

MINUTES
 Regular Meeting
 Hummelstown Borough Council
 Thursday December 21, 2023
 7:00 PM

1. Call To Order

The final meeting of 2023 was called to order by President Brian Foster, this would be the last meeting as well for President Foster as we dedicate this meeting to his retirement.

2. Devotions

3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

4. Roll Call

Mayor and Council Members:		
Mayor Dave Roeting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brian Foster, President <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Weber, Vice-President <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dee VanGavree <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chad Lister <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christopher Black <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kelly Williamson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Miller <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Also in Attendance:		
Theresa Eberly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Borough Manager	Justin Hess <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief	David Willard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Works Director
Traci Eismann <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance	Michael Miller <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solicitor	Zoning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Miller

5. Announcements (none)

6. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to **Approve** agenda made by Bob Weber and seconded by Kelly Williamson.
 Motion carried.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the Following Meetings

A. Budget Meeting of November 14, 2023

Motion to **Approve** was made by Dee VanGavree and seconded by Bob Weber.
 Motion Carried.

B. Regular Meeting of November 16, 2023

Motion to **Approve** made by Chad Lister and seconded by Chris Black.
 Motion carried.

C. Workshop Meeting of December 14, 2023

Motion to **Approve** made by Kelly Williamson and seconded by Bob Weber.
 Motion carried.

8. Public Hearing (none)

9. Presentations

After 23 years serving on Borough Council, President Brian Foster has retired and is passing his council seat on to another council member to be decided at January's Reorganization meeting. President Foster has contributed so much knowledge and time to the Borough during his time serving on Borough Council. Council Woman VanGavree began the recognition to President Foster with kind words and acknowledgement of the many accomplishments all have seen over the years from the over 552 Borough Council meetings he has attended as well as well over 1,000 meetings in general for the Borough. Council Woman VanGavree pointed out the ability to always stay steady and calm no matter the situation and how important that has been for the Borough. Manager Eberly shared her thanks and admiration of President Foster for his leadership, dedication, and wisdom. President Foster has been an inspiration to all and has had such a positive impact on the Borough as a whole. Council Member Black gave thanks to President Foster for his ability to be able to work with individual strengths and for making Borough Council what it is today. Kind words of thanks and gratitude were given from Vice President Weber for everything that's been accomplished and learned from President Foster. Police Chief Hess shared his thanks for President Foster's continued support in the Police Department as well as the knowledge he has been able to share. Solicitor Miller acknowledged the respect and love President Foster has for the town and how unselfish he is when it comes to making decisions or opinions and is always "Hummelstown First". Council Woman Williamson thanked President Foster for his guidance over the years and always being available.

County Commissioner Hartwick had the honor to present President Foster with a Proclamation recognizing December 21, 2023 as "Councilman Brian Foster Day" in Dauphin County along with recognizing him for his service to others and the Borough and his high level of leadership. State Representative Mehaffie also was present to honor President Foster and his "molding" of the Borough and the community surrounding it. President Foster was thanked for his friendship and inspiration. Presented on behalf of the Commonwealth of PA, House of Representatives and Representative Mehaffie was "All the great things you've accomplished" citation. Lastly, Representative Mehaffie presented President Foster with a citation from the Senator DiSanto and the Senate honoring President Foster. Mayor Roeting presented President Foster a Proclamation proclaiming December 21, 2023 "Brian Foster Day" in the Borough of Hummelstown.

President Foster spoke briefly about his "HOPE" to inspire everyone to always have hope and believe. Hope in Hummelstown is represented by the number of volunteers we have, he said and the elected and non-elected officials, employees who plan new things and persevere, share ideas, are resourceful and so in so many other ways are present in the Borough. Thanks were given to all past and present council members and the advice from others as well as all the friendships built and participation from all. Present Foster ended his speech by stating "I plan to still participate in MY Hummelstown Community.... just in other capacities. Not to worry, I still have lots of Hope.

10. Citizen Hearings (none)

11. Staff Reports:

A. Manager's Report

Manager Eberly said Chief Hess and she attended the Gaming Grant Hearing and spoke about the Borough's grant application. The Borough was highlighted in the January issue of The Borough News. Office staff has requested bids from current agent in order to reduce property insurance premiums and waiting on final numbers. It looks promising. In addition, the Borough is looking into adding Cyber Security to coverage. PW Dept has been out inspecting storm and sewer lines.

The Borough is meeting with Swatara Township about the WAWA plans for the Hoss Site at the beginning of January. Laura Miller from Zoning & Codes has working on the first fee schedule and a copy has been handed out to all of Borough Council to look over before next months meeting. Manager Eberly acknowledged all the great things that have been accomplished in 2023 and thanked office staff for their hard work.

