

1Highspire Borough Council Minutes

April 21, 2009

Council President Marie Hoch called the monthly meeting of the Highspire Borough Council to order at 7:01 p.m.

The prayer was offered by Member Kay Sutch then followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken:

Council Members Present: Marie Hoch
Carolee Roman
A. Kay Sutch
Charles Dengler
Jared Goughnour

Mayor: John Hoerner
Borough Manager: John McHale
Borough Solicitor: Dave DeLuce
Borough Engineer: Rob Lauriello

Council Members Dorothy Matesevac and James Titus were absent.

Minutes

President Hoch presented the meeting minutes from the March 17, 2009 council meeting and asked for questions regarding them.

Engineer Lauriello noted that under the Engineer's Report it should be stated the Penn Dot Permit application has been submitted for the handicap ramp repairs at Second St. and Eisenhower Blvd not Penn Dot Grant application. The correction will be made as stated by Engineer Lauriello.

Member Sutch made a motion to accept the March 17, 2009 council meeting minutes as corrected seconded by Member Roman. Motion approved unanimously.

Financial Reports

President Hoch presented the Monthly Financial Reports and Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2009 and asked if there were any questions regarding them. Hearing none, a motion to accept the March 2009 Monthly Financial Reports and Treasurer's Report was made by Member Roman and seconded by Member Sutch. Motion approved unanimously.

Mayors Report

Mayor Hoerner noted he attended the following functions: 3/19 School Board meeting in Highspire, 3/21 Teeners Baseball Team swept the main street sidewalks, 3/23 he accompanied Rep. Ron Buxton and Steelton Mayor Tom Acri and the Steel-High Football team to the State Capital where the football team was recognized for being the State Champions two years in a row, 3/24 Zoning Hearing Board Meeting, 3/26 60th birthday party for Rep. Ron Buxton, 3/28

funeral of Highspire resident Bill Wilson, 3/30 Neighborhood Watch Meeting, 4/2 Mayor Hoerner read to two Second grade classes at the Steelton-Highspire Elementary School, 4/4 Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt, 4/10 Good Friday service at the Church of the Nazarene, 4/13 there was to be a skateboard meeting unfortunately there were no attendees, 4/14 TMI Drill, and on 4/21 he went to the School House Apartments with Officer Jeffrey LeVan to talk to the residents regarding safety. Mayor Hoerner also reminded Council the Arbor Day Ceremony would be on 4/26. He also noted there will be a meeting regarding Highspire 200th birthday on 4/27 at the St. Peters Lutheran Church and an Intergovernmental meeting on 4/30.

Member Sutch commended Mayor Hoerner on everything he does as Mayor. She thinks it's wonderful and she is hearing wonderful comments through the people she meets.

Member James Titus joined the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Police Report

President Hoch asked for questions or comments pertaining to the March 2009 Police Report. Hearing none, a motion was made by Member Roman and seconded by Member Goughnour to accept the March 2009 Police Report. Motion approved unanimously.

Fire Department Report

President Hoch presented the Highspire Fire Department Chief Report and Treasurer Report and asked if there were any questions regarding them. Hearing none, a motion to accept the Fire Department Reports was made by Member Goughnour, seconded by Member Titus. Motion approved unanimously.

Citizens Comments

Ed Ward, Penn Waste – came to the meeting to address any issues that Council needs to be addressed regarding trash removal in the Borough.

Council Member Roman did mention some issues regarding not removing all trash from the cans. She also questioned the woman driver who is always on her cell phone.

Ed Ward mentioned the cell phone issue is being addressed and he will talk to the other guys regarding removing all the trash from the cans.

Mayor Hoerner noted when issues arise, and the Borough calls to turn in complaints, Penn Waste is quick to respond to those issues.

Discussion was held regarding recycling and the amount recycled through the Borough's new recycling program.

Ruth Alexander, 70 Charles Street Lot 1, informed Council of the following fundraisers the Fire Company will be holding: 5/31 Basket Bingo, 6/10,11,12,13 Carnival 6-10 pm, 7/13 their night at Friendly's from 4-9 pm 10% of profits will be donated to the fire company, and they are currently having a Pie and Apple Dumpling Sale.

