

Mt. Holly Springs Borough Council Meeting Minutes-January 13, 2025

Call to Order – Mrs. Boyles called the meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

Attendance– The following members of the Borough Council were present; Sherry Boyles, President, Cathy Neff, Gay Bowman, Lois Stoner, Andrew Tate, and Gus Ginter. Also, present Deborah Halpin-Brophy, Mayor, and Karen Johnson, Interim Secretary/ Treasurer. Thomas Day, Police Chief/ Borough Manager attended via phone.

Approval for Payment of Bills and Financial Reports –December 9, 2024-January 2, 2025 –Mrs. Stoner motioned for the approval of the payment of bills (\$105,415.10) and approval of financial reports (deposits \$104,194.87 with Total account balances of \$573,902.21). Mr. Ginter seconded the motion, vote to approve the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes –The minutes of the Borough Council meeting from December 9, 2024 were reviewed. Mrs. Stoner motioned for the approval of the minutes which was seconded by Ms. Bowman. The vote to approve the motion passed unanimously.

Public Opinion-none

Business Before Council-

--Advertisement of Resolution 2025-01-Authorization to amend Rental Occupancy Requirements 412.5 adding item (f). Mrs. Stoner made the motion to approve advertisement of Resolution 2025-01. Mr. Ginter seconded the motion and vote to approve passed unanimously.

--Advertisement of Ordinance 2025-02-Establishing Procedures for Remediation and Prevention of Deteriorated and Blighted Properties in the Borough. Ms. Bowman made the motion to approve advertisement of Ordinance 2025-02. Mrs. Stoner seconded the motion and vote to approve passed unanimously.

--Brandon Vazquez- Letter from Mr. Vazquez to Council requesting consideration for a seat on Authority Board (held prior by Brian Robertson expiring in 2027) Council members voted to approve the request, Mayor Brophy swore Mr. Vazquez in and members welcomed him to the Authority position.

--Pam Still- Letter from Ms. Still requesting consideration to fill vacant position (held prior by Cindy Goshorn). Council members voted to approve the request, Mayor Brophy swore Ms. Still in and members welcomed her to Borough Council.

-- Jim Collins- Council approved Mr. Collins to another term on the Authority Board and was sworn in by Mayor Brophy.

--Deb Halpin-Brophy – Council approved Mrs. Brophy to another term on the Authority Board, she was sworn in by Council President Sherry Boyles.

--MHS Elections for 2025—7 positions are up for election this year: Mayor, 5 Councilmembers, and Tax Collector will be seeking new terms.

--Tax Collector Report—Currently the amount of unpaid taxes/penalties for 2024 is \$21,823.19

Council Members Reports–

Gus Ginter—Planning Commission

--Mr. Ginter mentioned that Merle Barclay is requesting to stay on the Planning Commission for another term of 4 years. Mrs. Neff made a motion to accept Mr. Barclay's request and Mr. Ginter seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed unanimously.

--Mr. Ginter also mentioned they are still working on the comp plan, and encouraged everyone to attend their meeting.

Gay Bowman

--Ms. Bowman mentioned that Public Works did a good job removing snow and keeping the streets clear.

--Concerns about the cars up at the hilltop church, doing donuts in the snow. She understands this is a church problem and not the Borough's.

Lois Stoner—Park & Recreation

--Next meeting is next Tuesday the 21st at 6:30pm, they will be discussing the Christmas Events and the Calendar for 2025.

--Mrs. Stoner also mentioned Holly Fest vendors, we have 17 so far which is a very good number this early in the year. She said Holly Fest for 2024 was well attended.

Mayor's Report- Mayor, Deborah Halpin-Brophy

Mayor Brophy gave the stat report for MHS Police Department for December 9, 2024 to January 12, 2025. She mentioned the weight restriction citations and how many are continuing to be cited for going over restricted bridges.

Borough Manager's Report- Thomas Day

--The updated page of the personnel policy was given for council to review. Council voted in the December 9th meeting to approve PTO carry over increase to 120 hours.

--Steve Bloch – Mr. Day explained to council that Steve was the only part-time employee who did not receive 32 hours of PTO time when other part-time employees accrued PTO hours, and he is asking council to approve giving Steve 32 PTO hours. Mrs. Stoner made the motion to approve giving Steve 32 PTO hours like the other part-time employees. Mr. Ginter seconded the motion, and the vote to approve passed unanimously.

--CD Rollover- Mr. Day mentioned that the CD had matured and was sitting in cash. He asked for council approval to roll into a 12-month CD at 4.05% effective January 15, 2025. Ms. Bowman made a motion to approve the rollover, with a second by Mrs. Neff. The vote to approve passed unanimously.

--IGS Energy Contract renewal—Mr. Day said he was going to ask for approval on the rates that Nicole from IGS had provided, however, when he received the docu-sign email, the rates were higher than she quoted. He explained to council that due to this issue he would like permission to bid out for new rates. He stated that the Borough uses a lot of electric and it is important to get the best rates we can. Mr. Ginter made a motion to approve Mr. Day to seek bids for new electric rates for the Borough. Mrs. Neff seconded the motion and the vote to approve passed unanimously.

--New Police Department Vehicle Purchase—Mr. Day would like council's approval to purchase a 2024 F-150 Police Responder Pick-up for \$48,753.00. By purchasing a pick-up, it would eliminate using the van, which requires an additional person to bring the scales when needed. He will get a cap for the back so scales can be transported. He stated that Car#3 would be removed from the fleet, decals will be stripped, and Jason could use it for zoning/codes work. Van has 11,000 miles and public works could make use of it. Mr. Ginter made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2024 F-150 vehicle. Mrs. Stoner seconded the motion, the vote to approve passed unanimously.

--Letter from Fire Dept- Invitation to attend their formal event on Saturday, February 15, at the Carlisle Mesonic Lodge.

--East Street Project—Mr. Day said he will start purchasing materials for the East Street drainage project in February. We received a \$53,000 grant from the Low Roads Funding for our project.

--Future Sewer Line Project—Approximately a 1500-foot area of Orange Street to Trail Race Drive will need replaced. Mr. Day talked with Greg from Pennoni to get an estimated cost for the project. He will then approach Representative Kutz and Senator Rothman regarding future funding. Mrs. Stoner made a motion to approve Mr. Day to seek funding once he has the estimate. Mr. Ginter seconded the motion, and the vote to approve passed unanimously.

--Account Balance- Mr. Day wanted council to know that as of today our general fund account is reflecting a balance around \$300,000.00 The financial reports reflect the balances to January 2, 2025. The Borough is standing good right now for this time of year.

--Fire Hydrants- Mayor Brophy asked about the pressures of the hydrants, because of what has happened in California. Mr. Day stated that Denny Russell had previously asked about our hydrants, and the hydrants were measured for pressure by Mike Gwozdecki. There was only one hydrant which was previously hit by a motorist that is scheduled for replacement once weather permits. This hydrant is located near the fly shop in the Borough, and the fire department is aware that it is currently covered and unusable.

Adjourn –Mrs. Boyles asked for a motion to adjourn with an executive session with no action to follow. Ms. Bowman made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Ginter. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Executive Session with No Action- Members moved into executive session.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Johnson
Interim Secretary/Treasurer