- B. Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer's Report (as submitted)
- C. Police Report (as submitted)
- D. Fire Company Report
Steve from the fire station was present to thank Borough Council for everything throughout the year and to wish everyone Happy Holidays.
- E. Mayor's Report
Holiday and New Year Wishes were shared by Mayor.
- F. Financial Report
Motion to **Approve** Financial Report made by Bob Weber and seconded by Dee VanGavree.
Motion carried.
- G. Tax Collector's Report
Motion to **Approve** Tax Collector's Report made by Chad Lister and seconded by Kelly Williamson.
Motion carried.
- H. Tax Exemption & Exoneration Report
Motion to **Approve** Tax Exemption/Exoneration Report made by Bob Weber and seconded by Dee VanGavree.
Motion carried.
- I. Parks & Recreation Board
Kelly Williamson shared that about 100 cards were made at Holiday Happenings and donated to VA. Also, the fundraiser for VA raised over \$2,500.00 in donations and they were very thankful.
- J. Emergency Management Oversight Committee
Thanks were given by Dee VanGavree to EMA agency for 2023 fundraising efforts for equipment and preparation, work on emergency access roads, moving forward with first responders tax credit at county level and now at local level, secured numerous AED's in 2023 for parks. EMA is happy to have Bullet back in action and looking forward to working with new board member David Willard.
- K. Shade Tree Commission (none)
- L. COG Report
The Annual dinner will be held in January and the next meeting is in March.
- M. Communication Committee
Thanks to all communication committee members for their hard work as well as Anthem Marketing. It was a busy year and are appreciative of the tourism grant which has helped with releasing Hummelstown video, important date magnets, open for business flags. Anthem marketing provided council with a report showing a huge increase of traffic to Instagram and Facebook pages as well as our website.

12. 2024 Budget

- A. Discussion of the 2024 Final Budget as advertised.
- B. Motion to **Adopt** 2024 Final Budget made by Chris Black and seconded by Bob Weber.

13. Ordinance 2024-01: Tax Ordinance

A. Motion to **Advertise** Ordinance 2024- 01 : Increase Real Estate mill rate to 3.75 made by Bob Weber and seconded by Kelly Williamson.

-Discussion was had per request from Dee VanGavree to consider a lower increase of 3.50, which would follow recommendation given from STMP study. A vote was taken, and a 4/3 vote was in favor of the 3.75 mill rate increase.

14. Resolution No. 2023-R-10 Trash Rates

A. Motion to **Approve** Resolution 2023-R-10, authorizing the 2024 Trash Rate Increase made by Chad Lister and seconded by Bob Weber.

Motion carried.

15. Resolution No: 2023-R-11 Sewer Rates

A. Motion to **Approve** Resolution 2023-R-11, authorizing the 2024 Sewer Rate Increase made by Chad Lister and seconded by Bob Weber.

Motion carried.

16. Resolution No: 2023-R-12 Police Pension Waiver

A. Motion to **Approve** Resolution 2023-R-12, waiving contributions to the police pension made by Chad Lister and seconded by Bob Weber.

Motion carried.

17. Resolution 2023-R-13 ACT 57

A. Motion to **Approve/Deny/Table** Resolution 2023 R-13 authorizing the Tax Collector, Acting on Behalf of the Borough of Hummelstown to Accept and Approve Waiver Requests Pursuant to Act 57 of 2024 made by Chad Lister and seconded by Bob Weber.

Motion carried.

18. H2H Agreement: Social Media

A. Discussion to the H2H Agreement

B. Motion to **Table** the agreement between the Borough of Hummelstown and H2H made by Dee VanGavree.

19. S John Street – Payment

A. Motion to Approve Change Order #1 submitted by Kinsley Construction in the amount of \$35,019 was made by Dee VanGavree and seconded by Bob Weber.

Motion carried.

B. Motion to **Approve** Payment #1 submitted by Kinsley Construction in the amount of \$130,942 was made by Dee VanGavree and seconded by Bob Weber.

Motion carried.

20. Ordinance 2024-02: Sidewalk Ordinance Revision

A. Discussion of Ordinance 2024-02amending Chapter 22, Part 6, Section 609 and Chapter 25, Part 1, Section 105.

B. Motion to **Advertise** Ordinance 2024-02 for adoption at the January 19, 2024 meeting was made by Kelly Williamson and seconded by Bob Weber.

Motion carried.

21. Police Vehicle: Two-year loan

A. Discussion of the lowest 2-year loan rate from M & T Bank

Manager Eberly shared we received 3 quotes, the lowest being 6.683% from M &T Bank.

Motion to **Approve** purchasing police vehicle in full made by Bob Weber and seconded by Kelly Williamson.

Motion carried.

22. Approval of Bills Payable List dated December 21, 2023.

Motion to **Approve** bills made by Kelly Williamson and seconded by Bob Weber.

Motion carried.

23. Discussion on Borough Council meetings in 2024.

A short discussion was held to discuss the idea of moving to one Borough Council meeting per month instead of two per month per Councilman Weber request who sees this benefiting staff as well as costs associated with engineers and solicitors attending meetings. Council Members Black and Williamson are open to the idea of advertising two per month and only utilizing a second date when needed. Council Members Lister and Weber would like to consider moving to one meeting per month while Council Members VanGavree and Miller would like to see the two meetings per month schedule continue to be followed. A suggestion of moving to the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month was also presented as an idea. Borough Council will need to make this decision at the Reorganization meeting in January so dates can be advertised.

24. Other Business

President Foster addressed and thanked each of the departments individually for all of their hard work.

25. Executive Session- none

26. Adjourn – 8:05

Respectfully Submitted,

Traci Eismann

Finance