

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024
7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

PRESENT: A quorum was present including members of Council as follows: Sean M. Burke; Jeffrey Ketner; Brady Leahey; David Jacobs; William Kitt; and Clay Gingrich. Also participating: Interim Borough Manager/Borough Secretary Patricia J. Duron; Borough Attorney Jeffrey Muriceak; Director of Community Development Andrew Holodnik; Director of Community Relations and Events Melanie Ramsey; Chief Chris Storm; and Mayor Dodson. Council Member Walter Kalista, III; Solicitor Nathan Karn; and Fire Marshal Amy Hazlett were absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCED: President Burke announced that Borough Council held an Executive Session Friday, April 11, 2024 following the regular Borough Council Meeting to discuss personnel issues.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Burke led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

MINUTES: The minutes from the meeting held on April 11, 2024 were presented for Council's review and approval. A motion to approve these minutes was made by Mr. Leahey and was seconded by Mr. Ketner. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved unanimously with six votes in favor.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Ms. Duron reported that Canal Basin Park Greeter Tiffany Lowery had resigned and would be replaced by Millard Patterson.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The financial report was included in the agenda binders.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT: Mr. Holodnik advised that a resolution regarding the Blair Regional Code Appeals Committee would be on the May Borough Council Agenda for consideration. He reported on his department's April activities. He reported on the Proper Permitting Procedures workshop and thanked Ms. Duron, Ms. Carnell and Ms. Hazlett for their active participation in the workshop. Mr. Holodnik continues to work on the Comprehensive Plan Update with representatives from the Blair County Planning Commission. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS & EVENTS REPORT: Ms. Ramsey reported on the Hometown Hero Program, the Light It Up Green Campaign, and the Allegheny Street Cruise In.

FIRE MARSHAL: Ms. Hazlett was absent.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT: Chief Storm presented the department's April report.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Dodson wished all of the mothers a Happy Mother's Day. He thanked the police. He also announced the May 27th Memorial Day Parade organized by the American Legion Post 516.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dennis Murray, 201 Jackson Street: Discussed previous council discussions regarding a parking issue on Jackson Street.

Pamela Blackmon, 809 Walnut Street: Spoke negatively about the fire siren's frequency and volume and wanted to know if it could be decreased.

Zach Stroehmyer, 513 Wayne Street: Parking on Wayne Street. Can the Borough make the Blair County Courthouse Employees use their parking garage?

Kevin Sommers, 104 Basin Street: Parked cars on Basin Street, looking towards Bedford Street; parked cars block the left-hand view.

Seth Tanner, 523 Wayne Street: Parking issues on Wayne Street referencing the school to open and jury duty parking.

Shawn Leydig, 407 Beaver Street: Pointed out positive things in the Borough. Offered to donate a history of the star at Chimney Rocks.

Joel Seelye, representing McLanahan Corp: Requested Council's consideration of a petition to rezone of two lots that are located at the corner of Newry and Wall Streets.

Elda Boose, 141 Bedford Street: Thanked the Borough for their progress toward stormwater mitigation in Gaysport.

Regis Nale, 202 Spruce Street: Discussed Council's denial of a zoning permit appeal from April, the PVFD fire truck grant request, and fire engine rating.

Steve Albright, 421 Bedford Street: Thanks for the podium in Council Chambers, requested a moment of silence at next month's meeting for police officers killed recently, mentioned running of stop sign and speeding, not allow McLanahan to close an alley if they are granted rezoning.

OPEN AGENDA:

Mr. Jacobs: Parking permits on Wayne Street.

Mr. Gingrich: Stormwater mitigation in Gaysport and the detention pond.

Mr. Burke: Fire siren and petition to rezone for McLanahan Corp.

Mayor Dodson: Businesses being run from homes.

Mr. Leahey for Mr. Kalista: Junior Council Program.

Mr. Leahey: Basin Street parking issue/site distance.

Mr. Kitt: East end stormwater management project.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-16: CONSENT AGENDA:

- a.) Resolution No. 2024-16 for bill list number 5 totaling \$155,802.79
- b.) Two Certificates of Appropriateness – 200 Allegheny Street and 217 Allegheny Street
- c.) Appoint Patricia J. Duron to be the Voting Delegate to the Annual PSAB Conference

A motion was made by Mr. Leahey and was seconded by Mr. Jacobs to approve Resolution No. 2024-16. A vote was taken with the motion carrying, six votes to zero votes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-16
A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- 1) **Bill List No. 5** dated May 9, 2024 authorizes payment of expenses totaling \$155,802.79. consisting of accounts payable and owing the Borough of Hollidaysburg from duly appropriated moneys is hereby approved.
- 2) **Two Certificates of Appropriateness** is to be Approved and Council Authorizes the Zoning Administrator to issue a Certificates of Appropriateness/Zoning Permit as follows:

200 ALLEGHENY STREET – WINDOW REPLACEMENT – MARIE BUFFY

- Replace one window facing Front Street
- Replace one 2nd story window facing Front Street
- This is a contributing structure within the Historic District

217 ALLEGHENY STREET – WINDOW SIGNAGE – THE POOR PAINTER -TABITHA SHIMER

- Install a 2' by 4' window cling sign
- The signage will be identification signage
- This is a contributing structure within the Historic District

DULY adopted by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg this 9th day of May, 2024.

