

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

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

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

Earl Hill-	Present
James Hill-	Present
Andrew Hughes-	Present
Matthew Marcincin-	Present
Michael McKenna-	Present
Thomas Rieger-	Present
Gil Stauffer-	Present
Mayor Heintzelman-	Present

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

- IV. Adoption of Meeting Agendum

Motion made by Matthew Marcincin, seconded by Earl Hill, to adopt the meeting agendum as written. Motion carried 7-0.

- V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- 1. October 18, 2021

Motion made by Gil Stauffer, seconded by Matthew Marcincin, to approve the October 4, 2021, meeting minutes as written. Motion carried 7-0.

VI. Courtesies of the Floor

A. Pre-Scheduled Appearance

1. Maria Smith- Discussion and Approval of Project Keep Hellertown Warm and Blessing Box at Water Street Park- Council Action

Ms. Smith- This program was started by Josh Popichak a few years ago. Neighbors Helping Neighbors will now take the project over. We are asking permission to use the fence at Water Street Park from November to March.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to approve the Keep Hellertown Warm Project. Motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Smith- There are currently 6 blessing boxes in Hellertown. During the pandemic, we learned that there was a need in the community. There are two boxes that were built by a Boy Scout that we are looking to place at Water Street Park. One would be for food and the other one would be for hygiene products. If approved, they would be placed in the spring.

Motion made by Gil Stauffer, seconded by Earl Hill, to approve the placement of two blessing boxes at Water Street Park and approve the request to paint the boxes. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Danielle Wood- Request for Waiver of Sidewalk Installation at 600 Apple Street- Council Action

Ms. Wood- Our father passed away and my sister and I are trying to sell his house. To install sidewalks at the property would cost about \$20,000.00. There are also no other sidewalks in the area so they wouldn't connect anywhere.

Mr. Hill- I did go out and look at the property. It would be very difficult to install sidewalks on that property and they would lead to nowhere.

Motion made by Earl Hill, seconded by Andrew Hughes, to grant the sidewalk waiver request. Motion carried 7-0.

B. Agenda Items- None

C. Non-Agenda Items- None

VII. Reports from Elected Officials

A. President

Mr. Rieger- Prior to tonight's meeting, Council met in Executive Session to discuss potential litigation, contracts, and personnel matters.

B. Mayor

Mayor Heintzelman- The Spirit Parade was a success. Thank you to Council and all of the volunteers.

The dedication of the Joe Delfoe plaque at the fountain was well attended and very much earned.

C. Hellertown Historical Society (Gil Stauffer)

Mr. Stauffer- There have been no geese at the Gristmill pond for three months.

D. Planning Commission

Mr. Rieger- There will be a meeting on November 9, 2021, for a sketch review.

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

Mr. Marcincin- The Library will be holding many events in the coming months. Please check their website for a schedule.

F. Hellertown Borough Authority (Earl Hill)

Mr. Hill had nothing to report.

G. Hellertown Chamber of Commerce (Tom Rieger)

Mr. Rieger- The Chamber hosted a fundraiser at McDonald's. The money will go toward the scholarship fund.

The Chamber and Lost River Caverns held Haunted Tours of the cave.

H. Saucon Valley Partnership (James Hill)

Mr. Rieger had nothing to report.

I. Saucon Rail Trail (Matthew Marcincin)

Mr. Marcincin- Lower Saucon Township will be performing maintenance on their portion of the Rail Trail beginning November 8, 2021. The maintenance is expected to last about a week.

J. Hellertown Civil Service Commission (James Hill)

Mr. Hill- There will be a reorganization meeting on November 8, 2021.

VIII. Reports from Appointed Officials

A. Treasurer- None

B. Engineer

Mr. Smith- The Dimmick Park Swale Greening project is nearing completion. The contractor is fixing the issues from the last storm.

The Walnut Street Trail Crossing Project is underway.

The Main Street Pedestrian Safety Project is complete. The contractor is waiting for PennDOT approval for reinstallation of the bus shelter.

A meeting on the Flood Mitigation Study was held last week and was well attended.

