

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

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 14, 2013  
7:05 P.M.**

Mrs. Titmus called the meeting to order. The pledge of allegiance was said. Mayor asked for a moment of silence for several deaths in the community. Rev. Turner said a prayer.

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS RESPONDED TO ROLL CALL:** Drew Borcik, Wanda Burwell, Barbara Broadwater, Lloyd Cunningham, Zaneta Hines, Rev. Turner, Susan Titmus, Mayor Esper, Chief DeSimone, Solicitor Schneider, Engineer Gilliland, Fire Chief, Barca and Ian McMeans, Borough Manager.

Mrs. Titmus announced that there would be a Public Hearing of Intermunicipal Liquor License Transfer. Any public comment of the transfer of the liquor license from 524 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Michael Patrick's Pub in West Homestead to 244 East 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Homestead. Any questions or concerns? A gentleman who represents Dorothy's spoke in favor of the transfer. He also explained what kind of food their restaurant would have, their hours of operation, employees, who would manage the restaurant. He welcomed any questions. Someone asked when they would open and he stated in midsummer.

**M-1** A motion was made by Mr. Borcik, seconded by Mrs. Broadwater to approve the intermunicipal liquor license transfer from 124 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue in West Homestead to 224 East 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Homestead. Upon roll call, Mr. Borcik, Mrs. Burwell, Mrs. Broadwater, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Rev. Turner abstained. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

Mr. Borcik stepped out.

Miss Chapman asked about Motion (e) and Mr. Cunningham explained it.

**M-2** A motion was made by Mrs. Burwell, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to pay the bills as per the list in the amount of \$102,664.90. Upon roll call vote, Mrs.

Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

- M-3** A motion was made by Miss Hines, seconded by Mrs. Broadwater to approve a Resolution amending the fee schedule to include a \$10.00 one-time set up fee and \$0.50 monthly fee per account for duplicate Sewer Bills. Upon roll call vote, Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Borcik returned.

- M-4** A motion was made by Mr. Borcik, seconded by Rev. Turner to approve the request of the TIF Committee to appoint Starrett and Associates as the provider of administrative services for 2013. Upon roll call vote, Mr. Borcik, Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

- M-5** A motion was made by Miss Hines, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to approve the request of the TIF Committee to make the payment of \$3,915.00 to Starrett and Associates for the services rendered to the TIF Committee from January 1 to December 31, 2012. Upon roll call vote, Mr. Borcik, Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

- M-6** A motion was made by Mrs. Burwell, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to approve the request of the TIF Committee to transfer \$3,702.47 from the Administrative Fund to the Infrastructure Fund. Upon roll call vote, Mr. Borcik, Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

- M-7** A motion was made by Rev. Turner, seconded by Mrs. Broadwater to accept the resignation of Harry Peterman from the Street Department and to advertise for the position of a part-time Laborer. Upon roll call vote, Mr. Borcik, Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

- M-8** A motion was made by Mrs. Burwell, seconded by Mr. Borcik to appoint Mark Gergley to the Steel Valley Authority for a five (5) year term. Upon roll call vote, Mr. Borcik, Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

- M-9** A motion was made by Mrs. Broadwater, seconded by Miss Hines to approve the Petty Cash Policy. Upon roll call vote, Mr. Borcik, Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell,

Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

Someone had a question on this and Mr. McMeans answered the question.

**M-10** A motion was made by Mrs. Burwell, seconded by Mr. Borcik to advertise an Ordinance altering the stormwater runoff regulations for new construction in Chapter 222 of the Homestead Borough Code. Upon roll call vote, Mr. Borcik, Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

### **PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**

Mrs. Titmus had no report.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

No report.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mr. Gilliland gave his report.

**M-11** A motion was made by Mr. Borcik, seconded by Mrs. Broadwater to advertise 2013 Sewer Repair Project. Upon roll call vote, Mr. Borcik, Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Burwell, Mr. Cunningham, Miss Hines, Rev. Turner and Mrs. Titmus voted yes. Motion carried.

