

REGULAR MEETING
Hastings Borough Council

May 21, 2019

The Hastings Borough Council held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 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, Eugene Huber, Kristen Bollinger, Jeff Semelsberger, Mayor Donald C Drass, Melanie Zearfoss, and Rhonda Churella. Absent were Jeff Zearfoss and Thomas Kinney.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Eugene Huber, 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:

STREET/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

- Jeff Semelsberger said he got a price for a gas tank for the 2004 Ford truck. It will cost approximately \$1,000.00. That's a lot of money. It's possible once they replace it, maybe the gas lines will break. It has a V-10 engine. I had asked Roger several times via text messages for the vehicle identification number (VIN). He never got it for me. The day I stopped down at the garage was a day he was off. Let Michelle Baker know to not use that truck. If they need to, use it as little as possible. Kuntz Motors has a 3500 Dodge for approximately \$18,000.00. Jeff will get more information for the next meeting.

POLICE COMMITTEE/REPORT:

- Alison Link talked about the Buckle Up Grant. They only have until June 2, 2019 to use it. We have part timers, but they have other jobs. It has been hard getting anyone scheduled. We do not want to lose this grant. I asked the Police Chief to see if we could get people from other departments to come here to work on this grant. Chief Owens checked and yes we can.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT: Real Estate & Per Capita Tax collected from April 14, 2019 to May 11, 2019.

Real Estate Tax Collected.....\$72,295.20
Per Capita Tax Collected.....\$770.50
Total Collected.....\$73,065.70

Earned Income Tax collected from Berkheimer's from April 24, 2019 to May 17, 2019.

Gross Tax Collected.....\$11,437.32

- Motion was made by Eugene Huber, 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 Melanie Zearfoss, to approve the Financial Report as of March 1, 2019. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

FINANCE/INSURANCE COMMITTEE:

- Alison Link asked about AFLAC coming to talk to the employees. Rhonda explained this has been set up for June 7, 2019 at 8:30am. A notice was put in each paycheck on May 17, 2019.

WATER COMMITTEE:

- Jim Burkey was in the office on May 16, 2019. He said Council needs to know that Candy Yannella of 128 Second Street refused to let the borough crew into her house. On May 13, 2019, Candy called Julia at the office about having low water pressure. Rich Banik and Brandan Terry went to her house. On May 14, 2019, Roger went up to replace the water meter but happened to take a bad meter, so he put the old one back on. On May 15, 2019, Roger told Julia at the office that when he went back up, she told them they are not allowed inside her house. Julia made a customer note in her account stating: Roger needed to change the meter and she refused entry.

SEWER COMMITTEE:

- Borough Office Manger reported about the sewer project meeting on May 14, 2019. Ernie said Slickport is done, taps and all. This crew will head to Coleman, Cole and Maple to start working. Jim Burkey asked if there was a lot of people that didn't sign easements. Patrick replied, "Not too many. The ones that had lines against their house, we did those." Todd Banks asked about restoration. Ernie said they had 4 ½ inches of rain in Somerset yesterday. We are working on sidewalks and driveways if it ever stops raining. Jim Burkey asked if they will work Friday since they did not on Monday. Ernie replied, "Yes." Todd Banks asked about complaints. They were to go and look at one house after the meeting. Jim Burkey said any information about this project during or after needs to be sent to the office. This information will be scanned into our system in case anyone calls the borough office in the future. Todd Banks asked how the trash baskets are holding up. Jim Burkey replied, "We met with HAIDA Manor two weeks ago. Both areas are getting better." We have a sludge problem but are working on it at the sewer plant. This will help too. If we get warmer weather, this will also help. Todd Banks said the next meeting will be Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 10:00am. Rhonda told them she won't be able to make this meeting. Jim Burkey said to send Julia down to the meeting.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

- Mayor Donald C Drass stated he and Chief Owens will check properties this month or in June. Nadine Miller stated the dog is going crazy on Spangler Street. Nadine is evicting her.
- Mayor Drass said Hilda Kibler on the left side of Second Avenue on the end stated the ditch needs reopened. Have the borough crew take the backhoe up and reopen it.
- Eugene Huber stated the people that donated the flower boxes uptown need to replace them. They are deteriorating. The only good one is at Fowler's Pharmacy because they have been taking care of it. Kristen Bollinger asked who put them uptown. Alison Link replied the beautification committee. Melanie Zearfoss said that is now us. Eugene Huber said people donated those boxes because there are names on them. Melanie Zearfoss said, "Can Hilyer's Hardware build us new ones if we

purchase the materials?” We can take the plaques off and put on the new ones. Eugene Huber said there are six boxes.

