

Minutes  
Workshop Meeting  
Hummelstown Borough Council  
Thursday, February 11, 2021  
7:30 PM

Due to COVID-19 the Borough building was not open to the public. The Thursday February 11, 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 Vice-President Bob Weber at 7:30 p.m. Members in attendance included Bob Weber, Dee VanGavree, Patti Krow, Chad Lister, Chris Black, and Randy Lutz. Brian Foster joined the meeting at approximately 7:45 p.m. Chief Justin Hess, Borough Manager Mike O'Keefe, Finance Director Deb Hummer, Asst. Zoning officer Steve Wyld, Mayor Dave Roeting and Solicitor Tara Burns were also present.

**Citizens Hearings**

There were no citizens present.

**Police Department**

**A. Miscellaneous**

Chief Hess reported that he has obtained COVID vaccinations for officers and support staff. Out of those eligible, 4 have chosen to receive it.

Officers Kling and Allen attended Minimal Facts Interview training presented by the Children's Resource Center.

The resident at 28 N Railroad Street would like to keep the handicapped space in front of her house that was designated for a resident that has passed away. She has COPD and cannot walk long distances. Chief Hess confirmed there is no parking in the rear of the residence and is recommending the parking space remain. Council agreed with his recommendation.

**Public Works**

**A. Reminder of Swatara Township Sewer Authority Zoom Meeting.**

Mike O'Keefe reminded everyone of the annual meeting on Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Swatara will review plant operations for the past year. There will be discussion of the new dryer. Only three council members will be able to attend as this meeting was not advertised. Steve Wyld will give the Borough Chapter 94 report.

**B. Zoom meeting with HRG to discuss potential improvements to the downtown area Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.**

Dee VanGavree reported that the meeting had been originally scheduled for February 8<sup>th</sup> but with the patterns of snow Mike O'Keefe suggested a Zoom meeting and utilizing Google maps.

**C. Update on Quarry Road Sidewalk Project**

Mike O'Keefe reported that he hopes to have information together by February 18<sup>th</sup>. Because the project is being funded by federal funds there is a separate consulting engineer selection process the Borough will have to go through. Mike feels this will take a couple to several months. He will keep council posted but the project will not be able to be started until that process is completed.

**D. Update on Stormwater Project**

Mike O'Keefe reported HRG is meeting with Derry Township to go over the Bullfrog Valley design. They are going to discuss obtaining permits, so things are moving along and they hope to have an update with the Borough regarding the proposed MOU.

**Administration**

**A. Recommendation to approve Resolution No. 2021-R-1 Eliminating Need for Contributions to Uniformed Pension Plan for 2021**

*Recommendation to put on the February 18<sup>th</sup> agenda for adoption made by Patti Krow and Chad Lister.*

**B. Recommendation to approve Resolution No. 2021-R-2 approving a COVID-19 Employee Leave Policy.**

*Motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-R-2 made by Chris Black, second by Chad Lister. Motion carried.*

**C. Recommendation to place proposed Ordinance No. 2021-2 and Resolution R-2021-3 on the February 18, 2021 meeting agenda regarding adoption of regulations and inspection fees for Food Trucks. (Ordinance has been advertised for action at the February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.)**

*Recommendation to put approval of Ordinance No. 2021-2 and Resolution No. R-2021-3 on the February 18<sup>th</sup> agenda made by Dee VanGavree and Patti Krow.*

**D. Recommendation to appoint Debra Hummer as delegate to the Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee (Mike O’Keefe as alternate)**

*Motion to appoint Debra Hummer as delegate to the Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee made by Patti Krow, second by Chris Black. Motion carried.*

**E. Review of request from Hummelstown Baseball-Softball Assn. for use of Borough owned baseball/softball fields for 2021 season and mid-season event at Schaffner park on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

Mike O’Keefe reported he had a call the other day from Carlos Rivera to discuss the upcoming baseball season. Mike asked him to send a request in writing for the items he is interested in. They would like to have first priority to the fields, but they would allow them to be used when they were not in use by the Assn. They are planning a special event in May. Mike told him we couldn’t guarantee the permission to have the event right now because we are not really sure of the status of the various recreational facilities.

In the meantime, Bob Doane, a Hummelstown resident, has been operating a field scheduling application. Bob said he will go to their meetings and block out the times with them. Tara Burns recommended a waiver. It would involve cleaning and disinfecting of spaces that are commonly used and in PA face coverings are required. Signage should be used encouraging social distancing. The associations will also need to supply porta potties because the restroom will not be available for use.

It was decided that Bob Doane will be used to do the scheduling.

*Motion to support the electronic scheduling by Bob Doane for the Borough fields and to also have the associations and groups that use the field provide waivers to the Borough following all COVID guidelines for the 2021 year made by Chad Lister, second by Patti Krow. Motion carried.*

**F. Continued discussion of closure of Borough facilities due to COVID-19.**

Deb Hummer stated that residents are not as understanding now as they were when the building was closed during the first wave of the pandemic. There have been many occasions when the administrative staff has had to open the door and interact with the residents. Staff feels it would be much safer behind the glass than going to the door. Chief Hess said we erred on the side of caution but he doesn’t think it’s fair to have the administrative staff continue with the current decision. Deb will talk to the tax collector and see if she would be comfortable coming back. After some discussion it was decided to open the door beginning February 22<sup>nd</sup> but rope off the area past the door the to tax collector’s office.

Mike O’Keefe mentioned that council needs to decide what to do about park rentals. Tara Burns suggested the pavilions remain closed and put this under close review as things change very rapidly. Mike O’Keefe stated that the parks were never officially closed. After continued discussion it was decided that the facilities will not be rented out, but people could use the pavilions as they have been doing. There will be a review in 30 days to revisit this decision.

**Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Executive Session (Personnel/Real Estate Matter)**

Council rose into Executive Session at 8:25 PM

**Adjourn**

Council reconvened at 8:55 PM

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Deb Hummer, Finance Director