

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019
7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER: This meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Joseph A. Pompa.

PRESENT: A quorum was present including members of Council as follows: Joseph A. Pompa; Patrick Plummer; Jeffrey Ketner; Mark L. Shawley; Sean Burke; Joyce Lowe, and Brady Leahey. Others in attendance: Borough Manager Jim Gehret; Borough Secretary Patricia J. Duron; Mayor Joseph R. Dodson; Attorney Jeff Muriceak, and Chief Rodney B. Estep, Jr. Court reporter JoNell Snyder was there for the transcription of the public hearing. Fire Marshal David Zeek was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Pompa led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

MINUTES: The minutes dated March 14, 2019 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Plummer to approve the minutes, and was then seconded by Mr. Shawley. A vote was taken with the motion carrying in a vote of seven votes to zero votes.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE NO. 894, ZONING AMENDMENT #25: The public hearing was begun by Attorney Jeff Muriceak. All persons who would offer testimony were sworn in. Attorney Muriceak collected exhibits for the hearing from Manager Gehret. Following presentations by the two petitioners who were requesting a zoning map change; Donald Delozier and Robert Shaeffer, several persons came forward with public comments regarding the petitions. Public Comment:

Robert Chamberlin, 113 Clark Street in favor

Lisa Claar, 615 Blair Street not in favor

Larry Daugherty 612 Blair Street not in favor

Kevin Suckling, 617 Blair Street not in favor

Richard Latker, 703 Allegheny Street not in favor of Borough Council considering the rezoning petitions separately

The hearing was closed at 7:25 P.M. Later in the meeting, Council discussed the petitions and the adoption of the proposed ordinance. There was discussion about separating the two petitions to consider them as separate zoning amendments and ordinances. A motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Shawley to waive the application fee for the petitioners, Mr. Schaeffer and Mr. Delozier, when they file their rezoning petitions again. Following discussion, a motion for the approval of Ordinance No. 894 was made by Mr. Burke and was seconded by Mr. Leahey. A roll call vote was taken with the following outcome:

Mr. Burke – Yes

Mrs. Lowe – No

Mr. Leahey – Yes

Mr. Pompa – No
Mr. Plummer – No
Mr. Shawley – No
Mr. Ketner – No

With a tally of five noes to two yeses, Ordinance No. 894 did not pass.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tom Kopriva, 531 Garber Street, representing the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership: spoke about the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership's relationship with the Borough.

Richard Latker, 703 Allegheny Street, representing the Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog: spoke about the Watchdog's lawsuit against the Hollidaysburg Zoning Hearing Board for their decision regarding the granting of a variance for the reconstruction of the Lukacs apartment building on Bedford Street. Mr. Latker also spoke negatively about the proposed Ordinance 890 amending the Traffic Code with respect to reserved permitted parking.

Walter Zolna, 602 Clark Street: spoke negatively about the Borough Manager with regard to the April 8, 2019 Hollidaysburg Sewer Authority meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Gehret discussed the PSAB Annual Conference. He also proposed that the Hollidaysburg Shade Tree Commission would like to plant a tree in memory of Patrick Rabbits, who passed away on January 24 this year. This tree planting would be their annual Arbor Day tree planting and take place near the Borough employee parking area. Council members gave their consent to move ahead with the purchase of a Redbud tree for this purpose.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Gehret advised that the financials were included in their meeting binders.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT: Dave Zeek was not in attendance. Mr. Gehret reported for Dave that he had one burning complaint for the Gaysport area that he had determined to be unfounded.

CENTRAL PA HUMANE SOCIETY (CPHS) PRESENTATION: Shirley Heiberg was there with a presentation about the CPHS Trap. Neuter and Release program. The CPHS is partnering with Linda Straub of Hollidaysburg to administer the program in the Borough. The CPHS is requesting a grant from the Borough toward this purpose.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT: Eagle Scouts, Ian and Green were there to present a proposal for a memorial for Blair County EMS workers at the Memorial Park on North Juniata Street. A motion to approve the project was made by Mr. Leahey and was seconded by Mr. Plummer. A vote was taken and the motion carried, seven votes to zero votes.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Dodson congratulated the Police Department on great work.

