formal application to be submitted by Susquehanna Micro, 198 West Beaver Street, for a special exception and dimensional variances. Numerous street opening applications were submitted from both the water and gas companies. There were no questions on the report.

Treasurer's Report: The report was distributed prior to the meeting. Sherry prepared a revised draft of the 2024 General Fund Budget for Council’s review. She attended the York Adams Tax Bureau meeting on October 30th. Al Timko, York Adams Tax Bureau Director, has announced his retirement. Sherry plans to attend a special meeting at the York Adams Tax Bureau on November 16th to vote on a new Director.

Checking Account Balance.....	\$66,041.49
Receipts – Deposits + Interest.....	\$36,535.78
Trans In.....	\$55,000.00
Void Check.....	\$0.00
To Debit.....	\$0.00
Expenditures..... Check #8093 to Check #8118.....	\$132,673.05
Trans Debit.....	\$728.85
To War Memorial.....	\$0.00
Checking Account Balance.....	\$24,175.37

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 \$661.54. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Report: Sharon announced that the Benevolent food drive held at Faith United Methodist Church will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. so families will have the food they need for Thanksgiving.

President Report: Bill gave an update regarding the Fire Service Strategic Planning. As discussed earlier, there was a meeting held at the Hellam Township Municipal building on Wednesday, November 8th. There were questions regarding the draft agreement that was distributed; therefore, there will need to be another committee meeting scheduled.

Mayor Report: Mayor Horner attended several emergency service meetings. She was invited to speak at the Hellam Fire Company’s 100th anniversary celebration.

Committee Reports: The EYCEMA report was submitted prior to the meeting. The Media and Technology committee posted the Benevolent food drive date change for this month due to Thanksgiving. Chip researched having a security system installed at the Borough office and received one estimate. The estimate was from Pye Barker Fire and Safety which included an installation fee of \$1,497.00 and a monthly monitoring fee of \$54.00 (\$648.00 annually). Council decided to get another quote before proceeding. There was no report from the ARPA committee. The Health and Sanitation report was distributed prior to the meeting with some noted collection issues. The public works crew is in the process of repairing the merry-go-round at Emig Park. There was no update from the Building committee. The War Memorial will stay decorated in observance of the holiday season and Pearl Harbor Day. There was no update on the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

Eastern York Recreation Authority: The Authority is still working on drafting a new lease with the school district.

Unfinished Business: There was some discussion on the Proposed 2024 General Fund Budget. **Kim moved, seconded by Cindy, authorizing advertisement of the Proposed 2024 General Fund Budget. Motion passed unanimously.**

New Business: **Crystal moved, seconded by Chip to cancel the November 16, 2023 Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**

Chip moved, seconded by Crystal to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary,
/s/ Sharon L. Dupler