

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

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
13 July 2017
6:00 P.M.**

Mr. Cunningham called the meeting to order.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Vincent Kershner.

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 – Present
 Borough Manager Matt Staniszewski – Present

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCE 2017-04:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HOMESTEAD, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 260 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BOROUGH OF HOMESTEAD ZONING ORDINANCE, ESTABLISHING ARTICLE XV AND AMENDING §260-11 BY ADDING DEFINITIONS FOR SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS AND BY ADDING PROVISIONS FOR PERMITTING OF CERTAIN PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE
2. MOTIONS

- a. Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, seconded by Ms. Mariner, to adopt Ordinance 2017-04: Solar Panels. 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.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCE 2017-05:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HOMESTEAD, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE HOMESTEAD ZONING ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 260 OF THE HOMESTEAD BOROUGH CODE, AS FOLLOWS: (1) AMENDING, §260-11, DEFINITIONS, AND §260-15, TABLE OF PERMITTED USES BY DISTRICT, TO PROVIDE FOR “MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY” AND “MEDICAL MARIJUANA GROWER/PROCESSOR” TYPES OF USES; AND (2) AMENDING §260-30, ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC PRINCIPAL USES, TO PROVIDE FOR CONDITIONAL USE REGULATIONS FOR “MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY” IN THE C-1 ZONING DISTRICT AND “MEDICAL MARIJUANA GROWER/PROCESSOR” IN THE WDD ZONING DISTRICT.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE
2. MOTIONS

- a. Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, seconded by Ms. Mariner, to adopt Ordinance 2017-05: Medical Marijuana. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Ms. Fowler, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Burwell, and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Rev. Benton voted no. Motion carried 6 – 1.
- b. Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, seconded by Mr. Borcik, to adjourn public hearings. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.

REQUEST TO BE ON THE AGENDA

- Michael Knoop and Jeffrey Bergman gave a presentation regarding a pennvest application for the Transforming 12th Project. Mr. Borcik indicated he would support submitting the application; however, is in opposition of closing 12th Avenue. Mr. Borcik cited public safety concerns. Mr. Knoop stated it won't disrupt bus traffic and he intends to have conversations with the police and fire departments.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

- Ms. Bernice Thomas questioned the status of paving McClure Street. Mr. Cunningham indicated Munhall is not interested in paving their section at this time.

- Ms. Connie Portis stated code enforcement has been working very hard. Ms. Portis questioned trash on McClure Street; particularly a lot with abandoned sofas. Ms. Portis questioned the need to have parking meters and the associated costs as it costs a quarter to shop at Family Dollar or stop into Citizens Bank. Ms. Portis announced they would be giving away free books at Community Day.

MOTIONS

- M-1** Motion was made by Ms. Fowler, Seconded by Rev. Turner, to pay the bills as per the bill list in the amount of \$330,633.58. 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 Ms. Fowler, to approve the minutes of the June 8th, 2017 meeting of Homestead Borough Council. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-3** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Fowler, to approve the minutes of the July 10th, 2017 meeting of Homestead Borough Council. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-4** Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to award to the lowest bidder, Intertek PSI, in the amount of \$2,550.00 for asbestos inspections prior to demolition for 1501, 1503, 1505 Mifflin and 227 East 12th Front and Rear as recommended by the Borough Engineer. 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 Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Fowler, to approve the Building Investment Loan amendments as follows and proposed by the Main Street/Tax increment Financing Committee:
- i. Maximum loan amount - \$150,000
 - ii. Loans of up to 75% of the total project cost with the balance of funds provided by the borrower either through equity investments or loan from others
 - iii. Term of loans – 10 Years (interest only for first year would be considered)
- Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-6** Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Rev. Turner, to award to the lowest bidder, Sports & Recreation, in the amount of \$1,850 to fix the waterline and relocate the water fountain to the area behind the bleachers at Batch

Playground as presented by the contractor and Borough Engineer. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Rev. Benton, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Fowler and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

- M-7** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Fowler, to approve RESOLUTION 2017-19: Authorize submitting an application to Pennvest for the Transforming 12th Project. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-8** Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to approve RESOLUTION 2017-20: Authorize grant application to Pennsylvania's DCED's Multimodal Transportation Fund for the Great Allegheny County Passage Trail Connector and Waterfront Connectivity Enhancements. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-9** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Burwell, to approve RESOLUTION 2017-21: Authorize grant application to Pennsylvania's DCED's Multimodal Transportation Fund for the West Street Multimodal Transportation Enhancement and Streetscape Project. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-10** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to authorize the Borough Manager to execute and file with the Allegheny County Office of Property Assessments a taxing jurisdiction exemption challenge to the tax exempt status of 131 East 9th Avenue, Homestead, PA. Mr. Cunningham stated that MUSA Church sold the property and it is no longer in the mission of the Church. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Rev. Benton, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Fowler and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-11** Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to authorize the Borough Manager to execute and file with the Allegheny County Office of Property Assessments an application for exemption from real estate taxation the Homestead Borough owned property at 210 and 210 1/2 East 8th Avenue, Homestead, PA. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-12** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Rev. Turner, to authorize the Solicitor to write a letter to Allegheny County Economic Development to approve payment for the globes only if the County retains enough funding for the light bulbs. Upon roll call vote, Rev. Turner, Rev. Benton, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Fowler and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.
- M-13** Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to authorize advertising amendments to the alarm ordinance. Upon roll call vote, Rev.

Turner, Rev. Benton, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Fowler and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

M-14 Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Ms. Fowler, to authorize the event on August 19th from 12:30PM to 7:30PM at Frick Park. Upon voice vote, motion carried 7 – 0

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Mr. Cunningham indicated a lot is going on behind the scenes in terms of renovations. He stated a lot of people are coming into town and looking at properties.

Mr. Cunningham announced this council meeting would be continued on Monday, July 24th, 2017, at 5:00PM in Council Chambers.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report

ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Ms. Burwell questioned if the park will be ready for Community Day. Mr. Gilliland stated yes and explained the contract and project. Mayor Esper noted the pavings in Frick Park and that someone screwed up.

MAYOR ESPER

Continuing about alleged screw ups, Mayor Esper questioned the engineer about when the water fountain will be installed in Charlie Batch Park and about other parks having water fountains but no water.

Mayor Esper stated the Borough did purchase basketballs for the summer program. Mayor Esper then questioned who should pick up and deliver these basketballs for the program she volunteers at.

Mayor Esper questioned the changing of council meeting times and stated there should have been three advance notices.

The Mayor announced several recent or upcoming events including her participation in the commemoration of the 1892 Homestead Strike, Rainbow Kitchen's Hunt, Fish &

Feed on July 20th, K-9 Car Cruise at the Waterfront, ribbon cutting on Saturday at 1pm at the Bakery in the Waterfront and the Brawl under the Bridge.

CHIEF OF POLICE

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

No report provided.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

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

Mr. Hankins also took a special moment to recognize Shunta Parme and her one year anniversary working for the municipality. Mr. Hankins stated Ms. Parme is doing a great job.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

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

Meeting is scheduled for a continuance for Monday, July 24th, 2017, at 5:00PM in Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

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