

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

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
10 August 2017
6:00 P.M.**

Mr. Cunningham called the meeting to order.

The pledge of allegiance was led by the Mayor.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS RESPONDED TO ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

**MS4 POLLUTION REDUCTION PLAN
West Run Sediment Impairment**

Plan was presented by Municipal Engineer David Gilliland.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE
2. MOTIONS

- a. Motion was made by Rev. Benton, seconded by Ms. Mariner, to adopt the MS4 Pollution Reduction Plan. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- b. Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, seconded by Rev. Benton, to adjourn public hearings. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.

REQUEST TO BE ON THE AGENDA

- None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

- None

MOTIONS

- M-1** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Rev. Turner, to pay the bills as per the bill list in the amount of \$171,629.34. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Ms. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik, Rev. Benton and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Ms. Burwell voted no. Motion carried 6 – 1.
- M-2** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Rev. Turner, to approve the minutes of the July 13th, 2017 and continuation on July 24th, 2017 meeting of Homestead Borough Council. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-3** Motion was made by Rev. Turner, Seconded by Rev. Benton, to approve the agreement revision with the Turtle Creek Valley COG for sewage billing services. Mayor Esper questioned if members of Council read the item in the agreement about delinquents. The Mayor cited a young lady, her tenant, was faced with a 25% late fee and being turned over to collections in just 90 days. The tenant's bill was \$130 with an additional \$44 interest charge. Mr. Borcik stated Council spoke about the delinquent collector earlier and a delinquent collector was not yet appointed by Council. Mr. Borcik stated Council was unaware of the Sewage; however, pointed out that Keystone Collections only handles real estate delinquent taxes. Mr. Borcik stated Turnkey was never hired for sewage delinquents and it was a unilateral decision. Mr. Cunningham cited a Kratzenberg letter for real estate delinquents on behalf of Keystone Collections. Mayor Esper stated he (Turnkey Taxes) is trying to get the Borough's records together. Mayor Esper stated she has no problem with Turnkey and the Borough needs to work with him. The Mayor stated Turnkey has an issue with the Borough and the Borough needs him to hopefully collect more. The Mayor concluded with stating she has never received a letter before regarding delinquent sewage. After further discussion, upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Ms. Fowler, Ms. Mariner and Mr. Borcik abstained, no reason provided. Rev. Benton and Ms. Burwell voted no and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion fails 2 – 1.

- M-4** Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Rev. Benton, to award the lowest bid proposal from Pittsburgh Seamless Gutters in the amount of \$12,750.00 for the 9th Avenue Recreation / Boxing Center Roof, charge 01/462-000. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Ms. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Burwell, Rev. Benton and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-5** Motion was made by Rev. Benton, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to adopt RESOLUTION 2017-22: Submission of a Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Keystone Communities Program grant for municipal planning. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-6** Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Rev. Benton, to adopt RESOLUTION 2017-23: Submission of a Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Keystone Communities Program grant for development. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-7** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Rev. Benton, to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for a sign installation for Boost Mobile on property located at 118 E. 8th Ave. in a C-1 Zoning District of the 2nd Ward; with the condition that the sign be mounted on the storefront awning and complies the zoning ordinance and building code. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-8** Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Ms. Fowler, to authorize the Engineer to advertise for bids for the following catch basins:
- i. E 13 & McClure
 - ii. E 7 & McClure
 - iii. Hays & W Oak
 - iv. E Hazel & McClure
 - v. Sarah & W 11
 - vi. Sylvan & W Plum
- Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Ms. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Burwell, Rev. Benton and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-9** Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Rev. Benton, to award the lowest bid to Swede Construction in the amount of \$53,030 for the Bike Park to be located at 210 E 8th Avenue as recommended by the Engineer with a CITF Grant in the amount of \$28,709 and local share of \$24,330, charge 18/454-372. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Ms. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Burwell, Rev. Benton and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-10** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Burwell, to authorize Keystone Collections for Sheriff Sale of the property at 239 East 20th Avenue with filing fees, costs and associated expenses for said Sheriff Sale paid for by

Rev. Louise Benton. The Police Chief questioned what that means. Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Borcik explained the Sheriff Sale process. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Fowler and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Rev. Benton abstained citing her interest in purchasing said property. Motion carried 6 – 0.

M-11 Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to approve the MOU with the Steel Valley School District as drafted by the Borough Solicitor and Authorize the Homestead Police Chief to sign. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.

M-12 During the Engineer's Report, a motion was suggested by Mr. Cunningham and made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Fowler, to authorize cleaning of the grease traps to be refunded by the TIF maintenance fund, costs unknown at this time. Mr. Cunningham stated they have done this before and cannot afford for the system to go down. Ms. Mariner questioned if the municipality could bill Chick-Fil-A for the cost since the engineer and Allegheny County Health Department identified them as the primary cause. Ms. Burwell questioned who made the determination as to the state of the pump station. Mr. Cunningham stated the municipal engineer. Following further discussion, upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Ms. Fowler and Rev. Benton abstained, no reason provided. Motion carried 5 – 0.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Mr. Cunningham stated he heard of goats to clean the Riverbanks by eating the weeds. Mr. Cunningham indicated they will make a proposal to the TIF Committee and the goats are an attraction as they attracted over 1,000 to the South Side.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Gilliland gave his report. A copy was submitted to Council. Motion (M-12) was made during the engineer's report.

Mr. Gilliland indicated Dan (code enforcement) postponed the asbestos review for the demolition projects.

MAYOR ESPER

The Mayor asked about the status of the water fountain at the 16th Avenue (Charlie Batch) playground. The engineer replied that there was debris in the valve, it has been replaced and should be operational. The engineer also stated Ed (public works) turned on the water. Mr. Borcik added the plastic supply line was damaged (citing an email from Ed).

Mayor Esper then questioned the 9th Avenue Water Fountain citing the button is broken. The engineer replied he isn't sure as the water is turned on.

Mayor Esper overall praised a nice job on the playgrounds and mentioned a successful National Night Out that included face painting and fire trucks.

Mayor Esper reminded everyone that K-9 Day at the Waterfront is this upcoming Saturday. Chief DeSimone interjected to clarify that the event is not a per say "police" K-9 Day.

The Mayor recognized a "sad thing" citing a 10 year old that was shot by a 6 year old in West Mifflin because of a gun in the bedroom and the 10 year old had bad supervision.

Mayor Esper said Rainbow Kitchen is now beginning to collect items for Winter such as coats, kid's shoes, etc.

Ms. Burrell asked about the hump on 11th. Mr. Cunningham stated that CDBG funds were not release yet. Mr. Burrell replied that the problem is the result of the new building. Mr. Cunningham stated the municipality would have to make him only do a section. Ms. Burrell replied that is should have been part of the building project and it's their fault. The Engineer stated they had a meeting, there was a lot of finger pointing, and Franjo feels they are not responsible. The Engineer asked for Dan (code enforcement) to go back over it. Mr. Cunningham stated that it would make the most sense to bill Franjo for that section when they receive CDBG for the whole street. Mr. Borcik cited "serious" safety concerns as people driving up the street go into the left lane. After further discussion, Council requested that Dan (code enforcement) contract Franjo.

CHIEF OF POLICE

The Chief gave his report. A copy was submitted to Council.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

No report provided.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Staniszewski gave 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.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:11PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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