

Borough of Hellertown
Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 1, 2021

The Meeting Was Held Via Zoom and Streamed Live on Facebook.

- I. Call to Order – Thomas Rieger, 7:00 p.m.
- II. Pledge - All
- III. Roll Call – Cathy Hartranft

Earl Hill-	Present
James Hill-	Present
Matthew Marcincin-	Present
Michael McKenna-	Present
Thomas Rieger-	Present
Gil Stauffer-	Present
Philip Weber-	Absent with prior notification
Mayor Heintzelman-	Present

Also in attendance were Cathy Hartranft, Tina Krasnansky, Kris Russo, Angie Thiede, Michael Corriere, Barry Yonney, and Bryan Smith. Chief Shupp was absent with prior notification.

- IV. Adoption of Meeting Agendum

Motion made by Earl Hill, seconded by Michael McKenna, to adopt the meeting agendum as written. Motion carried 6-0.

- V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- 1. February 16, 2021

Motion made by Gil Stauffer, seconded by Michael McKenna, to approve the February 16, 2021, meeting minutes as written. Motion carried 6-0.

- VI. COVID-19 Briefing

- 1. Administration/Public Works/Finance

- a. Mrs. Hartranft- The offices remain closed to the public. Staff is present daily.

The finances are exceeding or staying consistent with the 2020 amounts. Police fines and LST have seen an expected reduction.

2. EMA

- a. Mr. Sherer was not present for the meeting

3. Police

- a. Chief Shupp was not present for the meeting. Mayor Heintzelman had nothing new to report.

4. Fire

- a. Chief Maguire was not present for the meeting.

5. EMS

- a. Captain Andree was not present for the meeting.

VII. Courtesies of the Floor

A. Pre-Scheduled Appearance

1. Chad Miller- Discussion on Musical in the Park

Mr. Miller was not present for the meeting.

Mr. Rieger- There was a meeting to discuss the Musical in the Park two weeks ago. We are waiting to hear back from the school district if they will allow us to borrow equipment. The musical will be the week of June 14, 2021. The following week will be used in case of inclement weather.

2. Jessica O'Donnell and Lauren Bertucci- Discussion on Movies in the Park

Ms. Bertucci- We were looking to hold a Movie in the Park event on either July 23, 2021, or August 20, 2021. There will be food trucks present and the Chamber will be selling concessions.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to approve the Movie in the Park event on August 20, 2021. Motion carried 6-0.

- B. Agenda Items- None
- C. Non-Agenda Items- None

VIII. Reports from Elected Officials

A. President

Mr. Rieger- Council will hold an Executive Session on March 11, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

B. Mayor

Mayor Heintzelman inquired when the Borough offices will re-open. This item will be discussed in an Executive Session.

C. Hellertown Historical Society (Gil Stauffer)

Mr. Stauffer- The membership campaign.

This year is the Historical Society's 40th Anniversary. We will be planning a celebration.

The Easter Egg Hunt is on the agenda for approval tonight. Due to COVID-19, the event will most likely be a drive-thru event but we are still in the planning process. We are seeking donations and sponsors.

Mr. Rieger asked staff to look at the donation fund and see if it will be possible to make a donation of \$500.00 toward the Easter Egg Hunt.

D. Planning Commission (Philp Weber)

Mr. Rieger- The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2021.

E. Hellertown Area Library Board of Trustees (Matthew Marcincin)

Mr. Marcincin- The Hellertown Area will hold an Easter Egg Hunt on April 1, 2021 for members only.

AARP tax preparers are on site beginning today for tax assistance.

The Hellertown Area Library will be hosting Flight Night in conjunction with Black River Farms and the Chamber on June 16, 2021, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

F. Hellertown Borough Authority (Earl Hill)

Mr. Hill had nothing to report.

G. Hellertown Chamber of Commerce (Tom Rieger)

Mr. Rieger- There will be a ribbon cutting for Vibe on March 4, 2021.

The Chamber is moving forward with planning the Music in the Park and Honor and Hors d'oeuvres.

H. Saucon Valley Partnership (Philip Weber/James Hill)

Mr. Rieger- We are waiting on LVPC's response to the Comprehensive Plan.

I. Saucon Rail Trail (Matthew Marcincin)

Mr. Marcincin- The next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2021.

J. Hellertown Civil Service Commission (James Hill)

Mr. Hill had nothing to report.

IX. Reports from Appointed Officials

A. Treasurer- None

B. Engineer

Mr. Smith- LVPC has reached out saying they have additional grant funding available. Mrs. Hartranft and I made a presentation this past week for funding a project on the transportation plan that includes pedestrian improvements along the southern end of Main Street.

DCNR thought the addition of the basketball court at Authority Park was a good idea. We will move forward with a grant submission.

We are putting together the bid specification for pavement marking at Main and Water Streets. It will come before Council for approval in April.

C. Solicitor

Mr. Corriere had only agenda items to discuss.

D. Manager

Mrs. Hartranft had only agenda items to discuss.

E. Chief of Police

1. Authorization to Hire James DeLeone, Jr., As Part-Time Officer Contingent Upon Completion of Background Check and MPOETC Certification

Mayor Heintzelman- one of our Part-Time Officers has taken a position with the City of Easton. We would like authorization to hire James DeLeone, Jr., pending a completed background check and MPOETC Certification.

Motion made by Earl Hill, seconded by Matthew Marcincin, to approve the hiring of James DeLeone, Jr., contingent upon clear background check and MPOETC Certification. Motion carried 6-0.

