

**BOROUGH OF HOMESTEAD
221 EAST 7TH AVENUE
HOMESTEAD, PA 15120**

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
13 April 2017
7:00 P.M.**

Mr. Cunningham called the meeting to order.

The pledge of allegiance was lead by the Mayor.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS RESPONDED TO ROLL CALL

ROLL CALL: Rev. Turner – Present
 Rev. Benton – Present
 Ms. Mariner – Present
 Ms. Burwell – Present
 Mr. Borcik – Present
 Ms. Broadwater – Absent
 Mr. Cunningham – Present
 Mayor Esper – Present
 Police Chief DeSimone – Absent
 Engineer Gilliland – Present
 Solicitor Bernie Schneider – Present
 Building Inspector Dan Hankins – Absent
 Borough Manager Matt Staniszewski – Present

REQUEST TO BE ON THE AGENDA

None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

None

MOTIONS

M-1 Motion was made by Rev. Turner, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to pay the bills as per the bill list in the amount of \$338,655.27. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik, and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Ms. Burwell voted no. Rev. Benton abstained, no reason provided. Motion carried 4 – 1.

M-2 Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to approve the minutes of the March 9th, 2017 meeting of Homestead Borough Council. Upon voice vote, motion carried 6 – 0.

- M-3** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to approve the proposal for janitorial services in the Municipal Building by General Cleaning, Inc. at a monthly rate of \$410. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Rev. Benton, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.
- M-4** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to award the bid for the CD 42 Sullivan Playground Project to Sports and Recreation Associates as recommended by the engineer in the amount of \$37,974.45. Mr. Cunningham indicated this includes a grant in the amount of \$24,500. Mayor Esper asked what the project entailed. The engineer provided a breakdown of the scope of work for the Sullivan Playground project as recorded in the low bid tabulation. The Mayor questioned about Batch Playground since they provide programming to over 200 children. Ms. Burwell stated the Batch Playground water fountain does not have consistent flow. The engineer stated it would cost approximately \$6,000 to install a similar water fountain. Mr. Cunningham added that there are studies being conducted at Frick and McClain Parks. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Rev. Benton, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.
- M-5** After additional discussion regarding the state of Batch Playground, motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Rev. Turner, to authorize installation of a new water fountain at Batch Playground at a cost not to exceed \$6,000. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Rev. Benton, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.
- M-6** Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to adopt RESOLUTION 2017-09: Live Well Allegheny Program. Upon voice vote, motion carried 6 – 0.
- M-7** Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to adopt RESOLUTION 2017-10: Local Use of Radar for Police petition. Upon voice vote, motion carried 6 – 0.
- M-8** Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to adopt RESOLUTION 2017-11: Increase prize limit for charitable organizations petition. Upon voice vote, motion carried 6 – 0.
- M-9** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Burwell, to approve the agreement with the Local Government Academy to participate in the 2017 Municipal Intern Program. Upon voice vote, motion carried 6 – 0.

M-10 Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Ms. Burwell, to authorize the personnel committee and borough manager to hire an intern at a rate of \$9/hr for an undergraduate student or \$10/hr for a graduate student with 50% of the position funded by a Local Government Academy 2017 Intern Program grant as awarded. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Rev. Benton, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

M-11 Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to authorize advertising the following ordinances:

- i. ORDINANCE 2017-04: Solar Panels
- ii. ORDINANCE 2017-05: Medical Marijuana

Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Rev. Benton and Ms. Burwell voted no. Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 4 – 3 with Mayor Esper voting yes to break the tie vote.

M-12 Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Rev. Turner, to deny disability pension benefits to Ronald Depellegrin. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Rev. Benton, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Mr. Cunningham indicated the Enterprise Zone auction event was successful and the comedian at the event was pleasing. Mr. Cunningham reminded the audience that Oysterfest is in two weeks and he also wished everyone Happy Easter.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Gilliland gave his report. Mr. Gilliland also indicated his firm is using a new online system for bids called PennBid and explained the features of the system. Ms. Burwell asked about Sarah Street. Mr. Gilliland discussed a broken lateral on 14th. Mr. Borcik stated the street is closed and questioned when the project will be done.

MAYOR ESPER

Mayor Esper wished everyone Happy Easter and then proceeded to give the Police Chief's report.

The Mayor indicated she recently swore in the newly hired police officer

Mayor Esper expressed concern about recent shootings and questioned how to stop them and who knows. The Mayor stated all become Ray Charles and don't see a thing when a shooting happens.

Mayor Esper informed the audience that Rainbow Kitchen will be offering lunch on Saturday.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Report was provided by Mayor Esper.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

No report provided.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Staniszewski read a portion of Mr. Hankin's report. A copy was submitted to Council.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Staniszewski gave his report. A copy was submitted to Council.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ms. Burwell asked if a Civil Service section can be placed on the agenda.

Duane Schulte addressed council indicating the next testing for Civil Service will take place Tuesday, May 30th, in partnership with the COG. He also asked about adding a center lane and changing the traffic signal configuration for 8th and Amity.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew D. Staniszewski, MBA
*Borough Manager/Secretary
Chief of Administration*