

REGULAR MEETING
Hastings Borough Council

November 19, 2019

The Hastings Borough Council held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hastings Borough Office.

CALL TO ORDER: Alison Link, Council President

ROLL CALL: Members of the Council present – Alison Link, Kristen Bollinger, Melanie Zearfoss, Mayor Donald C Drass, Jeff Semelsberger, Thomas Kinney, and Rhonda Churella. Absent were Jeff Zearfoss and Eugene Huber.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Melanie Zearfoss, to approve the minutes from the previous meeting and to dispense with their reading, since all were provided with a copy. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

VISITORS: None.

STREET/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

- H.A.I.D.A. is having a ribbon cutting ceremony for Legacy Drive on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 11:30am at the site of the new road with lunch to follow at the HAIDA Professional building. They want either Council President or the Mayor to speak. Mayor Donald C Drass said he will attend and speak on behalf of Council.
- Mayor Donald C Drass stated engineers are coming in for the creek beds to look at the erosion and undercut on the creek. They will see how much money they will be able to get as to how much they can do. They said it won't cost the borough any money. They are to be here on Thursday, November 21, 2019. Alison Link will meet with them.
- Thomas Kinney got a quote on pipe to replace the Christmas light poles on Beaver Street for \$3,550.50 for 18 poles. Thomas Kinney stated there are five pipes ready to fall. One is especially bad at the corner of Beaver Street and Fourth Avenue near Rich Rogal's rental. Marc Beach has stretched the new line and said that will help hold them until the spring. Marc Beach said the Christmas lights are ready.

- Rhonda Churella stated Mara Taranto called the office on November 15, 2019 asking about the alley way near her property on Village Street. She wants to know if the borough has decided on what they are going to do with this property. Jeff Semelsberger said he would like to discuss this at the next meeting when the solicitor is present. Eugene Huber was the one that went up to look at this alley way and he is not present tonight either.

POLICE COMMITTEE/REPORT:

- Police Chief Jason Owens stated he would like a motion made for his FOP contract stating the borough wants to make him a salaried employee.
- Motion made by Melanie Zearfoss, second by Thomas Kinney, to approve Police Chief Jason Owens FOP contract stating he will be a salaried employee at Hastings Borough.

Motion Carried.

- Police Chief Jason Owens stated Dylan DiSabato is only twenty years old. Mopec says he is good as a police officer. Since Dylan is not twenty-one years old, he cannot own a gun. He can have the borough purchase it for him and then transfer it into his name after he turns twenty-one. We can garnish his wages for the price of the gun. Chief Owens said, "I use Glocks 40 or 45."
- Motion made by Melanie Zearfoss, second by Jeff Semelsberger, to hire Dylan DiSabato pending passing graduation November 22, 2019 and passing his test on November 25, 2019 as a part time police officer.
- Motion made by Jeff Semelsberger, second by Melanie Zearfoss, to adopt and accept a new Part Time Police Officer Employment Agreement.

Motion Carried.

- Chief Owens gets his stitches out on Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 8:00am.
- Mayor Drass stated he told Chief Owens to take a few days off.

TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT: Real Estate & Per Capita Tax collected from October 20, 2019 to October 31, 2019.

Real Estate Tax Collected.....	\$16.69
Per Capita Tax Collected.....	\$0.00
Total Collected.....	\$16.69

Earned Income Tax collected from Berkheimer's from October 16, 2019 to November 15, 2019.

Gross Tax Collected.....\$13,998.87

Delinquent Per Capita.....\$77.00

- Motion was made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Melanie Zearfoss, to approve the Tax Collector's Report as read. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Council looked through the Financial Report. Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Jeff Semelsberger, to approve the Financial Report as of October 1, 2019. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

FINANCE/INSURANCE COMMITTEE:

- Motion made by Thomas Kinney, second by Jeff Semelsberger, to approve the proposed budget for 2020 for the general fund and building fund.

Motion Carried.

- Robert Shaffer, CPA, Borough auditor, is going to retire because of major health issues. He cannot do our 2019 audit. The Sewer & Water Authorities went with Link & Associates (Paul Link) of Hollidaysburg, PA. They just opened a smaller office in Patton, PA earlier this year. Paul Link is going to get a proposal for the borough. Rhonda emailed Paul Link the 2018 DCED audit on November 15, 2019. Alison Link stated this can be Melanie's first project since she knows people.

WATER COMMITTEE:

- Thomas Kinney and Melanie Zearfoss met with B&R Pool of Pittsburgh, PA today at the pool area. Melanie Zearfoss reported if we use a sand filter it will be cheaper. The sand filter would be seven feet tall and eighty inches around. We would have to go with chlorine tablets instead of liquid. It is an automated system. Rich Banik said they currently use 500,000 gallons per minute. Melanie Zearfoss said for us to be in compliance, it should be 700,000 gallons per minute. We would need to back flush into the sewer. Approximately 2500 to 3500 gallons per week would go to the sewer plant.

SEWER COMMITTEE:

- Nothing to report.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

- Rhonda stated Wendell Rutch was in the office for permission from Council to lock up the tennis court for the winter. Wendell has a small padlock. Council approved Wendell doing this.
- Marie A Carpinello stopped in the office on November 15, 2019, stating she works for the VA and will be transitioning to home care. She lives outside of Hastings in Susquehanna Township on Carpinello Road. Marie is asking if she could park her work vehicle in the borough parking lot. Rhonda told her if Council approves, she would need to park in the parking lot across from the Fire Hall on Coleman Street. Rhonda also told her to give her vehicle information to our Police Department so that she doesn't get towed. Alison Link stated that parking lot is public parking. Rhonda also received a memorandum for approval from Department of Veterans Affairs-James E Van Zandt Medical Center about parking a government vehicle.
- Motion made by Jeff Semelsberger, second by Thomas Kinney, to approve The James E Van Zandt VA Medical Center to park a government vehicle in the lot across from the Fire Hall on Coleman Street, but wants them to park closest to the creek because of snow plowing in the winter.

Motion Carried.

- Mayor Donald C Drass was approached by Jimmy Rodgers about parking one vehicle by the road. Jim has four vehicles. Jeff Semelsberger stated Jim would have the vehicle moved before the plow goes through.
- Thomas Kinney and Eugene Huber attended the library meeting this month. The power box is where the edge of the new library building will be. That power box is currently hooked up to the gazebo and town Christmas lights. Thomas Kinney stated the library board wants Tom and Eugene to attend a meeting with the contractor once they decide who they are going to get to build it. Thomas Kinney said maybe they can get them to move the new building down a few feet. If that cannot be done, then maybe we can turn the power box sideways to give more room.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Kristen Bollinger said, “Congratulations Melanie. Tomorrow is your first day.”

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Melanie Zearfoss, that an Order is drawn, and the bills be paid, as funds become available. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Nothing to report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Rhonda Churella talked to Shirley at the Election Office about Council results on the ballot as write ins. Thomas Kinney was on the ballot and won. Write ins for 2-4-year terms are Sam Patterson and Mary Rogal. There was a write in tie for the 2-year term, which are Jeff Zearfoss and Nick Gueguen. Toni Zalisnock won as a write in for Hastings Borough Tax Collector. Toni Zalisnock will have a 2-year term remaining of Michelle Bernard’s term.

ADJOURN: Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Jeff Semelsberger, this meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

Rhonda Churella
Borough Office Manager