

REGULAR MEETING
Hastings Borough Council

December 18, 2018

The Hastings Borough Council held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 18, 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 – Alison Link, Eugene Huber, Thomas Kinney, Kristen Bollinger, Jeff Semelsberger, Rhonda Churella, and Solicitor Patrick Fanelli. Absent was Mayor Donald C Drass, Melanie Zearfoss, and Jeff Zearfoss.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Thomas Kinney, 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:

Albert Schrenkel- He was here for his mother-in-law, Dorothea Baum, about the drainage ditch on Railroad Street. He met with Ernie Guthrie, Glenn Johnston, Inc. on December 13, 2018, about not filling in the entire ditch per a letter signed on June 20, 2018. Glenn Johnston, Inc. stopped at a fifteen inch culvert pipe and request a new letter signed by Hastings Borough to continue filling in the ditch. Albert said the pipe serves no purpose at all. Albert said, "I have never seen water in there in forty years." Eugene Huber & Thomas Kinney will look at the pipe tomorrow to determine if a letter will be provided. Borough Office Manager spoke to Ernie Guthrie about this. Ernie stated a fifteen inch culvert pipe crosses underneath Railroad Street. We don't feel this should not be covered, but if the borough wants it done. Ernie was to get a copy of the map showing this but didn't drop it off at the borough office.

STREET/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

- Roger Hollen stated the white truck's salt spreader is broken.
- Roger Hollen asked Council about getting some kind of radios for in the trucks and a base for the office as well as a couple portable radios. Alison

Link asked him if he had any ideas on this. Jeff Semelsberger said CB's would be good. Tom Kinney suggested Joe Rogal. Jeff Semelsberger said Gordy Fredo may have something.

- Roger Hollen stated the wires are brittle where the snowflakes get plugged in. The wires are into the green poles.
- Roger Hollen stated we need to get power on the outside of the Memorial building for Christmas decorations. Alison Link said we will look at this in the summer of 2019. Kristen Bollinger told Roger, "You did a good job. Thank you."

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council President called an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and matters of possible litigation.

END OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: The session ended.

POLICE COMMITTEE/REPORT:

- Motion made by Jeff Semelsberger, second by Thomas Kinney, to accept Kyle Harber's letter of resignation.

Motion Carried.

- Police Chief Jason Owens received two applications for a part-time police officer. Chief Owens stated, "I don't think we need them right now." Alison Link said to keep them on file for future reference.
- Jeff Semelsberger stated the guys that are only here one or two days a month may not stay. This is why I voted for a full time police officer because he is invested in our town.
- Chief Owens stated the last time we got an oil change at Pellas' Garage, they said we need new tires before the end of the year. Jeff Semelsberger said \$110.00 per tire is a fair price, but it would be nice if he mounted and balanced them for free as a donation to the town.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT: Real Estate & Per Capita Tax collected from November 25, 2018 to December 15, 2018.

Real Estate Tax Collected.....	\$1,752.39
Per Capita Tax Collected.....	\$ 77.00
Total Collected.....	\$1,829.39

Earned Income Tax collected from Berkheimer's from November 21, 2018 to December 14, 2018.

Gross Tax Collected.....\$8,135.79

- Motion was made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Eugene Huber, 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 November 1, 2018. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

FINANCE/INSURANCE COMMITTEE:

- Borough Office Manager reported having a four year audit on Monday on both pension plans. It took three in half hours. She gave the auditor a copy of Resolution #2005-2 & 2005-3. Upon looking at the Non-Uniform Pension Plan, noticed that the conditions of eligibility under section 15 will cause a problem with the hours for the part time Borough Secretary hired effective January 2, 2019. Patrick Fanelli looked over the document and suggested either changing her hours from 36 to 34 or changing the resolutions. It was also discussed to possibly hire her full time after her evaluation. This can be discussed again at the June 18, 2019 meeting.

WATER COMMITTEE:

- Thomas Kinney reported having water breaks almost every day.
- Thomas Kinney stated they need a by-pass put in at the water well/flying saucer. The water we use is coming out of the mine. We needed a second source. We have to put another line around the reservoir.

