

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

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
09 November 2017
6:00 P.M.**

Mr. Borcik 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
 Mrs. Fowler – Present
 Ms. Mariner – Present
 Ms. Burwell – Present
 Mr. Cunningham – Present
 Rev. Benton – Present
 Mr. Borcik – Present
 Mayor Esper – Present
 Police Chief DeSimone – Present
 Assistant Fire Chief Tim Eads – Present
 Engineer Gilliland – Present
 Solicitor Bernie Schneider – Present
 Building Inspector Dan Hankins – Absent
 Code Enforcement Officer Shunta Parmis – Present
 Borough Manager Matt Staniszewski – Present

REQUEST TO BE ON THE AGENDA

- None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

- Monica Boone, 620 6th Street, Homestead, PA – Addressed Council regarding “police negligence” during an “incident” that recently occurred at Rainbow Kitchen. Ms. Boone also stated that the Mayor told Ms. Boone to “shut up and go back to New York.” Lastly Ms. Boone expressed her concern about how “Homestead welcomes people” based upon her experience.

MOTIONS

- M-1** Motion was made by Rev. Turner, Seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to pay the bills as per the bill list in the amount of \$120,101.54. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Mrs. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Borcik voted yes.

Rev. Benton abstained, no reason provided. Ms. Burwell voted no. Motion carried 5 – 1.

M-2 Motion was made by Rev. Turner, Seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to approve the minutes of the October 12th, 2017 meeting of Homestead Borough Council. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.

M-3 Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Rev. Benton to promote Officer Todd Shipley from part-time status to full-time status at a rate of \$18.93/hr, effective November 12th, 2017. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Mrs. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Rev. Benton and Mr. Borcik voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

M-4 Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Mrs. Fowler, to approve change order #1 for the Hazel Way Paving project to Victor Paving for paving at Ladle Park in the Waterfront in the amount of \$3,060 and an additional ten (10) days to complete per the recommendation of the Engineer by the request of Councilman Cunningham, charge 18-430-372 (Sewer/Street Repairs). Mayor Esper questions how this project fits into Hazel Way. The Engineer stated this is an addendum to the project. Mr. Cunningham stated the project is at the Bike trailhead in the Waterfront. Mr. Borcik reiterated the engineer's comments. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Mrs. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Rev. Benton and Mr. Borcik voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

M-5 Motion was made by Rev. Turner, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to formally decline the PENNVEST loan offer in the amount of \$1,209,656.00 dated 18 October 2017 for the Transforming 12th Project. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Mrs. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Rev. Benton and Mr. Borcik voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

M-6 Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Mrs. Fowler, to approve Concurring RESOLUTION 2017-28: Update authorized signers on First Commonwealth Bank Accounts. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.

M-7 Motion was made by Rev. Benton, Seconded by Ms. Burwell, to approve RESOLUTION 2017-29: Dedicated Officer Agreement with M&J – Big Waterfront Town Center I, LLC. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Mrs. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Rev. Benton and Mr. Borcik voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

M-8 Motion was made by Rev. Turner, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to approve RESOLUTION 2017-30: Adopt and implement the NIMS (National Incident Management System). Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.

M-9 Motion was made by Rev. Turner, Seconded by Ms. Burwell, to approve RESOLUTION 2017-31: Adoption of Allegheny County's 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.

M-10 Motion was made by Rev. Benton, Seconded by Mrs. Fowler, to authorize the Solicitor to negotiate the upcoming Verizon Franchise Agreement through the informal renewal proceedings under Section 626 of the Communications Act. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Mrs. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Rev. Benton and Mr. Borcik voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Mr. Borcik announced a free breakfast for Veterans on November 11th at the Lincoln Place Presbyterian Church.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report

ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Mayor Esper asked when the Hazel Way project would be taking place as Rainbow Kitchen works out of that area. The Mayor indicated that the 2nd week of the month is the worse week and next week probably won't work. Mr. Gilliland stated that the contractor will let Rainbow Kitchen know. Mr. Cunningham offered the suggestion to start on the other end of Hazel Way first.

MAYOR ESPER

Mayor Esper stated she attended a dinner for the 40th Anniversary of Jefferson Hospital where she accepted a vase on behalf of Homestead.

Mayor Esper stated she attended the Veterans Programs at the Steel Valley High School and thanked all Veterans for their service.

Mayor Esper stated she also attended an award ceremony with the Police Chief in Cranberry where Homestead received a Platinum AAA Award.

Mayor Esper addressed the "incident" at Rainbow Kitchen that Ms. Boone brought up earlier in the meeting to Council. Mayor Esper stated Ms. Boone threw a bag at Pumpkin with glass in it. Mayor Esper stated that the lady (Ms. Boone) "never shut up

and she broke the rules.” Lastly, Mayor Esper stated “I’ll call Pumpkin and laugh about it.”

Finally, Mayor Esper reminded everyone that the Christmas Parade will take place December 2nd at noon and invites everyone to participate.

CHIEF OF POLICE

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

Mayor Esper asked if we (Homestead) need to be notified if a Doctor is prescribing medical marijuana in Homestead. The Solicitor explained the difference between being a dispensary versus writing a prescription and that licensing for a dispensary is public knowledge.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Representatives from the Fire Department provided Council with an update of some of their activities.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Officer Shunta Parns gave the code enforcement department’s report. A copy was submitted to Council.

CIVIL SERVICE

No report provided.

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT

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

Meeting is continued for Monday, November 13th, at 5PM, for Council to discuss the budget.

Respectfully submitted,

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