Sean M. Burke, President

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Duron, Secretary

ORDINANCE NO. 908 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 850 BRAKE RETARDER: A motion was made by Mr. Gingrich and was seconded by Mr. Kitt. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mr. Jacobs – yes

Mr. Leahey – yes

Mr. Burke – yes

Mr. Ketner – yes

Mr. Kitt – yes

Mr. Gingrich – yes

The motion passed with all voting in favor and Ordinance No. 908 was adopted.

DISCUSSION: STORMWATER MITIGATION IN GAYSPORT UPDATE: At this time; it was advised that Solicitor Karn is seeking a consensus of Borough Council that he is authorized to obtain an updated appraisal from Stultz Real Estate of the stormwater basin and easement purchase from BC Holdings. Council agreed in a consensus for the updated appraisal to be obtained.

DISCUSSION: BOROUGH SIDEWALKS: Mr. Leahey advised of a few more applications. He also requested that sidewalk foam lifting and grinding repairs to sidewalks be eligible for the reimbursement grant. Mr. Holodnik advised that those methods of repair are acceptable and all present agreed to the inclusion to qualify for the 25% reimbursement.

TRANSPARENCY AND THE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA: A few samples of nearby municipalities' public meeting agendas were included in the agenda binder for

Council's review. Following some discussion, Mr. Burke proposed that this item remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

DISCUSSION: UPDATE ON THE ELIMINATION OF JACKSON STREET PARKING SPACE: Mr. Leahey presented an overview of the previous Borough Council discussions about the elimination of a parking space on Jackson Street. Following discussion, Mr. Gingrich made a motion to amend the traffic code to eliminate one parking space on Jackson Street as discussed. Mr. Kitt seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The motion passed with six votes in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-15 APPROVING LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANS GRETKA REALTY (TABLED): Mr. Leahey made a motion to remove this item from the table and Mr. Kitt seconded the motion. Mr. Holodnik requested that Borough Council pass the resolution contingent upon compliance with several conditions identified by the Borough Engineer, within the next two weeks. Mr. Leahey made a motion to accept and Mr. Jacobs seconded it. All members present voted in favor.

APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE 902 DEP RECYCLING GRANT: Mr. Leahey made a motion to approve the submission of the 902 DEP Recycling Grant application. Mr. Kitt seconded that motion and a vote was taken. The motion passed with six votes in favor.

APPROVE THE EXECUTION OF THE MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION FUND GRANT CONTRACT: A motion was made by Mr. Leahey and then seconded by Mr. Gingrich to approve the execution of the grant contract. A vote was taken and the motion was passed with six votes in favor.

DISCUSSION: POST OFFICE PARKING METERS: Chief Storm explained that the current signage on the meters is misinterpreted by parkees to mean free parking for twelve minutes. Council had a consensus to display different signage indicating that these meters need to be fed.

DISCUSSION: PERMIT PARKING ON WAYNE STREET: Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Kitt to allow permit parking on a portion of Wayne to allow one permit per residence and to amend the traffic code ordinance to allow it. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion and further discussion ensued. President Burke advised that he would vote against the motion in favor of finding another solution. A show of hands resulted in four in favor and two opposed.

APPROVE THE REINSTATEMENT OF LONGEVITY FOR TWO SALARY EMPLOYEES: A motion was made by Mr. Leahey and seconded by Mr. Kitt to reinstate longevity pay for Frank Hicks and Bobbi Carnell. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE THE HIRE OF A NEW BOROUGH MANAGER AND THE EXECUTION OF THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT: Ethan Imhoff has accepted an offer of employment with

the Borough as the Borough Manager. A motion to approve the hire of Ethan Imhoff and the execution of the employment contract was made by Mr. Kitt and was seconded by Mr. Jacobs. The motion passed unanimously.

AWARD THE 2024 PAVING CONTRACT: A motion was made by Mr. Ketner to award the paving contract to Grannas Bros. in the amount of \$203,878.76. Mr. Kitt seconded the motion and a vote was taken. All six present voted in favor and the motion was passed.

AWARD THE 2024 MATERIALS CONTRACTS: A motion was made by Mr. Ketner to award the stone contract to Grannas Bros. in the amount of \$15,825.00. Mr. Gingrich seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. A motion was made by Mr. Ketner and was seconded by Mr. Gingrich to award the blacktop contract to New Enterprise in the amount of \$24,989.25. A vote was held and the motion was passed unanimously.

APPROVE THE HIRE OF A WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT(WWTP) OPERATOR/OPERATOR IN TRAINING: A motion was made by Mr. Leahey to approve the hire of a WWTP Operator/Operator in Training. Mr. Jacobs seconded this motion and a vote was taken. It passed with six votes in favor.

REPORT THE HIRE OF A PART-TIME PUBLIC SAFETY CLERK: The Police Department reported the hire of Megan Miller as a part-time public safety clerk at the rate of \$18.11 per hour.

REPORT THE HIRE OF A PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE: The Public Works Department reported the hire of Philip Weichel as a Parks Maintenance/Class C Operator for the Borough at the AFSCME starting rate of \$21.10 per hour.

ADJOURN

Patricia J. Duron, Borough Secretary