- Alison Link asked, “Is the letter together yet for the winter pole decorations?” Rhonda said Julia has been working on it but is not sure if the letter is done yet. Jeff Semelsberger said maybe we need to give her a deadline. Alison Link said to have the letter done by June 18, 2019. Rhonda needs to bring it to the Council meeting that night. Kristen Bollinger said that would give them time to adjust the letter if needed.
- Alison Link said the pool opening date to the public will be June 1, 2019. The pool will be available for Cambria Heights on May 30, 2019.
- Alison Link talked about the quote from Link Computer Corporation for the key fob’s at the Memorial building. The estimate is for \$9,892.00. This includes three doors, both front doors and one in the basement; a laptop; and electrical work. We have several keys lost. Jeff Semelsberger asked, “What could we do with \$10,000.00 to put into the building?” Alison Link said we need to change the locks then because Josh, Gibby, and Paul lost them. We should charge a fee going forward to anyone who loses their key. Jeff Semelsberger said he used Spory’s Locksmith in Johnstown to replace two doors and a safe for \$125.00. Melanie Zearfoss said if we can get a core key, she can change them. Alison Link said we need a policy on lost keys.
- Sherry Blake called the office on May 13, 2019, wanting to know if we would sell the old school property. She was told that the office doesn’t make those decisions. She will need to attend the Council meeting on May 21, 2019 and ask them. On May 17, 2019, it was noticed their house was for sale. Jeff Semelsberger said Jamie is moving into his mother’s house on Kirkpatrick Street.
- Roger told Rhonda they started filling the pool on May 20, 2019. All but one slide is operational. It will be fixed by tomorrow. Rich is getting chemicals delivered sometime tomorrow.
- Melanie Zearfoss wants the road closed on July 14, 2019 on Beaver Street from Third Avenue to Seventh Avenue & Third Avenue from Beaver Street to Spangler Street for the Car Show. We expect to have around 150 cars.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Rhonda brought to Council an email from Michelle Baker on Roger Hollen. Michelle had a verbal discussion with Roger Hollen on May 23, 2019. Council approved putting this verbal discussion in his personnel file.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

- Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Melanie Zearfoss, to adopt Resolution # 2019-3 to Amend the Right to Know Law and Provide Relief from Vexatious Requesters.

Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS: Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Eugene Huber, 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:

- Cambria County Youth Fair is scheduled at Hastings Park on Tuesday, July 23, 2019, from 11:00am to 1:00pm.
- Allen Kline of Hastings Volunteer Fire Company asked for permission to close Fifth Avenue between Coleman & Maple Streets on May 26, 2019 for the Duck Race. He also asked to close Fifth Avenue from Maple Street to Coleman Street & Coleman Street from Cardinal Street to Fifth Avenue for the Gun Bash. This will begin on August 2, 2019 at 9:00am until August 5, 2019 at 9:00am. Council approved both road closings for the Duck Race and Gun Bash.
- Mayor Donald C Drass talked about the 2020 Census New Construction Program. He explained it can take up to 48 hours to do. The federal government allocates over \$675 billion in federal funds annually for infrastructure, programs, and services based on the Census Bureau data. If we get any money it would be Federal money. Thus, our audits would go from paying \$2,100.00 to around \$8,000.00. Rhonda said we would need to set up a GIS map for them on the computer. Researching

through past files, I noticed in 2000 it was done on paper. Unfortunately, that is no longer an option. Council discussed and chose not to participate.

ADJOURN: Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Jeff Semelsberger, this meeting adjourned at approximately 8:44 p.m. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

Rhonda Churella
Borough Office Manager