



Homestead Borough Council
Work Session

May 10, 2021
6:00 PM

Call to Order – 5:01 pm

Roll Call

President Dais	X	Vice President Cunningham	X
Rev. Benton	X (phone)	Mr. Borcik	X
Minister Burwell	X	Mrs. Burwell	X (phone @5:51)
Ms. Nesby	Out	Mayor Esper	X
Borough Manager	X	Solicitor (G. Matta)	X
Police Chief Desimone		Fire Chief Eads	
Code Enforcement		Public Works	
Engineering			

Public Comment – Items on Agenda

Name, Address - Comment

Report

1. Manager’s report
 - a. Alcosan Transforming 12th – will be on the agenda on Thursday; council needs to make the determination to either fully vacate 12th or go down to one lane; approval for Borough Manager to continue conversations and apply for additional funding for the project.
 - b. Recurring bill list will be given to Council on Thursday.
 - c. Cannon discussion – solicitor will check on ownership before we can move forward.
 - d. Approve RuthRauff to repair HVAC on second floor of the Borough Building for \$1,951.00. Solicitor will work with the Borough Manager to see what recourse there is for the previous install.

Agenda Items

1. **Approve April 2021 bill list** - \$159,038.92 – less the Library Fee as we need to verify the amount,
2. **Approval May Payroll** – estimate: \$130,000
3. **Approval of minutes** – April 12, 2021 and April 15, 2021.

4. **Recycling proposal**- working with Swissvale to provide the pick-up services; will cost \$2,000 for bins and other supplies; need to pick 2 or 3 locations.
5. **Date for Duquesne Light public meeting** to discuss cobra head replacements – schedule for the 1st week in June (June 3, 2021 at 7:00 pm). Also will discuss alley parking restrictions.
6. **Change date of Council meetings** to 1st (Work) and 3rd (Legislative) Thursdays – discussion led to the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays.
7. **Homestead Volunteer Fire Department** – donation through usage of electronic billboard – schedule a meeting with Fire Chief to discuss.
8. **Approve donation to Munhall Area Prehospital Services** – Borough Manager is to look at the 2021 budget approved amount for the donation.
9. **Approve Blackboard renewal.** – will be added to the motion list for approval
10. **Approve Steel Valley Enterprise Zone requests** – no costs to the Borough for the approval of the 2021 Main Street TIF program administration and to approve the \$1,000 to the Boy Scouts to landscape at the Homestead Gray's Bridge.
11. **Hiring of Police Officers** – discussion with Council to hire either full-time or part-time.
12. **Parking lot requests**
 - a. 7th and Amity – swap out middle lot for lot at end so the property would be more attractive to buyers.
 - b. 9th and West Street – Dan Spanovitz, one of the developers, came to the meeting and would like to work out a deal with the Borough for this lot. The Solicitor will work on a deal that works for both parties. Ask Parking Department how much money is collected for this lot. Told Mr. Spanovitz that the Engineer will be here on Thursday and for him to attend that meeting to ask questions, including about storm water collection.
 - c. 100 blocks of 7th and 8th – put up a fence at the top of lots, Meter Feeder signs so those that are parking in the lot will pay for the spaces they are using; Parking will need to enforce.
13. **109 E. Plum Way** – damage created by contractor, Whitney Construction; homeowner needs to contact her home insurance and Whitney's insurance as it was his mistake. Borough Manager will give her contact information for Whitney Construction.
14. **Sewer collections.** – tabled.
15. **Waterfront properties** – water: This is to do with the Pump station and the issues from the businesses that utilize it (McDonalds, Giant Eagle, Chick-Fil-A, etc.) with the grease accumulating and causing clogs and back-ups; it has been suggested to create a surcharge for the businesses that use it to help defray the costs of repairs and maintenance; Pump house also needs a new messaging service which Glenn Engineering recommended Sensaphone at the cost of \$1,850.
16. **Traffic calming on Amity at 10th and 11th** – Penn Dot has many rules and regulations on the usage of traffic humps/bumps which are too restrictive. It was suggested to add stop signs: 10th and Amity – uphill; 11th and Amity – downhill.
17. **Updated Cell Phone Policy** – added a section regarding Borough-owned software on personal cell phones of staff and updated language regarding law enforcement using personal cell phones.

Resolutions

- Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan – must be approved at this meeting to get FEMA funds for emergencies.
- GTRP grant resolution – already signed, need to be approved at Council.

Public Comment – Items on Agenda

- Sherlivia Thomas Murchison – 115 E. 11th, Homestead, PA 15120 - believes the chaos on Council affects the community and residents; she would like to see integrity brought back and does not want to see the Borough turn into the City. The police do not come when she calls and has charged her instead of the people she is complaining about. Has complaints on two houses near hers:
 - 119 E. 11th - 1 family home turned into 5 units; the landlord is absent and has been told that she calls the police too much and she will be charged.
 - 113 E. 11th – complaints about the abandoned property; property caught on fire after she told the Borough that it would happen and damaged her property.

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn –7:35 pm

Motion Min. Burwell

Second: Mr. Cunningham

President Dais	X	Vice President Cunningham	X
Rev. Benton	X	Mr. Borcik	X
Minister Burwell	X	Mrs. Burwell	X
Ms. Nesby	OUT	Mayor Esper	

NEXT MEETING DATES

Zoning Board – May 26, 2021, 6:00 pm

Planning Commission – May 26, 2021, 7:00 pm

HARB – June 2, 2021, 7:00 pm

Work Session/Caucus – June 14, 2021, 5:00 pm

Legislative Session – June 17, 2021, 6:00 pm

Approved

Date

Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson
Borough Manager

Don Dais
President of Council