

REGULAR MEETING
Hastings Borough Council

November 6, 2018

The Hastings Borough Council held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hastings Borough Office.

CALL TO ORDER: Alison Link, Council President

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

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: Dick Stuart of H.A.I.D.A. Dick was here about a water problem they are having at the trailer court on Kirkpatrick Street & Sunnybrook Drive. Water is everywhere. Residents can't go outside their house. Dick said after they resurfaced the road four or five years ago, the road is too high for the water to go into the drain. Roger Hollen will look at this tomorrow. Dick also told Council about Dollar General's turnover date of August 2019. We are about 95% sure they are coming. The store will probably be on Susquehanna Township's area.

STREET/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

- Roger Hollen reported having two water breaks on Monday. One on Spangler Street and Coleman Street.
- Roger asked Council about shirts stating who he works for. He explained to Council when going onto residents' property they should have a shirt stating they work for Hastings Borough so residents know they are authentic.

POLICE REPORT/COMMITTEE:

- Mayor Donald C Drass read the monthly police report for October 2018.
- Motion made by Eugene Huber, second by Kristen Bollinger, to approve the monthly police report.

Motion Carried.

- Police Chief Jason Owens explained to Council that Devin Keiser hasn't been working any shifts because he calls off all the time after he schedules himself to work a shift. This has been going on for some time. Chief Owens asked him to hand in his stuff and resign. Devin faxed in a resignation letter to Chief Owens on November 4, 2018.
- Motion made by Jeff Semelsberger, second by Thomas Kinney, to accept Devin T Keiser's resignation letter from Hastings Borough Police Department.

Motion Carried.

- Chief Owens explained Jim Bogus is interested in working for us. He works full time at Carrolltown Police Department right now but is willing to work the weekends for us. Mayor Drass said he wants to meet him and will if we hire him since he will need to be sworn in.
- Motion made by Melanie Zearfoss, second by Eugene Huber, to hire Jim Bogus as a part time police officer.

Motion Carried.

- Chief Owens said an employee asked him a question about holiday pay. He explained if they are coming out to work on a holiday away from their families they should be compensated. He suggested double pay if they work eight hours but mark sixteen hours on their time card for the holiday. Chief Owens stated we budgeted 3,000 hours. There is always a domestic problem on holidays.
- Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Melanie Zearfoss, to allow double time for nine holidays being Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Thanksgiving, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Independence Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Easter.

Motion Carried.

- Chief Owens stated West Carroll Township contacted him about covering their area. He said Carrolltown currently gets \$28,000.00. They had 872 calls in 2017. It is a fifty mile road that includes Bakerton and St. Benedict. They paid \$4,000.00 in fuel and put on around 25,000 miles per year on the cruiser. West Carroll wants to keep the fine money. Alison Link said we need to meet and talk with them first. Kristen Bollinger asked Chief Owens, “What do you think?” Chief Owens replied, “We have a lot now.” Mayor Drass stated we can talk to them before we discuss this at the table.

FINANCE/INSURANCE COMMITTEE:

- Motion made by Eugene Huber, second by Jeff Semelsberger, to lower the employee pretax from 30% to 20% effective December 1, 2018.

Motion Carried.

WATER COMMITTEE:

- Nothing to report.

SEWER COMMITTEE:

- Borough Office Manager reported the sewer project meeting held on October 30, 2018. They have two crews paving roads. They had four complaints since the last meeting. They have some problem areas that they were looking at after the meeting.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

- Borough Solicitor is waiting for Penn DOT to give him terms for the cul-de-sac with H.A.I.D.A. We need an agreement between Hastings Borough and H.A.I.D.A. that states H.A.I.D.A. will pay for everything with the project and Hastings Borough will maintain the road and take it over as a finished project. Hastings Borough will have no expenses for this project.
- CCBCEA sent a copy of their agencies bylaws that will be presented for vote at the December 12, 2018 regular board meeting. This serves as the member municipality 30 day notice of intent to adopt.
- Borough Office Manager received a call from Christine Rodriguez on October 29, 2018, about a tree knocked over that made a bridge in the

creek. This happened about a month ago when we had a wind storm. She was not sure if this is on borough property or on a residence property. She was concerned that it may block the creek at some point. Roger Hollen was told to look at this tomorrow. We need to get it out of the creek so that this doesn't happen.

- Borough Office Manager reported getting a roof permit application from CCBCEA/LMIA if we ever replace the Memorial building roof.
- Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency sent a permits report for October 2018.
- Borough Office Manager received a call from Tim Holtz about renting the Memorial building gym in November for ten year olds to practice indoor soccer. Council discussed this and said we are not renting for soccer.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Borough Office Manager reported to Council that keys haven't been turned in yet from a prior council member. Until those keys are brought back, the newest council member will not have any keys. Alison Link asked Thomas Kinney to handle this.
- Borough Office Manager received an employment application from Don E Boring on 11/6/2018. Council said to keep it on file.
- Melanie Zearfoss talked about giving employees a bonus and not a raise around Christmas time. This bonus must go through payroll for taxes to come out. Five full time employees, Jason Owens, Rhonda Churella, Walter Thomas, Roger Hollen, and Michael Byrne, will receive \$250.00 each. Seven part time police officers, Brittany Christner, Isaac Hassen, Joshua Dignan, Jeremy Scislowicz, Kyle Harber, Matthew Troutman, and Jim Bogus, will receive \$100.00 each. Part time cleaning people, Diana Waksmunski and Taylor Nemec, will receive \$50.00 each. This will total \$2,050.00.
- Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Melanie Zearfoss, to approve giving the above listed amounts to employees as a bonus.

Motion Carried.

- Motion made by Eugene Huber, second by Thomas Kinney, to hire a part time borough secretary.

Motion Carried.

- Alison Link said to advertise for two weeks in the Star Courier for a part time borough secretary. All applications need to be in by November 30, 2018 by 3:00pm.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

- Motion made by Melanie Zearfoss, second by Thomas Kinney, to approve Resolution #2018-7 to remove Christopher M Gibbons and retain Alison Link as Trustee of the Borough of Hastings Non-Uniformed Pension Plan.

Motion Carried.

- Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Jeff Semelsberger, to approve Resolution #2018-8 to remove Christopher M Gibbons and retain Alison Link as Trustee of the Borough of Hastings Police Pension Fund.

Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Nothing to report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Roger Hollen said he got a visit from Northern Cambria Borough's Street Commissioner about doing an agreement between both municipalities for borrowing different equipment from each other. Jeff Semelsberger said Susquehanna Township will let us use their street sweeper anytime.
- Melanie Zearfoss talked about an event that if a winter storm is coming, the borough crew could stay home during the day and come out in the evening depending on when the storm is scheduled to hit. Roger Hollen also said he thought about Walt Thomas doing day time and he would take night time to plow the roads.
- Council spoke with Borough solicitor about a snow emergency ordinance to adopt for people parking on certain streets making it hard for the plow trucks to get through.
- Borough Office Manager brought a brochure from the fall borough's meeting on Cambria County Vol. Firemen's Assn. Melanie Zearfoss stated to purchase a big brick for \$100.00. She wants it to say Hastings Borough with an American flag.

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

Motion Carried.

Rhonda Churella
Borough Office Manager