

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

The March 11, 2021 Workshop meeting was called to order by President Brian Foster at 7:30 p.m. The public was invited to attend via Skype. Members in attendance included Bob Weber, Dee VanGavree, Patti Krow, Chad Lister, Chris Black, and Randy Lutz. Sergeant Eugene Spencer, Borough Manager Mike O'Keefe, Finance Director Deb Hummer, Asst. Zoning officer Steve Wyld, and Solicitor Michael Miller were also present. Jill Osevala organizer of the Hunger Run was present via Skype.

Citizens Hearings

There were no citizen comments.

Police Department

A. Update on Hiring of Full-time Police Officer

Sergeant Spencer reported that the ad was placed on Penn Live. The last day to receive applications will be March 19th at 4:00 pm. The written exam and physical agility test will be March 30th and the oral exam March 31st. A list will be established for the top three and an extensive background check will be done on those applicants. The department is planning on making a recommendation to council on April 8th.

Public Works

A. Review of Request from Arcadis U.S., Inc. to Install a Monitoring Well on N. Landis St.

Steve Wyld reported the Borough has received an application for a street cut permit from Arcadis on behalf of Univar, located at 200 N Railroad St. This property was previously owned by McKesson Chemical Company. Univar is voluntarily entering into a program with DEP. This program will access, test, and if needed mitigate any past discharges of chemicals into the soil. This reduces liability and simplifies any future real estate transactions due to decreased environmental issues. They are planning on digging a 2" wide by 100' deep well at the dead end of N. Landis St. Because of the uniqueness of the project Steve feels that council should approve the installation of the well. After the monitoring is completed Arcadis will restore the street to its previous condition.

Recommendation to put on the March 18, 2021 agenda the approval of the well installation made by Chad Lister and Patti Krow.

B. Status Report on DTMA Stormwater Collaborative Project

Steve Wyld reported that the Borough had received the Memorandum of Understanding a couple of weeks ago. The Borough's solicitor suggested some revisions. Assuming the Derry Township solicitor makes those revisions, it will be returned to the Borough solicitor for a final review. If everything appears to be okay, action can be taken. The Borough is in the process of setting up a meeting with Derry and our committee to discuss the status of the project and go back over the projects that Derry has planned.

Mike O'Keefe added that the project the Borough will be involved in will be Bullfrog Valley. HRG was to meet with DEP for a pre-permitting meeting to see if DEP has any questions. Derry wanted to wait until the meeting occurred and they work out any bugs before the Borough committee meets with Derry.

C. Status Report on Quarry Road Sidewalk Project

Mike O'Keefe reported there have been some delays in the program grant. HRG has reported that because of PennDOT's work schedule the contracts are not in final form. HRG is keeping us up to date. Even when the contracts are ready to go there will be an extensive process for selection of consulting engineers. Mike surmises this project will not move along very quickly.

D. Staff Exploring Pros/Cons of Purchasing a Used Skid Loader

Steve Wyld reported that there is a used skid loader for possible purchase. Staff will be discussing the need for the piece of equipment and determine if the price is acceptable. Steve will keep council updated.

Administration

A. Release of Verde Apartments Remaining Security Bond

Steve Wyld reported that the Borough is still holding a security bond on the public improvements that were done as part of the Verde project. The owners have made a written request to the Borough and HRG to reinspect those public improvements to determine if they have been completed satisfactorily. If HRG determines this HRG can authorize the Borough to release the bond. Upon inspection there is one minor item that will need to be addressed. Filter bags need to be installed in some of the stormwater catch basins. The Verde owners are working to fix this. This could be accomplished before next weeks council meeting. If that is the case, there could be a motion to release them from the bond.

B. Continued Review of Issue of Opening Parks for Rentals. Discussion of the 6th Annual Hunger Run Tentatively Scheduled for May 8th.

Solicitor Miller explained to council that many of the municipalities he represents are reopening their parks to baseball, softball, and those type of associations with appropriate paperwork and assurance from the groups that they will maintain proper distancing, etc. Stating that a run is built for social distancing, with the proper paperwork it would be appropriate to consider an event like the Hunger Run. After some discussion and reassurance from Jill Osevala, council felt this event could be held safely. Solicitor Miller will prepare the event specific paperwork and it will go on next week's agenda for approval.

Dee VanGavree reported that she had been in contact with the county today and the numbers of COVID cases are trending down. Dauphin County is still recommending 30-day reviews.

It was decided that council will open parks to events with the appropriate paperwork but will not open for individual rentals until a later date. They will revisit this in 30 days.

C. Status Report on Meeting with Hummelstown Baseball/Softball Association

Brian Foster reported that he, Bob Weber, and Dave Roeting (“the Committee”) attended the meeting and met with the board members. The Committee was not aware that the Association had so many expenses such as porta-potties, maintenance of the stands and fields and repairs to the backstops. The Committee determined that the structures should be maintained by the Borough. The Association will be providing the expense figures to Council in the immediate future. Brian said that he suggested to the Association that someone should attend at least one council meeting, possibly a workshop meeting and communicate any issues to council. He even suggested one of the Association members sit on the Recreation Board.

Other Business

Dee VanGavree mentioned that EMA will be having a fundraiser April 17th. It is in combination with Chick's Tavern. Tickets are \$15 each. The money will be used for PPE for the Fire and Police departments and face shields for the Fire department.

Brian Foster reported there has been some work going on in the background with the Communications Committee. The Committee is having a meeting next Thursday before the regular council meeting. They will have something to report to council.

Executive Session (Personnel/Real Estate Matter)

Council rose into Executive Session at 8:15 PM

Adjourn

Council reconvened at 8:45 PM

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Deb Hummer, Finance Director