

REGULAR MEETING
Hastings Borough Council

April 2, 2019

The Hastings Borough Council held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 2, 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 – Thomas Kinney, Eugene Huber, Mayor Donald C Drass, Alison Link, Melanie Zearfoss, Jeff Semelsberger, Jeff Zearfoss, and Rhonda Churella. Absent was Kristen Bollinger.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Eugene Huber, 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.

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

END OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: The session ended.

VISITORS: Dick Stuart, President of H.A.I.D.A.

Dick talked to Council about a project that he started five years ago with H.A.I.D.A. for a road to the Industrial Park. This road will go from Haida Avenue to the windmill house. It will be 1 ½ miles long. Elder Township will not plow or maintain the road. You would get Liquid Fuels money. When they started on this project five years ago it was estimated to cost 3.6 million dollars and now it is estimated to cost between 5 to 6 million dollars. Mayor Donald C Drass said he would like to ask Elder Township if they will annex the property to Hastings Borough. Dick said this will be a heavy-duty road made for tractor trailers. Melanie Zearfoss asked, “Why can’t this be a state road?” Dick replied, “PennDOT will not take on more roads.” Dick said this will be good for Hastings and the Industrial Park. This will open up a lot of housing projects. Dick said Elder Township wants to sponsor it but they don’t want to maintain the road. Jeff

Zearfoss stated Elder is getting everything such as tax money and we get nothing. Dick stated that it is easy access into Hastings. Alison Link replied, "We are willing to meet with Elder Township after 6:00pm since a lot of us work during the day." We want to talk to them so that we don't get the short end of the stick. Dick asked, "How many days in advance do you need?" Alison replied, "Three days. Monday or Tuesday would be great." Dick said he would try to set it up and get back to Rhonda with a date and time. Dick said meeting here would be best.

STREET/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

- Rhonda Churella stated she spoke to Roger Hollen and Brandan Terry about the T-ball field bleacher project. They asked what kind of bleachers does Council want, metal or wooden? Roger said metal ones are there now. Aluminum won't weather. Council said go with metal.
- Roger asked Council, "Can we put a new plow on the tan truck and get a Gator with a small plow to use at the Memorial building? This is just a suggestion." Mayor Donald Drass replied, "What kind of problems will that give us to deal with?"
- Roger Hollen asked Council about the walking trail. It has major wash outs with deep holes and needs shell to fill in. Mayor Drass thought we had money that was to take care of the walking trail. Rhonda Churella told him possibly the Beautification Committee may have at one time but they are no more.
- Roger Hollen reported a water break today by Cross Cut Church.
- Michelle Baker asked about street sweeping this year. Alison Link asked, "Should our guys do it or should we hire someone?" Roger Hollen asked if we could rent a skid loader from Hite's Coal Company in Carrolltown for two days. Rhonda Churella will call them for a price.
- Roger Hollen reported they are in the process of painting the curbs.
- Alison Link told Council Roger Hollen has asked about Walt Thomas and the Street Commissioner position. Jeff Semelsberger stated, "For now we haven't made any decisions since Walt is still here. We want to pick the right man for the position."
- Alison Link stated Craig Lieb said about locker rooms needing fixed at the pool house. Roger Hollen said they can work on that for him.

POLICE REPORT/COMMITTEE:

- Mayor Donald C Drass read the monthly police report for March 2019.
- Motion made by Eugene Huber, second by Jeff Semelsberger, to approve the monthly police report.

Motion Carried.

- Mayor Drass talked to Nadine Miller about property she owns on Spangler Street. It is Doc Yeager's old house. Nadine told Mayor Drass that she was evicting Denise Lingenfelter and going to get it cleaned up. Thomas Kinney said he told Nadine to name a price to purchase the property and he will clean it up. Nadine also asked Mayor Drass for permission to put a shock system under the ground for her dog. Council gives her permission.
- Police Chief Jason Owens stated on April 27, 2019, from 10:00am to 2:00pm he will work with the Drug Task Force and participate in a Drug Take Back Day. The Drug Task Force will send flyers about this event. We will set up outside the borough building. Hastings Fire Company will help us too.
- Rhonda Churella let Council know that she talked with Kathy at Susquehanna Township on April 2, 2019, about setting up a meeting with them to discuss the police contract. Kathy is to take this to her meeting tonight and will get back to me.

FINANCE/INSURANCE COMMITTEE:

- Rhonda Churella explained the On-Call Nurse Program offered through EMC Insurance. The cost is free. The employee can either call themselves or with a supervisor. It provides proper care at the proper time. The nurse will do all the paperwork and send to the borough and EMC Ins. All calls are recorded which will take 15-20 minutes. Each call has a reference number used only for reports; this is not a claim number. The process does speed up the claim. It gives guidance to the employee. They have multiple brochures, posters, etc. It is easy to enroll but only one contact person can be listed.
- Motion made by Jeff Semelsberger, second by Thomas Kinney, to adopt the On-Call Nurse Program offered through EMC Insurance.

Motion Carried.