We received final plans and permits for the Public Works Facility. Installation is scheduled for February.

C. Solicitor

Mr. Corriere had only agenda items to discuss.

D. Manager

Mrs. Hartranft had only agenda items to discuss.

E. Chief of Police

Chief Shupp- The parade and Trick-or-Treat went very well.

At the last meeting, Mr. Hughes inquired about the citations written for cars failing to stop at the new rapid flashers. The Police Department has written four citations for failure to stop. Overall, it seems people are pleased with the rapid flashers. I think the Police Department will focus more on education rather than enforcement.

F. Public Works Director

Mr. Yonney- Public Works began leaf collection last week.

We have also begun installing the holiday decorations.

G. Zoning/Codes Officer

Mr. Russo- I received a request from Genesis Builders to reduce the escrow for 58 Hess Avenue. Mr. Smith completed the inspection. The escrow would be reduced from \$21,529.20 to \$12,749.20.

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to reduce and release the escrow funds. Motion carried 7-0.

H. Fire Chief- None

I. Emergency Management- None

IX. Unfinished Business- None

X. New Business

1. Outstanding Obligations- Approval of Payments

Motion made by Gil Stauffer, seconded by Matthew Marcincin, to approve the payments. Motion carried 6-0 (James Hill abstained).

2. Presentation and Approval of 2022 Preliminary General, Sanitation, Fire, Liquid Fuels, and Capital Budgets- Council Action

3. Authorization to Advertise 2022 Preliminary Budget- Council Action

Mr. Rieger- This budget proposes no millage increase, no Sanitation increase, and no Fire Appropriations increase.

Motion made by James Hill, seconded by Michael McKenna, to approve the preliminary budget and authorize advertisement. Motion carried 7-0.

4. Approval of Non-Uniform Collective Bargaining Agreement From January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024- Council Action

Mrs. Hartranft- The agreement includes a 2.75 percent wage increase each year, minor changes to uniform allowance, and increased employee contribution to health care.

Motion made by James Hill, seconded by Michael McKenna, to approve the 2022-2024 Non-Uniform Bargaining Agreement. Motion carried 7-0.

5. Appointment of Thomas F. Rieger to Fill Civil Service Vacancy. Term Ending December 31, 2022- Council Action

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Matthew Marcincin, to appoint Thomas F. Rieger to the Civil Service Commission. Motion carried 6-0 (Mr. Rieger abstained).

6. Authorization to Offer 1995 Ford Bucket Truck for Sale on Municibid- Council Action

Motion made by Earl Hill, seconded by Michael McKenna, to offer the 1995 Ford Bucket Truck on Municibid. Motion carried 7-0.

7. Authorization to Purchase 2022 F-550 With 60" CA and Snow Plow Package in the Amount of \$93,472.00- Council Action

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by Earl Hill, to issue the purchase order for the 2022 F-550 truck. Motion carried 6-1 (Mr. Stauffer opposed).

8. Discussion and Possible Award for Council Chamber Sound System- Council Action

Mr. Rieger- Council was provided with a quote for a new sound system for Council Chambers. ESG's quote came in about one-half of the estimated cost. Mrs. Hartranft meet with another supplier but we have not received a quote. The quote we received was \$9,898.24 which includes an automatic mixer, all new wiring, and new microphones.

Motion made by Gil Stauffer, seconded by James Hill, to get the new sound system from ESG with the cost to be

9. Approval of Request for Heart and Lung Benefits- Council Action

Motion made by Michael McKenna, seconded by James Hill, to approve the Heart & Lung request for an officer. Motion carried 7-0.

XII Announcements

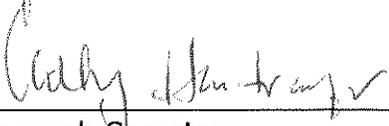
Mr. Rieger wished all of the candidates good luck in the election.

XIII. Executive Session- None

XIV. Adjournment

Motion made by Earl Hill, seconded by Michael McKenna, to adjourn the meeting 8:00 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

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


Borough Secretary