F. Public Works Director

Mr. Yonney had only agenda items to discuss.

G. Zoning/Codes Officer

Mr. Russo had only agenda items to discuss.

H. Fire Chief- None

I. Emergency Management- None

X. Unfinished Business- None

XI. New Business

1. Outstanding Obligations- Approval of Payments

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to approve the payments. Motion carried 0-0.

2. Authorization to Send Outstanding 2020 Real Estate Taxes to Northampton County Tax Claim - Council Action

Mrs. Hartranft- The total amount outstanding is \$51,672.52.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to send the outstanding 2020 Real Estate Taxes to Northampton County Tax Claim. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Authorization to Send Outstanding Sanitation/Recycling Assessments to Creditech- Council Action

Mrs. Hartranft- The total amount outstanding is \$42,400.00.

Motion made by Gil Stauffer, seconded by Earl Hill, to send the outstanding 2020 Sanitation/Recycling Assessments to Creditech. Motion carried 6-0.

4. Discussion on Disc Golf Court at Thomas Iron Works- Council Action

Mr. Rieger- I was contact by Sam Tate about the possibility of installing a Disc Golf Course at the Thomas Iron Works site.

Mr. Tate was present for the meeting and explained the sport and course requirements.

Council thought that it would be a good use for the site.

Mr. Smith- DCNR would require a full master plan for the park. We could look at other sources of funding. It would be low impact and easily modified if needed.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to include in future park and grant plans. Motion carried 6-0.

5. Approval of Step Upgrade for Jake Yonney to Operator II Effective March 9, 2021- Council Action

Motion made by Earl Hill, seconded by Matthew Marcincin, to approve the step upgrade for Jake Yonney effective March 9, 2021, per the collective bargaining agreement. Motion carried 6-0.

6. Approval of Step Upgrade for Casey Koch to Operator II Effective March 24, 2021- Council Action

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to approve the step upgrade for Casey Koch effective March 24, 2021, per the collective bargaining agreement. Motion carried 6-0.

7. Approval of Performance Stage Agreement for Encore Studios Musical Theater Camp Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. the Weeks of June 21, 2021; June 28, 2021; July 19, 2021; and July 26, 2021. Live Performances Will Also Be Held Those Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.- Council Action

Mr. Rieger- There is a conflict with the week of June 21, 2021, as that is the rain dates for the Musical in the Park.

Mr. Rieger asked staff to reach out to Encore Studios and have them select another week for their Musical Theater Camp.

Motion made by Gil Stauffer, seconded by Earl Hill, to approve the agreement contingent upon final scheduling and completed paperwork. Motion carried 6-0.

8. Review and Recommendation on ZHB-21-02: The appeal of Exchange 21 LLC, 1177 6th St. Whitehall, PA 18052. Appellant seeks a use variance from section 450.15A(1) Industrial Uses, to allow housing for the elderly. Appellant also seeks a variance from section 450.15E maximum building height, to allow for 54 feet 3 inches whereas 50 feet maximum is permitted. Property is located at 30 Bachman St. (Q7NW3D810715) in the Industrial District

Mr. Rieger- These variance requests will appear before the Zoning Hearing Board on March 17, 2021. It is before Council tonight and will go before

Planning Commission at their next meeting to provide comments and recommendations to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Gene Berg, Engineer- The property is located at 30 Bachman Street. It is surrounded by Furnace Street, Oak Street, and Bachman Street. It is zoned Industrial but is surrounded by R-2 and Mixed zoning. It would be very difficult to develop this site as industrial due to the surrounding streets being too narrow for truck traffic. We are proposing a 4-story building for 40 units. We are seeking a height variance to allow for 10' ceilings.

Mr. Marcincin inquired if they were planning to widen the street since parking is already a concern in that area.

Mr. Berg- There will be more than sufficient on-site parking for any employees and all residents.

Abe Atiyeh- This building will be designed like the Saucon Valley Manor. This building would be for independent living. The only employees that would be at this building would be for maintenance and food deliveries.

Mr. Rieger- Council has already received requests to look at making Oak Street a one-way. I'm not sure the surrounding neighborhood can support this development. There are also traffic flow issues on all the streets surrounding this property.

Mr. Smith- There are businesses on Main Street that have leased spaces in that lot. If there was a change, it would impact those businesses.

The two main areas of concern are fire equipment access and traffic concerns since it would dictate the number of units allowed.

Motion made by Matthew Marcincin to table this item until the March 15, 2021, meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Matthew Marcincin, seconded by Earl Hill, to send letter to notify businesses and residents between Ackerman Street and Thomas Avenue of the proposed project. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to have Chief Maguire formally respond to the variance requests by March 15, 2021.
Motion carried 6-0.

9. Approval of Special Event Request and Waiver of Pavilion Fees for Easter Egg Hunt, April 3, 2021, From 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.- Council Action

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to approve the Special Event Request for the Easter Egg Hunt and waive the pavilion fees.
Motion carried 6-0.

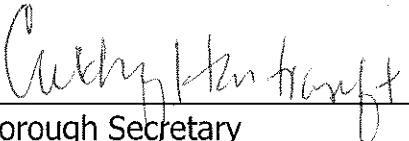
XII Announcements- None

XIII. Executive Session- None

XIV. Adjournment

Motion made by Earl Hill, seconded by Matthew Marcincin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Adopted by the Hellertown Borough Council this 15th Day of March 2021.


Borough Secretary