### **MAYOR ESPER**

Mayor gave her report.

### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief DeSimone gave his report – 848 calls, 57 arrests for the month 43 adults and 14 juveniles.

### **CHIEF OF FIRE DEPT. – JAMES BARCA**

Chief Barca gave his report.

## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Mrs. Burwell gave her report.

## **BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT – IAN MCMEANS**

Mr. McMeans gave his report.

## **REQUEST TO BE ON AGENDA**

None.

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Carol James, 336 East 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, after attending council meetings for year she wants council to answer some questions that have been brought before them this past year, the property at 336 East 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and you tell me the status of that? It is reported that there are sexual predators at that property. What is the status of hiring a Code Enforcement Officer? On February 9, 2012, the Borough Manager reported that the Code Enforcement Officer collected \$15,161 in the absence of a code enforcement officer what is the total of monies that have been collected? Is Homestead Borough using a Homestead Business for its printing needs? Who is representing the Borough with regards to the ownership of the Waterfront? We should be updated with the status of the negotiations. There had been discussions of hiring an additional police officer has that taken place and if not can we be advised as to when the hiring will be completed? In May, 2012 the tax collector was designated to collect the business privilege taxes also the solicitor acknowledged at that time that illegal businesses should pay business privilege taxes. Based upon that information, is the tax collector collecting the business privilege tax from the jitney drivers. If not, can council explain why the jitney services have been exempt from the financial obligation? Also, do the properties used as these call stations used as the business have occupancy permits and are they up to code in line with other businesses and other private properties in the borough.

Mr. Schneider stated that 336 East 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue is in litigation. He explained the litigation. On the tax collector, the tax collector is a distinct elected officer of the Borough of Homestead, Council has no control over what it is that the and no disciplinary authority over the tax collector to make the tax collector to do what the duties are because she is a separate elected official. I don't believe we get a monthly report from the tax collector so whatever information about business privilege tax has to come out of the tax collector's office. Someone as is that for public viewing. Mr. Schneider stated you have to ask the tax collector for that.

Mr. McMeans stated that as far as if we have a code enforcement officer we are contracting Evermore Consulting. Ms. James asked if we have a problem do we call you, Mr. McMeans, and you let them know, Mr. McMeans stated yes. Mr. McMeans stated that in January 2013 we brought in \$1,760.00 from code enforcement activities. The Waterfront owners have been having periodic meetings, he believes Solicitor Hemminger attending a meeting. Mrs. Broadwater and Mr. Cunningham have attending a few meetings with them also. As far as the police officers go, Council voted to empowered the Civil Service Commission to create an eligibility list for 2013, the test was done right before Christmas, with the results done right before January and we are going to finish up with the interview testing process in February and hopefully the Civil Service Commission can meet and present their eligibility list sometime after that. Ms. James asked so when do you project to get an officer? Mr. McMeans stated it depends on the available of all of the parties involved.

Ms. James asked about the Waterfront roads if we have accepted responsibility of them along with West Homestead and Munhall. Mr. Schneider stated that we accepted responsibility of some of the roads back in 2002. There have been discussions about that and what happened was they had indicated they wanted an estoppels letter which means when I sell you property you get the tenants or other people have interest in the property to say everything is ok to specifically list the problems. Mr. Gilliland had physically identified some problems with the properties, he had indicated some legal issues surrounding those physical problems and he believes that the resolution has been that they are going to take care of those physical problems but he isn't sure that anything has been reduced to writing yet. He has Mr. Gilliland. Mr. Gilliland stated that is where it stops as far as he knows. Mr. Cunningham stated that they are putting together a list of all the problems and going to put it out to bid.

Someone came in to ask for a handicap spot in front of a business on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There was a discussion taken on this matter.

**M-12** A motion was made by Mr. Borcik, seconded by Miss Hines to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Homestead Borough Council meeting of February 14, 2013 was adjourned at 8.40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ian McMeans  
Borough Manager