

**BOROUGH OF HOMESTEAD  
221 EAST 7<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE  
HOMESTEAD, PA 15120**

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
08 December 2016  
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 – Absent, due to medical  
                          Rev. Benton – Absent, due to medical  
                          Ms. Mariner – Present  
                          Ms. Burwell – Present  
                          Mr. Borcik – Present  
                          Ms. Broadwater – 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

**REQUEST TO BE ON THE AGENDA**

None

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

None

**MOTIONS**

- M-1** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Broadwater, to pay the bills as per the bill list(s) in the amount of \$91,684.99. Upon roll call vote, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Broadwater and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Ms. Burwell voted no. Motion carried 4 – 1.
- M-2** Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Ms. Broadwater, to approve the minutes of the December 5th, 2016 meeting of Homestead Borough Council. Upon voice vote, motion carried 5 – 0.

- M-3** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to approve planning commission recommendation for Primanti Brothers, L&B 130-J-152, for land development of a new 1 story 896 square foot patio addition and façade to an existing restaurant. Upon voice vote, motion carried 5 – 0.
- M-4** Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Ms. Broadwater, to approve planning commission recommendation for AutoZone Development, LLC, L&B 130-G-154, for land development of a new 1 story 7,382 square foot masonry building for retail sales of auto parts with the condition the applicant secure a grading permit that shows the borrow site has an approved A.C.D soil erosion and sediment pollution control plan implemented. Upon voice vote, motion carried 5 – 0.
- M-5** Motion was made by Ms. Broadwater, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to approve certificate of appropriateness for freestanding sign at 221 East 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue as recommended by the HARB. Mayor Esper indicated she supports the sign but expressed concern about the location of the sign and felt it should be located near the garden by the Waterfront. Mr. Cunningham stated council had a proposal two years ago regarding the Waterfront and it died. Mr. Borcik agreed the sign should be located where the most people will view it and it would be more feasible in the lot. Mr. Borcik asked if there is a better location to view it rather than the municipal building. Ms. Broadwater stated that every other municipal building has one and this is where we live at (*figuratively speaking*). Following discussion, upon voice vote, motion carried 5 – 0. After the vote, Mr. Borcik asked if a roll call vote was needed for the motion since it involved money. Mr. Cunningham indicated no because the motion was approving the certificate of appropriateness from the HARB and not an expenditure of money.
- M-6** Motion was made by Ms. Mariner, Seconded by Mr. Borcik, to approve Ordinance 2016-09: Prohibit smoking in play areas of playgrounds. Upon roll call vote, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Broadwater and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- M-7** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to approve Ordinance 2016-10: Designate the Borough Officer authorized to collect fees, charges and costs. Upon roll call vote, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Broadwater and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- M-8** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Broadwater, to approve Ordinance 2016-11: Designate the Borough Officer authorized to collect taxes imposed by chapter 236 of the code of the Borough of Homestead. Upon roll call vote, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Broadwater and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

**M-9** Motion was made by Ms. Burwell, Seconded by Ms. Broadwater, to approve Ordinance 2016-12: Setting the millage rate for 2017 (no increase). Upon roll call vote, Ms. Mariner, Ms. Burwell, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Broadwater and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

**M-10** Motion was made by Mr. Borcik, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to approve Resolution 2016-22: Adopt the 2017 fee schedule. Upon roll call vote, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik, Ms. Broadwater and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Ms. Burwell abstained, no reason provided. Motion carried 4 – 0.

**M-11** Motion was made by Rev. Benton, Seconded by Ms. Mariner, to approve Resolution 2016-23: Adopt the 2017 budget. Upon roll call vote, Ms. Mariner, Mr. Borcik, and Mr. Cunningham voted yes. Ms. Burwell and Ms. Broadwater abstained, no reason(s) provided. Motion carried 3 – 0.

### **PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**

Mr. Cunningham congratulated the Steel Valley School District and the opportunity to play in the championship round. Mr. Cunningham noted several developments taking place in the Waterfront and along the Avenues indicating Homestead is becoming well known by real estate agents. Mr. Cunningham thanked the Mayor and all of the volunteers who put together the parade.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

No report

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

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

### **MAYOR ESPER**

Mayor Esper expressed concern about catch basins and the lack of a stop sign at 15<sup>th</sup> and Maple. The Borough Engineer and Mr. Borcik explained a stop sign is not warranted at the said location per PennDOT and state rules.

Mayor Esper recognized the police department for once again earning the AAA Platinum award.

Mayor Esper thanked Mr. Cunningham and all of the volunteers who helped with the Christmas parade. Mayor Esper indicated over 90 groups and over 20 fire trucks participated this year. The Mayor proceeded to again thank all of the volunteers,

Waterfront for candy, Frango for preparing the stage and all of the individuals who came out to enjoy the parade. Mayor Esper wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief DeSimone reviewed his written report highlighting several items.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

No report.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Mr. Cunningham read the Code Enforcement's report.

### **BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

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

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Ms. Burwell questioned the water pressure of a fire hydrant during an incident that occurred near or at 14<sup>th</sup> and West Street. Ms. Burwell indicated she was there for five minutes before water began coming out.

A representative from the Fire Department replied indicating he was in charge at the scene during the fire and indicated they were using a hydrant at 14<sup>th</sup> and Glenn and there were no problems with the water. He indicated the Fire Department arrived within one minute and there will be a minor delay as the fire hose fills up with water. He reiterated there was nothing wrong with the water pressure and stated two houses were torched with gasoline and they protected neighboring houses from also burning as he was in charge for the 1<sup>st</sup> hour and a half.

Duane Schulte of the Civil Service Commission indicated on Nov 17<sup>th</sup> the Police Academy Agility and Writing exams were completed. Mr. Schulte stated there were nine candidates for Homestead; of which two were no shows, one failed the exam and there are six viable candidates. Mr. Schulte stated interviews will take place December 20<sup>th</sup> at 10AM in the municipal building. Mr. Schulte indicated Homestead will advertise in the Valley Mirror for a Civil Service Commission meeting to certify the list on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Broadwater thanked the employees for decorating the municipal building.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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