Joyce Oyler, Eshelman Street – complained about a fallen tree near the park at Burd Run. She also complained about a tree that is dead and needs to be taken down.

Correspondence

Comcast's Annual Report as submitted by Frank Lynch, Director of Government Affairs.

Dauphin Lebanon County Boroughs Association meeting to be held on April 28, 2009, 6:30 pm at the Liberty Fire House and hosted by Middletown Borough, RSVP by April 20, 2009.

A request from Skip Memmi to, complete an Infrastructure Needs Survey and our response as prepared by the Borough Engineer.

A letter from HATS, asking for participation in the Federal Highway / Transit Administration planning certification review of HATS on Wednesday, May 6-7, 2009.

Committee Reports

Public Facilities – Absent

Sanitation – Member Dengler noted he was at the School Board meeting on the 19th also. Member Dengler asked questions regarding how close to a stop sign you are allowed to park especially in the area of Broad and Paxton Streets. He also asked about the Historical Sign near Dr. Albright's, it was noted the top part of the sign was bent. He questioned if the Borough was in charge of repairing the sign. Manager McHale noted there is an agency in the state that is responsible for doing repairs. Discussion was held regarding the half mast of flags.

Finance/Administration – Nothing to report.

Personnel – Member Roman noted there were ten interviews held for the position of Receptionist. With the recommendation of Manager McHale:

Member Roman made a motion to make a conditional offer of employment to Jorja Werner with the following conditions: The position is primary duties as clerk/receptionist for the Borough of Highspire; the starting salary is \$18,000.00 annually, and the benefits as described in the non-uniformed bargaining agreement; subject to completion of a favorable background investigation, medical examination and drug testing per Borough drug testing policy, and any additional conditions as approved by the Borough Solicitor. Motion seconded by Member Titus. Motion approved unanimously.

Community Development – Member Sutch asked for a short committee meeting with Member Roman and Titus following the Council meeting.

Public Safety – Member Goughnour noted he attended the Fire Department Board of Directors meeting the previous night. President Hoch questions Member Goughnour how the Fire Department By Laws were coming along. Member Goughnour noted he believed they were complete. It was noted that they may need to remind the Fire Department the By Laws are subjected to the approval of Borough Council.

Borough Manager's Report

President Hoch asked for a motion to accept the Borough Manager's Report. Motion made by Member Titus, seconded by Member Roman. Motion approved unanimously.

Manger McHale noted the Borough received five bids for the painting of the Borough Building. Discussion was held on the bids that were received for the painting project.

Member Sutch made a motion to set up an Ad Hoch committee, comprising of Member Sutch, Roman and Matesevac, and authorize the committee to investigate the bidders and award the job to the lowest qualified bidder. Motion seconded by Member Roman. Motion approved unanimously.

Manager McHale thanked the Fire Department guys who participated in the TMI drill. The first group of guys that came was never involved in a TMI drill before. After the drill started, Roy Slesser came and gave the Fire Department's briefing that was required. He noted he looked into the Vine Street parking. It was previous a no parking area and the sign has been put back in place. He also noted that Paxton Street across from St. Peters Lutheran Church is also a no parking area. No signs have ever been placed in that area. Discussion was held regarding the posting of the no parking areas and the police department writing warnings for 30 days before issuing parking tickets. Manger McHale noted the Census Bureau would be using the office building for training. Manger McHale then discussed the upcoming items on the agenda.

Code Enforcement Report

No Report this Month.

Public Works Department Report

President Hoch asked for a motion to accept the Public Works Department Report. Motion made by Member Dengler, seconded by Member Roman. Motion approved unanimously.

