

REGULAR MEETING OF HALLAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

September 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 6:31 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Susan Horner, President Bill Fitzpatrick, VP Harry (Chip) Smith, Jr., Scott Nelson, 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: Carl Newcomer (Hallam Borough Road Crew), Chief Doug Pollock (Hellam Township Police Department), Eric Strittmatter (Hellam Fire Co. Fire Chief), Derek Dietz, Axel Ulrich, Rhonda Smeltzer and Barry Miller.

Chip moved to amend the August 14th Council meeting minutes to read as follows: After months of malicious hinting, Bill Fitzpatrick insisted, without providing any supporting documentation, that Chip Smith's involvement with any ordinance of any sort is a violation of ethics laws due to him being employed by Code Administrators. Chip called Bill an idiot, Bill responded that Chip was an asshole, ending the discussion. Motion died for a lack of a second.

Kim moved, seconded by Scott to approve the August 14th Council meeting minutes as written. Yes-Bill, Scott, Kim, Cindy. No-Chip. Abstained-Crystal and Dan. Motion passed.

Police Report – Chief Pollock gave the monthly police report. There were 103 calls for the month of August in the Borough. The police department has successfully implemented a therapy dog into Kreutz Creek and Wrightsville Elementary Schools. Five officers had the opportunity to attend a live seminar with Attorney Chris Boyle, the go-to individual when an officer has a legal question. There were no questions on the report.

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

Fire Company Report –Chief Eric Strittmatter gave the fire company report. There were 8 calls and 0 false alarms in Hallam Borough for the month of August. Members attended various training classes. Crews were present each night of the Hellam Recreation Carnival. Chief Strittmatter added there were no noted issues with the Saturday fireworks.

Fire Service Strategic Planning: Bill opened discussion regarding the special meeting that was held on August 16, 2023 with presenter Jerry Ozog, Hallam Borough Council, Wrightsville Borough Council and Hellam Township Board of Supervisors for the purpose of presenting the Fire Service Strategic Planning report. The planning report suggested creating a fire commission or establishing an Intergovernmental Agreement to define the roles and responsibilities of and to have structured continuity between the fire stations (Hellam and Wrightsville). No further information has been released since the special meeting.

Solicitor Report: *Volunteer Tax Credit Program:* **Cindy moved, seconded by Crystal to adopt Ordinance 2023-01, Establishing A Volunteer Service Credit Program; Enacting Tax Credits for Volunteer Members of Volunteer Fire Companies and Nonprofit Emergency Medical Service Agencies; And Establishing Administrative Procedures and Appeals. Motion passed unanimously.**

Chip moved, seconded by Cindy to pass Resolution 2023-05, Establishing Program Criteria for the Volunteer Service Credit Program. Motion passed unanimously.

Devon and Sharon created a tax exemption application for both the earned income tax and the real estate taxes for those volunteers that have met the requirements to qualify for an exemption. The next step is for Chief Strittmatter to certify a volunteer eligibility list for the year ending 2023, which is required to be transmitted to the Borough by January 15, 2024.

A draft committee policy was distributed to Council for review and comment. The basis for the policy is for each committee to submit a meeting summary, as well as any documentation, to Sharon so that all of Council is informed as to what is going on within each committee. Chip requested a change to the policy be made to include that advanced notice of one (1) week of the committee meeting be given to the Secretary and to also include that in the event of an emergency committee meeting, reasonable notice of the committee meeting be given to the Secretary. Devon will make the requested changes and provide an update at the next Council meeting.

Engineer report: *York Water/Columbia Gas Project:* There was no update available.

PA Small Water and Sewer Grant: An award announcement has been further delayed by the State.

2023 Street Maintenance Contract #2: Application for Payment No. 1 (Final) in the amount of \$37,903.70 was provided to the Borough for approval and payment. However, the amount of the payment request did not include the credit of \$125/hour for use of the Borough dump truck to haul away the loose stones from the project. Derek will contact Martin Paving for a revised amount and send a revised Application for Payment to Sharon for processing.

2023 Street Maintenance Contract #1: Kinsley Construction has satisfactorily completed the project. Derek anticipates a final application for payment will be submitted for Council's approval at the October meeting.

West Beaver Street Swale Erosion (Keller Run): There were four (4) serviceberry shrubs and one (1) eastern redbud damaged by the deer. It is recommended these be replanted so that the overall tree and shrub mortality is less than ten percent (10%).

PA DCED Local Share Grant: An official resolution must be passed for submission of a grant requesting a Category 4 Facilities Local Share Assessment grant in the amount of \$82,441 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for purchasing large equipment. **Chip moved, seconded by Kim to pass an Authorized Official Resolution for submission of a grant application for a Category 4 Facilities Local Share Assessment grant. Motion passed unanimously.** Kim provided quotes for solar powered flashing pedestrian crossing and speed limit signs. There was some discussion about possibly including these quotes in the grant application. There was also discussion on researching alternative funding sources.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Zoning Officer: The report was distributed for Council's review. There were no questions on the report.

Treasurer's Report: The report was distributed prior to the meeting. A virtual workers compensation insurance audit was completed for the policy period of August 1, 2022 thru August 1, 2023. The school district was invoiced for half of the crossing guard wages for the 2022-2023 school year.

Checking Account Balance.....	\$43,373.99
Receipts – Deposits + Interest.....	\$67,446.20
Trans In.....	\$0.00
Void Check.....	\$0.00
To Debit.....	\$0.00
Expenditures..... Check #8020 to Check #8042.....	\$39,716.38
Trans MM.....	\$0.00
To War Memorial.....	\$0.00
Checking Account Balance.....	\$70,103.81

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 \$97,649.47. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Report: The 2024 SPCA contract was provided to Council for approval. **Chip moved, seconded by Chip to enter into a 2024 contract for services with the York County SPCA in the amount of \$1,976.00. Motion passed unanimously.**

President Report: Bill attended two emergency services meetings.

Mayor Report: Mayor Horner submitted a written report. She was invited to speak at the bridge dedication at Emig Park for Linda Stillinger on August 20, 2023. Mayor Horner performed a wedding on September 9, 2023 in Mount Joy, PA.

Committee Reports: The EYCEMA report was submitted prior to the meeting. The Media and Technology committee submitted a report with some noted updates to the Borough website and Facebook page. An ARPA report was not submitted as there were no noted changes. The Health and Sanitation report was distributed prior to the meeting with some noted collection issues. Chip suggested deducting from the monthly invoice for missed collections as noted in the contract rather than contacting Republic Services to have them return for missed items. Sharon will contact Republic Services to request that they mail a notice to Borough residents of the change in the collection method for large items. Cindy requested a quote for the purchase of new playground equipment. After some discussion, Council agreed to purchase five (5) butterfly climbers and reduce the budget line item for next year. Cindy noted the stairs at the Oak pavilion will be replaced by Jake and Howie in the next month or so. The Building committee provided new floor plan drawings of the Borough building. The next step would be for the building committee to meet with Jim Hamrick on Monday, September 25th to discuss how to proceed with determining a cost for the project. Kim continues to decorate the War Memorial. There was no update on the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

Eastern York Recreation Authority: A new 25-year lease with the school district is currently being drafted.

New Business: **Chip moved, seconded by Cindy to cancel the September 28, 2023 Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.** **Cindy moved, seconded by Chip to set trick-or-treat night for Tuesday, October 31, 2023 from 6-8 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.**

Crystal moved, seconded by Chip to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary,
/s/ Sharon L. Dupler