

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Hummelstown Borough Council
Thursday, May 20, 2021
7:30 p.m.

The May 20, 2021 regular meeting was called to order by President Brian Foster at 7:30 p.m. Members in attendance included Bob Weber, Dee VanGavree, Patti Krow, Chad Lister, Randy Lutz, and Chris Black. Mayor Dave Roeting, Chief Justin Hess, Borough Manager Mike O'Keefe, Finance Director Deb Hummer, Asst. Zoning officer Steve Wyld, and Solicitor Michael Miller were also present.

Before the meeting Senator John DiSanto, Representative Tom Mehaffie, County Commissioner George Hartwick and Mayor Dave Roeting each presented proclamations to Borough Manager Mike O'Keefe in honor of his upcoming retirement on May 28, 2021. After the presentations Mike O'Keefe gave a brief speech (attached) and then pictures were taken. After the pictures there were accolades by everyone.

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 April 15, 2021

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

Workshop Meeting of May 13, 2021

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

Citizens Hearings

There were no citizens present.

Staff Reports

Manager's Report

Mike O'Keefe had nothing new to report.

Zoning Officer's Report

The Zoning Officer's report was accepted as submitted.

Police Report

Chief Hess reported that they have been consistently utilizing the services of Co-Responder Gina Abromitis. The Department has seen great results directly related to her work.

The Chief also discussed the cost to install cameras at Schaffner Park. With estimates of approximately \$16,000 and \$5,000 he has opted to install 16 Wyze cameras on the park grounds. He is working with two entities to provide a private wi-fi network necessary for the operation of the cameras. The cost of the cameras will be approximately \$834. There may be a small cost for electrical work.

Fire Company Report

The Fire Company report was accepted as submitted.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that the Hunger Run was well attended and he thinks over \$20,000 was raised for the Hummelstown Food Bank. He invited everyone to show their support by attending the Memorial Day ceremony at the Hummelstown Cemetery on May 31. He also mentioned that a local painting company has offered to paint the band shell at Schaffner Park free of charge.

Financial Report

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

Tax Collector's Report

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

Tax Exoneration & Exemption Report

There was no report.

Recreation Board

Deb Hummer reported that she attended the meeting. Members of the committee donated enough money that they could sponsor a hole at the Chick's Golf Tournament and purchase two \$20 gift cards. They will be teaming with the Hummelstown Community Foundation to raise funds for the Mehaffie Park playground. The Movie in the Park is scheduled for July 24. Kelly Williamson is looking into obtaining a grant from the Fish and Game Commission to install a boat ramp somewhere in the area of the old 7-11. They will be doing Cards for the Troops for Memorial Day. Dee VanGavree said the golf tournament is finally here. The tournament is May 23rd and honors Ryan Taggart and Bradley Miller. There should also be some funding coming by way of a grant for Mehaffie Park.

Emergency Mgmt. Oversight Committee

Dee VanGavree reported that almost \$3,000 was raised via the EMA pork barbeque. \$680 of that was donations. With that money they purchased a gas meter for the Fire Company for \$1,500. On April 25th EMA had an AED dedication at Schaffner Park. The LD baseball coach submitted an application with the Peyton Walker Foundation for an AED for the baseball field. There is a small charge of \$150 that EMA has agreed to pay. EMA meets as a group June 3rd.

Shade Tree Commission

There was no report.

COG Meeting

Brian said he had nothing to report. Deb Hummer reported that she went to a manager's meeting on Tuesday and found it very interesting.

Communications Committee Report

Dee VanGavree said there was a meeting before the council meeting with Anthem Marketing. Anthem reviewed the website that they developed. They have been very busy going to and posting events on social media.

New Business

Motion: to authorize advertisement and receipt of bids for the 2021 Resurfacing Project. Said project to include the following streets:

1. N. Landis St from 2nd St to M&H tracks
2. N. Early St from 2nd St to M&H tracks
3. Pine St from Landis St to Linden St
4. Kokomo Ave from Crescent St to Circle Dr.
5. Alternate Extra – Village Ln (if extra material available)

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

Motion: to approve a request from the Central PA Friends of Jazz for use of the bandshell at Schaffner Park for their youth band rehearsals on May 23rd, May 30th (possibly additional days) contingent upon completion of all necessary COVID-19 waiver forms, and proof of required insurance.