OPEN AGENDA:

Mr. Burke: Grant request from the Central PA Humane Society and Old Canal Inn and Outdoor Amplified Music, the cost of a new comprehensive plan

Mr. Leahey: Old Canal Inn and Outdoor Amplified Music

Mayor Dodson: Potholes

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-10, CONSENT AGENDA: Resolution no. 2019-10, Consent Agenda, approves Bill List # 4 in the amount of \$119,782.98 and three Certificates of Appropriateness. A motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-10 was made by Mr. Ketner and was seconded by Mr. Leahey. A vote was taken with the motion carrying, seven votes to zero votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-10

A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONSENT AGENDA

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg, Blair County, Pennsylvania, that:

- 1) **Bill List No. 4** dated April 11, 2019 authorizes payment of expenses totaling \$119,782.98 consisting of accounts payable and owing the Borough of Hollidaysburg from duly appropriated moneys is hereby approved.
- 2) **Three Certificates of Appropriateness as follows:**
 - 305 Montgomery Street – Roof Replacement on House and Porch**
 - The slate roof will be removed
 - A new 29GA metal roof will be installed on the house, including a vapor barrier under the metal
 - The porch roof will be installed over one layer of the existing shingles
 - 320 Blair Street – New Business Signage**
 - The sign will measure 55” by 36” (same size as previous sign)
 - The sign will read Dr. Gonsman Dentist and the address, 320 Blair Street.
 - The sign will be similar to the municipal building sign, slightly smaller
 - The sign will be erected in the same location as the previous sign
 - 515 Blair Street –Siding and Replacement Business Signage**
 - Replace the interior of an existing business sign with a flat panel.
 - This sign will include the name of the business and the phone number.
 - The existing sign posts will be repainted to a dark blue.
 - Replace the siding on two sides of the building with vinyl siding in a clay color.

- 3) **Approval of a Request** for a Time Extension for the Lukacs Apartments Land Development Plans.

DULY adopted by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg this 11th day of April, 2019.

Joseph A. Pompa, President

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Duron, Secretary

ODRINANCE NO. 890: Councilman Plummer spoke about the amendments to the Traffic Code in Ordinance No. 890. Councilman Leahey spoke about the amendments as well. A motion to approve Ordinance no. 890 was made by Mrs. Lowe and was seconded by Mr. Plummer. A roll call vote was taken with the following outcome:

Mr. Burke – Yes
Mrs. Lowe – Yes
Mr. Leahey – No
Mr. Pompa – Yes
Mr. Plummer – Yes
Mr. Shawley – Yes
Mr. Ketner - Yes

The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 890 was passed with a tally of six votes in favor and one vote against.

ORDINANCE NO. 892: Ordinance No. 892, to approve an intergovernmental agreement, was presented to Borough Council. A motion was made by Mr. Burke to adopt Ordinance No. 892. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Plummer. A roll call vote was taken with the following outcome:

Mr. Burke – Yes
Mrs. Lowe – Yes
Mr. Leahey – Yes
Mr. Pompa – Yes
Mr. Plummer – Yes
Mr. Shawley – Yes
Mr. Ketner - Yes

The ordinance was adopted with a tally of seven votes in favor to zero votes against.