SEWER COMMITTEE:

- Borough Office Manger reported about the sewer project meeting on December 11, 2018. They discussed several problems. Steve Fletcher, of Stiffler McGraw, asked what Council wants to do with a storm sewer problem on Spangler Street from Second Avenue heading to Third Avenue down from Tom Kinney's house. Steve said Council needs to decide what they want Stiffler McGraw to do. John Clabaugh told him Stiffler McGraw

goes to the authority meetings but only when the borough wants them to attend their meetings. The sewer mainline pipe is 57% complete. The lateral piping is 50% complete. The money is between 50-52%. The next meeting will be on January 8, 2019 at 10:00am.

- Eugene Huber stated, "They are doing a terrific job with how the weather has been."

PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

- Jeff Semelsberger spoke to Mandy last Monday. She needed some time. In January 2019 we need to increase her rent \$25.00. If we don't hear back from her we do a year to year lease.
- Jeff Semelsberger said Comcast is getting a proposal together. They wanted to know if we could do a skype meeting. Alison Link asked if they use VoIP phones. Jeff thought they did.
- Kristen Bollinger brought up the fact that someone dumped a lot of stuff in the dumpster at the park. Rhonda explained that they only empty it during the summer months. Council wants Rhonda to call Hugill's and get it emptied and see if we or they can put a padlock on it until the summer time.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Borough Office Manger reported the Worker's Comp. auditor, Jacqueline, noticed the front office had been closed. She was told the authorities closed the office down and there is only three options to pay for the water/sewer bills: mail in the payment, put in the night drop or pay online. The auditor was told that Michelle Baker, billing clerk, works between the water & sewer plants and does this job too. The auditor noted this on her report. Rhonda suggested to Council they might want to change Michelle Baker's job title so that our Worker's Comp. rates don't go through the roof.
- Motion made by Eugene Huber, second by Thomas Kinney, to change Michelle Baker's job title from Billing Clerk to Operations Manager.
Motion Carried.
- Rhonda checked and we cannot get a second user name & password for payroll reports which include State, Federal, Berkheimer, Unemployment Compensation, and PSAB UC Plan. Rhonda stated, "I will not give anyone

my user names and passwords.” Kristen Bollinger said, “Rhonda we never asked you to.” Rhonda replied, “Yes you did at the December 4th meeting.” I have no problem with logging into them and showing the borough secretary how to navigate and complete these reports. Rhonda will still check with PennDOT, PSAB, and any others about getting another user name & password for the borough secretary. Rhonda stated, “If I cannot get a second set, then I will be glad to give her a few of those items and give up mine.” Jeff Semelsberger said that is a good idea. Jeff Semelsberger also said, “I back Rhonda up on this subject.”

- **RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:**

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Jeff Semelsberger, 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:

- Alison Link discussed having Stiffler McGraw invoice us for projects on Dollar General and Hastings Public Library. We have seen some of Stiffler McGraw invoices with the pool project and they can be on the expensive side. I am sure Dollar General will refund us but the Hastings Library may not. Can we do something for them to pay? Patrick Fanelli stated we should invoice the library as soon as the invoice comes. If they do not reimburse, then you can take them to the magistrate. It was my understanding that Hastings Borough does not have a land development ordinance. There are storm water requirements that will be submitted to the county. The borough must comply with the ordinance. Kristen Bollinger asked if there is a reimburse time limit. Patrick Fanelli said either 30, 60, or 90 days. Stiffler McGraw should know or the County Planning office. When you have commercial developers in your area, the

statute says you have ninety days to act. If not, it's deemed to be approved. Alison Link said, "Let's give them permission to go ahead on both projects."

- Motion made by Jeff Semelsberger, second by Thomas Kinney, to hire Stiffler McGraw for engineering services in 2019.

Motion Carried.

- Council asked the solicitor about a past Council member not handing in keys. Patrick Fanelli said you can either change the locks or it is theft. Kristen Bollinger said this is a situation where they may not have access to them at the current moment. Officer Owens can escort him up to his house and give the police the keys. Alison Link said, "Tom Kinney will call him about this." Kristen Bollinger said we need this done by January 4, 2019.
- Reminder about our next meeting will be on January 15, 2019.
- Borough Office Manager reported she is on vacation December 20, 2018 and December 21, 2018. The borough office will be closed. Rhonda said, "Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to everyone."

ADJOURN: Motion made by Eugene Huber, second by Thomas Kinney, this meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

Rhonda Churella
Borough Office Manager