Motion made by Dee VanGavree, second by Bob Weber. Motion carried.

Motion: to approve a request from the FFO for use of Schaffner Park from July 31st to August 19th, for their annual carnival contingent upon completion of all necessary COVID-19 waiver forms and proof of required insurance.

Motion made by Patti Krow, second by Randy Lutz. Motion carried.

Motion: to approve the final payment to Uhrig Construction, in the amount of \$13,281.12 for the new Borough building due to receipt of Notice of Termination letter from the Dauphin County Conservation District approving all earth disturbance activities related to site improvements for stormwater.

Motion made by Randy Lutz, second by Bob Weber. Motion carried.

Motion: to authorize Borough staff to issue a co-sponsor letter to the Dauphin County Gaming Board, authorizing the close out of Grant project No. 2021-21 (Ghost Brewing LLC, aka Rubber Soul Brewery) and to request the disbursement of grant funds in the amount of \$85,000 as per said grant.

Motion made by Chad Lister, second by Chris Black. Motion carried. Dee VanGavree abstained.

Other Business

The topic of park rentals was discussed. It was decided that the staff should tell potential renters that the parks will be available for rent effective June 14, 2021.

Dee VanGavree wanted to thank Mike O’Keefe for moving ahead with HRG in executing the agreement regarding the Downtown Master Plan. The downtown committee has received some dates to move forward with trying to pinpoint projects in the downtown.

Approval of bills payable dated May 20, 2021.

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

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM

Executive Session – Personnel Matter

After a pause for refreshments council rose into Executive session at 9:30.

Council reconvened out of Executive Session at 10:45 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Deb Hummer, Finance Director

Memo To: Borough Council: (Brian Foster, Bob Weber, Dee VanGavree, Patti Krow, Randy Lutz,
Patti Krow, Chris Black, Chad Lister)
Mayor David Roeting
Solicitor Michael Miller
From : Michael J. O’Keefe, Borough Manager
Date : May 20, 2021
Re : Retirement

All good things must come to an end. And so it is time to announce the end of a wonderful forty plus year relationship with the Borough of Hummelstown as Borough Manager. As you know, I will be retiring next Friday, May 28.

Words cannot express the honor and privilege it has been to serve the elected officials and citizens of this great community since October 1980 and to have worked with a wonderful, dedicated group of employees both non-uniformed and uniformed. Little did I know when my high school senior photo was captioned, “a future in politics” that I would end up spending a lifetime in public service working with and next to many great public servants at the Local, County, State and Federal level.

After working as Borough Manager in Elizabethtown for five years as a very young person, I was not sure local government management was my calling. But after arriving in Hummelstown, I realized that serving the public, solving problems and working to improve Hummelstown in many different ways was what I wanted to do.

Over the years I have had the pleasure of working with 42 members on Borough Council, 4 Mayors and 5 Chiefs of Police. I am also pleased that out of the 41 budgets I prepared or assisted with, taxes were only raised 12 times. And speaking of statistics, I also was part of 6 lawsuits. It comes with the territory.

We have all worked for a common goal, the betterment of Hummelstown. Many things were accomplished and many projects were completed. We can stand proud of the improvements achieved in our town knowing that the future will bring many more.

I especially want to thank the love of my life, my wife Donna for supporting me during my years of service. I would not have been able to function nearly as well at this job without her support. She has kept me afloat during floods, blizzards, restaurant explosions, golf courses and all kind of other issues. Thanks Hon. Although she says she looks forward to me retiring, I’ve noticed what’s referred to as a little “side eye” on some occasions when someone asks her if she really is looking forward to us spending so much time together. We will work it out. We always have/

I will miss all of you but leave with a sense of pride and satisfaction. I know this community is in good hands and will thrive for years to come. Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you and your peers for all of these years. It’s been a great ride.