Borough Authority Chairman Von Hess noted they opened the bid documents for the WWTP Sewer Facility Upgrade the previous Thursday. The three lowest individual project bids total 8.8 million dollars. The bids have been gone over and there are no major problems with the bids. He noted the first round of Penn Vest Grant money came out today and the Authority did not receive any money. There were 98 applications total, 31 of those got some form of money. Penn Vest ranks the applications. Out of 98 applications, Highspire was ranked 48th. It doesn't mean we won't get any money on the second or third round; we just have to wait and see. Von mentioned there is still a chance we could receive H2O grant money. He also mentioned they will be video tapping Rhoda Ally to see what repairs are needed to the sewer line.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Dave DeLuce noted the last months minutes need amended regarding Champions Sports Bar. The minutes should state the conditional approval of the Champion Sports Bar & Grill Final Land Development Plan, subject to 3 conditions; must install a 6' privacy fence between empty lot and neighboring property, one way traffic shall be installed on Rhoda Avenue so motor vehicles will enter off of Lumber Street and exit using Grant Street, and the two parcels, on separate deeds, acquired by Champions must be joined together so there is now one tract and the two properties are to be combined to become one legal tract and can not be transferred separately. It was noted the minutes will be amended to reflect the change.

Member Sutch made a motion to amend the minutes as stated by Solicitor DeLuce, seconded by Member Goughnour. Motion approved unanimously.

Engineer's Report

Engineer Rob Lauriello noted that since the last meeting they received the Penn Dot permit for the handicapped ramp at Second and Eisenhower. They asked for bids from six contractors and received three bids back. The lowest bid was from B&R Construction Services. \$5,389.00. Member Sutch asked if anyone knew how often that area was used. Manager McHale noted that the sidewalk is used quit a bit.

Moved by Member Dengler, seconded by Member Roman to approve the bid received by B&R Construction Services in the amount of \$5,389 for the ADA Curb Ramp Replacement at Second St. & Eisenhower Blvd. This project would be funded from Capital Reserve Funds. Motion approved unanimously.

Engineer Lauriello noted the signal light at Second St. & Lumber Street has been ranked by Penn Dot and HATS. The Borough did not rank very well initially. Dauphin County ranks the projects within the County, Highspire was ranked #2. He noted he will be attending a HATS meeting shortly where the final determination will be laid out.

President's Report

President Hoch noted she attended the COG meeting. She said there was a man there who was trying to get people to set up a Circuit Rider System for creeks and streams. She noted she attended the New Baldwin meeting; there were only three people there.

Old Business

None

New Business

Moved by Member Sutch, seconded by Member Goughnour to, approve the April 2009 Tax Exonerations List submitted by John Hoch, Tax Collector. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Member Goughnour, seconded by Member Titus to, approve the April 2009 Delinquent Tax Exonerations List submitted by Capital Tax Collection Bureau. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Member Sutch, seconded by Member Goughnour to, have Rob Lauriello and Rettew prepare and submit the Dauphin County CDBG Grant Application for funding year 2010, due by July 15, 2009. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Member Sutch, seconded by Member Roman to, appoint John McHale and Marie Hoch as delegate and alternate delegate respectively to an EIT Collection Committee which is being formed by the County. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Member Roman, seconded by Member Dengler to, approve Resolution 7-2009, setting the dates and fees for 2009 Spring and Fall Clean Up. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Member Roman, seconded by Member Goughnour to, authorize the submission of a grant application under the U.S. Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program: Local Solicitation, in an amount up to \$14,231, in patrol vehicle video equipment. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Member Titus, seconded by Member Goughnour to, authorize Council President and or Borough Manager to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the other Dauphin County Police Departments, designating the County as the submission and fiscal agent, regarding the JAG grant submission, and to take any other action necessary to obtain this grant upon review and approval of the Borough Solicitor. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Member Titus, seconded by Member Sutch to, approve Resolution 8-2009 approving an agreement between the Borough and Penn Dot allowing the Borough electronic access to Penn Dot Systems and authorizing the Borough Council President and Manager/Secretary to execute all documents necessary to effect such an agreement. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Member Roman, seconded by Member Sutch to, approve payroll and bills. Motion approved unanimously.

Mayor Hoerner noted that several area residents have asked him to bring up the open flame ordinance. They would like to be able to sit around their yards with their recreational fire pits. Manager McHale noted the ordinance states that no open flames would be permitted other than for recreational purposes. Discussion was held regarding previous complaints pertaining to this issue. President Hoch referred this matter to the Public Safety Committee.

Moved by Member Sutch, seconded by Member Roman to, adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Rabuck
Assistant Borough Secretary