- James R Laverick and David Russell of Ebensburg Insurance Agency stopped in the office on March 26, 2019 to see if they could speak to borough employees about purchasing insurance similar to AFLAC. We cannot have this taken out of employees' paychecks. If they want to purchase something, they need to be personally invoiced for it.

WATER COMMITTEE:

- Rhonda Churella stated the Memorial building water usage for March was 5000 gallons. They had a toilet running up there that was fixed. Can the authority make an adjustment? Thomas Kinney approved this adjustment.

SEWER COMMITTEE:

- Borough Office Manager reported about the sewer project meeting on April 2, 2019. After they replace one manhole at HAIDA they will go into Edgewood Drive & hit the concession stand on their way out. They finished Davey's & Rich Hill. That crew will work on the pool by pass since the materials are in. The restoration crew is here. If Quaker Sales in Northern Cambria are a go this week, paving will start next week. Weather permitting too since it must be sunshine and dry. The ballfield is seeded and mulched. They used the camera in all of the Slickport area. All and all came out pretty clean. They are hiring Oppy Construction of Johnstown, PA to do the concrete, curbs, sidewalks, and handicapped ramps on April 15, 2019. A PennDOT inspector needs to be on site for this. Ernie was upset that no one on the borough side asked for permission to take three triaxle loads of stone from his pile for the pool project. He said this must be replaced ASAP. He doesn't mind if you need some but not three triaxle loads. Rhonda asked him what kind of stone it was? Ernie said 2-B stone. They have had odor complaints. They talked about Kendall Rogal's house. They have been there three times. Kendall wanted them to disconnect his floor drain. He had bad odor smells upstairs. They recommended getting floor plugs. That only worked for a day in a half. Ernie said they dye tested everything and it was fine. Why is he getting a smell? If the office gets any complaints when they start on restoration, explain to them that dry lands will be done first and then wet lands. Todd Banks wanted an update

on the Urban property. Steve Fletcher was forwarding the email onto Rhonda from March 21, 2019. The next meeting will be on April 16, 2019 at 10:00am.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

- Eugene Huber said the VFW took the flag pole down. It was arcing. We need to replace the wiring throughout the town when we put up Christmas lights. Alison Link stated we are going to do an "In Memory of" so that people can buy lights for a family member(s). Families can sponsor and we will put up a little plaque under the light. We'll have a light up night. Julia is working on this project.
- Alison Link talked about keys being missing on the outside door of the Memorial building. Paul Shutack lost the borough office key when using it to put camera's in. Christopher Gibbons never handed his in because he misplaced or lost it. We could do key fobs. We only need to put it onto the front door and the basement door by the handicap ramp downstairs. This will stop us from having to rekey the doors all the time. If the fob is lost, we can deactivate it. Michelle Baker said about having a key pad with a pin number and we can change the pin number every so often.
- Toni Zalisnock, Hastings Borough Tax Collector, called the borough office on March 27, 2019 about taxes collected on Stephen M Yeckley on April 22, 2017 for \$340.60. Rhonda Churella called Joanne Ranck at Cambria County Courthouse Tax Claim department. I need to get approval to send them a letter stating, "Please remove this claim from the tax rules. Stephen M Yeckley provided us with proof that this was paid for." They will exonerate this off from the excess money when Michelle Bernard collected taxes for the borough.
- Motion made by Jeff Semelsberger, second by Eugene Huber, to approve a letter being sent to Joanne Ranck at Tax Claims.

Motion Carried.

- Borough Office Manager asked about the Pellas Automotive lease agreement. Alison Link was the only one that responded we need to add "no tow trucks". Alison said, "Yes we need to add no tow trucks parked in the lot."
- Roger Hollen stated the windshield was broken in the white truck. Rhonda Churella was told to call the insurance company and see if a stone hitting it is covered or do we need to pay a deductible. Council stated if we have to

pay a deductible it may be cheaper to have SafeLite do it and pay them. They will go directly to the garage to install a new one. Jeff Semelsberger asked for the make and model. Roger Hollen replied, "It is a 2012 Ford F550 Super Duty."

- Roger Hollen stated he got a call from Hastings Fire Company on Monday, April 1, 2019, asking if he could put salt down on Bridge Street. Roger knows that is a state road, but he felt we needed to support the Fire Company for a safety issue since they couldn't even stand up because of the ice. The state hadn't put anything down and there was an accident. Roger said, "I just want you to know in case someone complains or asks why I put salt down."

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Nothing to report.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Nothing to report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Paul Shutack asked if we wanted to install a batter backup that costs approximately between \$90.00 to \$135.00 instead of a power strip for in the office. Alison Link responded, "No. We don't need that."
- Rhonda Churella reminded Council the next meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2019 because of the spring borough dinner being on April 16, 2019.
- Rhonda Churella told Council that she is leaving at 11:30am on Friday, April 5, 2019. Council said to see if Julia can work until 3:00pm that day.

ADJOURN: Motion made by Thomas Kinney, second by Eugene Huber. This meeting adjourned approximately 8:50 p.m. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

Rhonda Churella
Borough Office Manager