ORDINANCE NO. 893: Ordinance No. 893, to amend the open burning ordinance, was presented to Borough Council. Following the presentation, a motion was made by Mr. Leahey. This motion was seconded by Mr. Plummer. A roll call vote was taken with the following outcome:

Mr. Burke – Yes
Mrs. Lowe – Yes
Mr. Leahey – Yes
Mr. Pompa – Yes
Mr. Plummer – Yes
Mr. Shawley – Yes
Mr. Ketner - Yes

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-11 DESIGNATING MAY AS HISTORIC PRESRVATION MONTH: A motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-11 was made by Mr. Shawley and was seconded by Mr. Ketner. A vote was taken and the motion carried, seven votes to zero votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-11

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hollidaysburg contains an area of such significant architectural style and character as to be recognized and designated by the United States Department of the Interior, to the National Register of Historic Places and Sites; and

WHEREAS, such national recognition attests to the heritage and historical significance of the role Hollidaysburg has played in the growth and development of America and this region; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hollidaysburg has established its dedication to the preservation of the historical character and style represented in Hollidaysburg by designating the Hollidaysburg Historic District, the Hollidaysburg Historic Preservation Commission and Historic Architectural Review Board as a community resource for the protection of these historic assets; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hollidaysburg wishes to inform and advise the population of the importance of preserving and protecting these valuable historic assets of Hollidaysburg; and

WHEREAS, the month of May has been widely proclaimed as Historic Preservation Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg, Blair County, Pennsylvania, hereby designates May as **Historic Preservation Month**, and encourages all citizens to become aware of their heritage and benefits thereof.

DULY adopted by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg, this 11th day of April, 2019.

Joseph A. Pompa, President

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Duron, Secretary

CREATION OF AN AFSCME JOB CLASSIFICATION: Mr. Gehret explained the creation of a part – time clerk position within the AFSCME collective bargaining agreement. A motion was made by Mrs. Lowe to approve the creation of this job classification. This motion was seconded by Mr. Shawley. A vote was taken and the motion carried, seven votes to zero votes.

DISCUSSION: AGREEMENT WITH THE HOLLIDAYSBURG COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FOR THE MAIN STREET MANAGER POSITION: Mr. Gehret advised that Borough Council had directed that staff should advertise a Borough position for a Director of Community Relations and Events for the Borough. The members discussed the existing agreement with the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership regarding the Main Street Manager, which will expire at the end of this year. Following the discussion, Mr. Burke made a motion that the Borough is not expecting the Partnership's contribution this year, and that the Borough will not renew the agreement on its current terms with the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership at the end of this year. This motion was seconded by Mr. Plummer. A vote was taken and the motion carried, six votes in favor and one vote against.

FIREWORKS PERMIT: Application was received for a fireworks display. A motion was made by Mr. Leahey and was seconded by Mr. Ketner to approve the application for a permit. A vote was taken and all voted in favor with the motion carrying, seven votes to zero votes.

DISCUSSION: SPARTAN ALLEY: Mr. Ketner, who had requested this agenda item, advised that all parties involved in this dispute had been contacted and the issue resolved. There was no further discussion.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Kroko was in attendance to discuss his proposal for a zoning map amendment for his property located at 301-312 Walnut Street, rear. Following the presentation and discussion, Council advised of their consensus that the petition for the zoning map amendment should be prepared for advertisement and adoption.

SEASONAL HIRES: The Borough's Public Works Department and the WWTP both requested to hire seasonal helpers. A motion was made by Mr. Leahey to approve hire of seasonal helpers in both departments. Mr. Plummer seconded this motion and a vote was taken. The motion carried, seven votes to zero votes.

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT: At this time, Mr. Gehret requested that Borough Council approve the hire of a Director of Planning and Zoning and Code Enforcement for the Borough. A motion to grant this approval was made by Mr. Plummer and was then seconded by Mr. Ketner. A vote was taken and the motion carried, seven votes to zero votes.

APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS THAT MAY BE ISSUED BY THE ZONING OFFICER: At this time, Council was presented with the recommendation of the HARB for COAs that could be approved and a permit issued by the Zoning Officer without a formal review by the HARB members. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Plummer. Mr. Leahey seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried with a majority of seven votes to zero votes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:40 PM, President Pompa advised that there would be an Executive Session and that they would not be returning from it.

Patricia J. Duron
Borough Secretary