

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Hummelstown Borough Council
Thursday, January 21, 2021
7:30 p.m.

Due to COVID-19 the Borough building was not open to the public. The Thursday January 21, 2021 regular meeting of the Hummelstown Borough Council was a hybrid type attendance for council. Council members had the option to attend via Skype or in person. The meeting was called to order by President Brian Foster at 7:35 p.m. Members in attendance included; Brian Foster, Bob Weber, Dee VanGavree, Patti Krow, Chad Lister, and Randy Lutz. Chief Justin Hess, Borough Manager Mike O’Keefe, Finance Director Deb Hummer, Asst. Zoning officer Steve Wyld and Mayor Dave Roeting were also present. Council member Chris Black and Solicitor Michael Miller attended the meeting remotely.

Citizens Hearings

Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Bob Weber, second by Patti Krow. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of the following meetings:

Regular Meeting of December 17, 2020

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Bob Weber, second by Dee VanGavree. Motion carried.

Workshop Meeting of January 14, 2021

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Patti Krow, second by Chad Lister. Motion carried.

Citizens Hearings

Chief Hess reported there were no concerned citizens attending virtually.

Staff Reports

Manager’s Report

Mike O’Keefe reported there were no new items since the workshop meeting.

Zoning Officer’s Report

The Zoning Officer’s report was accepted as submitted. Steve Wyld reported that the John Deere gator will be purchased in the near future. The price came in as budgeted.

Police Report

Chief Hess reported that he along with the Mayor, Mike O’Keefe, Brian Foster, Dee VanGavree, and Chris Black attended a meeting with DA Chardo and Commissioner Hartwick to discuss the co-responder program. Based on this meeting Chief Hess is recommending council vote to support the program in 2021. DA Chardo would like to see a \$5,000 commitment by Derry and Hummelstown for the year 2021. This will provide the Borough a co-responder for 20 hours a week. Future years cost will be determined after the 2021 calls and services rendered are evaluated. Officer Kopinetz will be attending 40 hours of training to learn to recognize and deal with individuals with mental illness.

A motion to authorize payment of \$5,000 as the Borough’s share for 2021 for the co-responder program was made by Patti Krow, second by Dee VanGavree. Motion carried.

Chief Hess also reported that today he attended a webinar regarding COVID-19 vaccines and what employers need to know. He will share this information with Mike O’Keefe and Deb Hummer.

Fire Company Report

A report was submitted by the Fire Company for council’s review. There were no members from the Fire Company present.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Roeting reported he and Miss Hummelstown will be moseying around the White Light and Ice event in the square. He also reported that he met with Commissioner Pries and Gerry Feaser to discuss issues at the voting polls mainly regarding the large amount of voters and the long wait time to vote for residents on the west side of town. Mayor Roeting also said the polls are always in need of volunteers.

Financial Report

A motion to accept the financial report was made by Bob Weber, second by Chad Lister. Motion carried.

Tax Collector's Report

A motion to accept the tax collector's report was made by Patti Krow, second by Dee VanGavree. Motion carried.

Tax Exoneration & Exemption Report dated January 21, 2021

A motion to accept the report was made by Dee VanGavree, second by Chad Lister. Motion carried.

Recreation Board

Mike O'Keefe reported that there was no meeting this month but the board is planning on meeting in February. Dee VanGavree reported that she and Brian Foster met to discuss the Chick's golf tournament. Chick's donates a portion of the proceeds to the summer recreation program. Dee and Mike O'Keefe will be meeting on February 9th with summer recreation director Tim Bartholomew to discuss the logistics of holding the summer recreation program at Nye Elementary.

Emergency Mgmt. Oversight Committee

Dee VanGavree reported that TMI has been defueled. There will be no more TMI drills. The committee will be meeting February 4th to discuss their goals for 2021.

Shade Tree Commission

The committee did not have a meeting.

COG Meeting

Brian Foster said that he had planned on attending the meeting but the location had been changed and he did not have accurate directions to the new address. He will share the minutes of that meeting when he gets them.

Communications Committee Report

Dee VanGavree reported that the committee had met last week and this week before the council meetings. The committee is trying to work through direction and oversight. They will be looking to Eckert Seamans for advice.

New Business

Motion: To approve Ordinance No. 2021-1 establishing the salary for the Tax Collector position for the term January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2025.

Motion made by Chris Black, second by Bob Weber. Motion carried.

Motion: To authorize the advertisement of a proposed ordinance regulating food trucks for consideration at the February 18, 2021 Council meeting.

Motion made by Bob Weber, second by Patti Krow. Motion carried.

Motion: To approve a proposal dated December 18, 2020 from Geo Services, Ltd in an amount not to exceed \$2,300 for a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment of the former 7-11 property at 888 W Main St.

Motion made by Dee VanGavree, second by Chris Black. Motion carried.

Motion: To approve a proposal dated December 18, 2020 from JSR Appraisal Group in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for an appraisal report for the former 7-11 property at 888 W Main St.

Motion made by Patti Krow, second by Chris Black. Motion carried.

Motion: To authorize the Civil Service Commission to retain a professional vendor to assist the Commission in creating a new eligibility list for the position of Police Officer.

Motion made by Randy Lutz, second by Dee VanGavree. Motion carried.

Other Business

Mike O’Keefe reported that the Swatara Township Sewer Authority Zoom meeting will be on February 15th at 6:00 pm. He will send a link to council should anyone choose to participate. Mike imagines there will be some discussion regarding the dry situation.

Dee VanGavree reported that on January 19th or 20th she was a participant in a Zoom meeting with HRG to discuss potential 2021 projects. On February 8th she will be meeting with HRG at the square and walking down Main Street to see what could be done to revitalize downtown.

Approval of bills payable dated January 21, 2021.

A motion to approve the bills was made by Patti Krow, second by Randy Lutz. Motion carried.

Executive Session – Personnel Matter

Council rose into Executive session at 8:05.

Adjourn

Council reconvened at 8:35 pm

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Deb Hummer, Finance Director