

REGULAR MEETING
Hastings Borough Council

July 3, 2018

The Hastings Borough Council held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, July 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hastings Borough Office.

CALL TO ORDER: Christopher Gibbons, Council President

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

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: Kathy O'Rourke, Gladys Shutty, and Nancy Hindmarsh from Hastings Public Library.

Kathy O'Rourke explained to Council that the original committee consisted of herself, Joseph Mangarella, and Michele Bernard. Both Joe and Michele have passed away. She now has a new committee and thought that this was all settled with the borough selling the property on Beaver Street. The library's attorney contacted her to say the deed was not approved. Kathy said this new library will be a Community Center and their first home in sixty years. The cost of the new library will cost approximately \$600,000.00. They have raised \$400,000.00 thus far. We have been spending money and want to start in thirty days. What is the problem? Christopher Gibbons explained that in addition if the organization would be abolished, we want the property to go back to the borough. Kathy O'Rourke said we are paying the borough \$1.00 for the property. What will happen to our investment? We will not sell the property. We are spending money for it. So the borough will get a \$600,000.00 gift for only a \$1.00. Kristen

Bollinger tried explaining we are trying to protect the property under the borough. That is where we are coming from. Kathy O'Rourke said, "I thought this was taken care of from July 2017. Has this been rescinded?" Christopher Gibbons explained some of the wording has changed. If you don't like it, we can change it. Mayor Donald C Drass said we are looking to keep it always as Hastings Public Library. Kristen Bollinger said the borough will keep it for the community. Jeff Zearfoss said this is from attorney to attorney. Christopher Gibbons stated we can have that portion of the agreement removed. Jeff Zearfoss asked, "Can we do an amendment?" Christopher Gibbons stated that if you don't want us to change it, we won't. Nothing has happened. Melanie Zearfoss stated that CJ found out and stopped it. Christopher Gibbons said we are not putting the brakes on this project. Kathy O'Rourke said no private sale. Nancy Hindmarsh explained that Jack Hindmarsh wanted that building for the betterment of the citizens of Hastings. Christopher Gibbons asked, "When do you break ground?" Kathy O'Rourke responded, "We will be breaking ground by September 2018." Christopher Gibbons stated the borough office manager will revamp the deed with our solicitor on Thursday.

STREET/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

- On June 20, 2018, Dorothea Baum of 215 Bridge Street signed a letter stating she will pay for any costs to having the drainage ditch on Railroad Street filled in by Glenn Johnston, Inc. Hastings Borough will not be liable for any damage or repercussions of the ditch being filled in. Mayor Drass stated the ditch is not filling up with water.
- Borough office manager talked about a complaint that was left on the answering machine at 3:22pm on July 2, 2018 from Pam Shanfield about a water meter problem. The borough crew tightened the water meter up.
- Eugene Huber stated the streets are a mess with the sewer project.

POLICE REPORT/COMMITTEE:

- Mayor Donald C Drass read the monthly police report for June 2018.
- Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Jeff Zearfoss, to approve the monthly police report.

Motion Carried.

- Police Chief Jason Owens gave the office manager an example of a fuel usage log for his department. He wanted Council to approve him using this log instead of the log used by other departments in the borough. Council approved the police department using this log.

FINANCE/INSURANCE COMMITTEE:

- Nothing to report.

WATER COMMITTEE:

- Christopher Gibbons approached Kevin Galinis about the water lines. We wanted to use him 1-2 hours out of his day. He is not interested but if Walt calls him, he will help them. We just need them to have the water lines marked and stay ahead of the crew by a week or a day, etc.

SEWER COMMITTEE:

- Nothing to report.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

- Mayor Drass stated the grass needs cut on Spangler Street at the old Byrnes residence. I know the borough crew is busy but the grass is high.
- Christopher Gibbons asked how the pool party went. Melanie Zearfoss reported they made \$2,000.00 in two days. They are having DJ Bryce Gibbons come back on July 4, 2018. Melanie also asked if Roger could make a tire swing or put something up in its place at the park.
- Kristen Bollinger stated she applied for a grant through PRIDE for a set of bleachers for the field by Dr. Brown's office.
- Borough office manager gave everyone a copy of a quote for a new camera system from Shutack Computer Solutions for \$6,720.29. Christopher Gibbons explained to Council the problems with our current system which has become outdated. He talked about the new digital camera system which has four separate receivers and four recorders. Our current system only has one recorder and the rest is camera and WIFI. Melanie Zearfoss asked if it will record over itself every thirty days. Christopher Gibbons said the DVR will be new. With the old system we have four. The one at the school is shot. The one at the pool can be seen but is not recording. There

is one in the ceiling at the pool house. The new system will be here at the borough building. We need to see if we can put a repeater on Saint Bernard's Church. Jeff Zearfoss asked, "Is there a time line to put in place?" Christopher Gibbons said a lot of the grunt work is done. It will just be a matter of running wires. My guess is approximately two weeks. Kristen Bollinger asked, "Do we have money for this?" Christopher Gibbons replied, "Yes." Jeff Zearfoss said the new system will be energy efficient. Melanie Zearfoss asked about a warranty. Kristen Bollinger said the estimate showed a three year warranty.

- Motion made by Melanie Zearfoss, second by Kristen Bollinger, to purchase a new camera system from Shutack Computer Solutions for \$6,720.29.

Motion Carried.

- Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency sent a permit report for June 2018.
- Thomas Kinney gave the borough office manager a check from Kid Skins for their one year contract of renting two classrooms at the Memorial building. We also need them to sign a contract for one year dated June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Christopher Gibbons reported Jonah is no longer with the borough. Kristen Bollinger wanted to talk about the Jonah situation and how it was handled. This was a major policy violation. This was found out on Monday and no procedure was in play. He should have had suspension until further investigation. There was a lack of communication. The personnel committee should have met and been involved. Decisions can be made. Why are fire arms kept on borough property at the Sewer plant? This is a safety concern. Christopher Gibbons answered in regards to the communication/committee: I made a decision to handle the situation on a whim, whether it was the right or the wrong way. I hope you can accept what I did. In the future it can be handled differently. I hate having to fire anyone. Eugene Huber said you can carry a concealed firearm as long as you carry the permit. Melanie Zearfoss said if she did that where she works, she would be fired.
- Jeff Zearfoss said, "Jim & I have been batting around about hiring a utility person. This person could help with lifting, grass mowing, etc. Michelle

Baker and Rich Banik work good together, but they need a grunt guy. This person would work for the water, sewer, and borough. They could possibly take the test down the road for the sewer plant. We could possibly split the salary three ways. This person would be part time with approximately 32 hours per week.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

- Motion made by Thomas Kinney, second by Eugene Huber, to approve Resolution #2018-4 Disposition of Records.

Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Nothing to report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- None.

ADJOURN: Motion made by Kristen Bollinger, second by Jeff Zearfoss. This meeting adjourned approximately 8:10 p.m. All present voted yes.

Motion Carried.

Rhonda Churella
Borough Office Manager