

Borough of Hellertown
Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 1, 2014

I. Call to Order – Thomas Rieger, 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge - All

III. Roll Call – Cathy Hartranft

John Bate-	Present
James Hill-	Present
Michael McKenna-	Present
Joseph Pampanin-	Present
Herbert Payung-	Present
Thomas Rieger-	Present
Richard Staffieri-	Present
Mayor Fluck-	Present

IV. Adoption of Meeting Agendum

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Richard Staffieri, to approve the meeting agendum as written with the addition of New Business #10, Authorizing the Payment of Bills through the end of 2014. Motion carried 7-0.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. Monday, November 17, 2014, Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Richard Staffieri, seconded by John Bate, to approve the November 17, 2014, Meeting Minutes as written. Motion carried 7-0.

VI. Courtesies of the Floor

A. Pre-Scheduled Appearances- None

B. Agenda Items- None

C. Non-agenda Items- None

VII. Reports from Elected Officials

A. President

Mr. Rieger thanked everyone who made Light-Up Night a success.

Mr. Rieger- Due to lack of business, Council discussed cancelling the December 15, 2014, meeting.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Richard Staffieri, to cancel the December 15, 2014, Council Meeting unless a pressing matter arises. Motion carried 7-0.

B. Mayor- None

C. Council

Mr. Staffieri wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year on behalf of Council.

Mr. Hill- The Hellertown Historical Society will have an Open House on December 5th and 6th.

VIII. Reports from Appointed Officials

A. Treasurer- None

B. Engineer- None

C. Solicitor

Mr. Corriere- I am still waiting on the cost estimate for 33 Penn Street to prepare the Improvements and Maintenance Agreements.

D. Manager

Mrs. Hartranft- Over the last few months, staff has conducted an analysis of the sanitation rates specific to commercial establishments and multi-use buildings. The current rate schedule does not reflect the volume of waste that is put out for collection. Council has been

given the new proposed rate schedule. Residential rates will not change. There are some which will decrease and some will increase. Those building that include residential units will only be charged for the dumpster and not for each individual residential unit. This is for discussion only and can be revisited at a future meeting. I would also recommend a change to the 1.5 cubic yard dumpster charge to accurately reflect the volume of this container.

Mr. Bate- I feel that the businesses need to be aware of the possible increase.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Herbert Payung, to increase the price for a 1.5 cubic yard dumpster from \$474.00 to \$525.00 subject to the final approval of the fee schedule. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Richard Staffieri, to have staff send a letter to businesses who will see an increase of over \$150.00 to their sanitation rate. This will be placed on the January 5, 2015, agenda. Motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Hartranft- The system conversion is going well. Land Development is up and running. Once Cashiering is done, we will be able to take credit cards at the window and all invoices will now be barcoded.

E. Chief of Police

Chief Shupp was not present for the meeting.

F. Public Works Director

Mr. Henshaw had nothing to report.

G. Zoning/Codes Officer

Mr. Russo- There was an unauthorized entry at 1231 2nd Avenue. The back door was forced open and windows removed. The Borough will need to secure the building with new boards and locks.

Mrs. Hartranft- The property is currently in limbo. I was sold at Sheriff's Sale but the new deed has not yet been recorded.

H. Fire Chief- None

I. Emergency Management- None

IX. Unfinished Business- None

X. New Business

1. Outstanding Obligations- Approval of Payments

Motion made by Richard Staffieri, seconded by Joseph Pampanin, to approve the payments. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Adoption of 2015 General Fund, Sanitation, Fire Appropriation, Liquid Fuels, and Capital Budgets- Council Action

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Joseph Pampanin, to adopt the 2015 General Fund, Sanitation, Fire Appropriation, Liquid Fuels, and Capital Budgets as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

3. Adoption of Ordinance 796, 2015 Tax Rate Ordinance- Council Action

Mr. Rieger- The millage will be set at 18.75 mils for Real Estate and 1.5 mils for Fire Appropriation for a total of 20.25 mils. This millage rate is unchanged from 2014.

Motion made by Richard Staffieri, seconded by Joseph Pampanin, to adopt Ordinance 796. Motion carried 7-0.

4. Adoption of Resolution 14-15, 2015 Fee Schedule- Council Action

Mrs. Hartranft reviewed the line items in the fee schedule.

Motion made by Richard Staffieri, seconded by Joseph Pampanin, to adopt Resolution 14-15. Motion carried 7-0.

5. Approval of 2015 Employee Contracts- Council Action

Motion made by John Bate, seconded by Michael McKenna, to approve the 2015 Employee Contracts as presented in Executive Session. Motion carried 7-0.

6. Approval of the Waiver of Medical Insurance Opt Out Program- Council Action

Mrs. Hartranft- In an attempt to reduce medical costs, we have looked into an opt-out incentive. The program is voluntary and an incentive would be offered if going from family to single or single to none. The incentive would be paid on a monthly basis. An employee can opt back into the insurance should a qualifying event arise.

Motion made by Richard Staffieri, seconded by Herbert Payung, to approve the waiver for the opt-out program. Motion carried 7-0.

7. Approval of 2015 Meeting Schedule for Council, Zoning Hearing Board, Police Pension Board, Planning Commission, and Saucon Rail Trail Commission- Council Action

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Joseph Pampanin, to approve the 2015 meeting schedules as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

8. Discussion on Police Pension COLA Study- Council Action

Mr. Corriere- The Police Pension Board is recommending the cost of living increase to the retired officers.

Motion made by Richard Staffieri, seconded by Herbert Payung, to approve the cost of living increases to retired officers Balum, Patten, Hanner, and Nuss. Motion carried 7-0.

9. Reappointment of Stephanie Mindler to the Hellertown Library Board of Trustees- Council Action

Mr. Payung- Every board member for the Hellertown Library has a three year term. Ms. Mindler would like to be reappointed for a second term.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Richard Staffieri, to reappoint Stephanie Mindler to the Hellertown Library Board of Trustees. Motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Hartranft- There is also another vacancy on the HAL Board. The Trustees will present council with a recommendation in January.

10. Authorizing of Payment of Bills Through End of 2014- Council Action

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Richard Staffieri, to authorize the bill payment for the remainder of 2014. Motion carried 7-0.

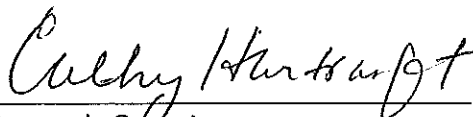
XI. Announcements- None

XII. Executive Session- None

XIII. Adjournment

Motion made by Richard Staffieri, seconded by Joseph Pampanin, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Adopted by the Hellertown Borough Council this 5th Day of January 2015.


Borough Secretary