

Mt. Holly Springs Borough Council Committee Meeting Minutes-March 28, 2024

Call to Order – Mrs. Boyles called the Mt. Holly Springs Borough Council Committee meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Attendance– The following members of the Borough Council were present; Sherry Boyles, Cathy Neff, Gay Bowman, Lois Stoner, Cindy Goshorn, and Kyle Schnitzer. Also, present; Deborah Halpin-Brophy, Mayor; Thomas Day, Police Chief/ Borough Manager; and Karen Johnson, Interim Borough Secretary/Treasurer.

Pledge of Allegiance- Mrs. Boyles led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes- The minutes from the Borough Council meeting on March 11, 2024 were reviewed. A change to Mr. Schnitzer's name on page two was noted for correction. Motion to approve by Mrs. Stoner and seconded by Mr. Schnitzer, the members voted to approve unanimously.

Public Comments-none

New Business before Council-

-Official Acceptance of Nanette Dusharm's Resignation. Mrs. Stoner made a motion to accept Mrs. Dusharm's resignation effective March 11, 2024, with her final day of March 22, 2024. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Neff, members voted to approve unanimously.

-Appointment of Interim Secretary/Treasurer. Mrs. Stoner made a motion to appoint Karen Johnson as acting Secretary/Treasurer until a new person is hired and trained for the position. The appointment would also have a pay increase to 18.00 per hour, while acting as Interim Secretary/Treasurer. Mrs. Goshorn seconded the motion, the members voted to approve unanimously.

Council Members Report-

-Mr. Schnitzer briefly reported on the Planning Commission and the Cumberland County's Comprehensive Plan. Looking at core principals and will attend the next survey meeting.

-Mrs. Bowman spoke about GreenLife's opening and the great response from the community so far. They are taking weekly donations and anything not needed that

Speranza can use they are giving to them. Speranza is always looking for bedding items, blankets, pet food (dry), etc., they do have a wish list on their Facebook Page. -Mrs. Stoner reported on the upcoming Park & Rec events for 2024. April 20th a self defense class and working out registering details, Scavenger Hunt in May, Movie Night at Trine Park, and Holly Festival.

Borough Manager's Report-Thomas Day

-Release of Library Funds for 2024- A motion by Mrs. Stoner to approve the release of \$2000.00 to the Amelia Given Library was seconded by Mrs. Goshorn, with members voting to approve unanimously.

-Humane Society's new contract- Thomas Day explained the new pricing for taking stray animals to the Humane Society. The old fee was for \$345.40 for Pit Bull's (and \$200.00 for all other breeds), taken to the Humane Society, which they felt caused them to be classified as "a degrading breed of animal". The new contract would establish a flat fee of \$250.00 for all dogs, and \$176.00 for cats. It was also noted that Speranza will usually take strays at no cost, and could also be an option. A motion by Mrs. Stoner to accept the new contract from the Humane Society and was seconded by Mrs. Bowman, with members voting to approve unanimously.

-WCCOG 2024 Bids for street materials. A motion by Mrs. Stoner to approve the bids with a second by Mrs. Goshorn, members voted to approve unanimously.

- Ridge Road Shale bids- Thomas Day explained that the Ridge Road Project was definitely a go and the grant would move forward. On April 8 2024 a construction meeting is scheduled. The bidding with 30 days of advertising and due by close of business May 13. We will need about 280 tri-axle loads of shale (approximate cost \$150,000 -\$200,000. County will cover \$100,000 and DCNR will cover \$250,000, with the Borough Public Works doing the work. If project exceeds the amounts projected, we will be first in line for additional funding next year for Dirt and Gravel monies. The only right-of-way we did not have permission for was the Wilcox property. DCNR will keep their right-of-way (about 100 feet), so the project can move forward. The public works guys are now all certified in low gravel maintenance program. A motion by Mrs. Stoner and a second by Mr. Schnitzer to acquire bids for shale to be used on the Ridge Road Project, members voted to approve unanimously.

-Thomas will be mailing letters to businesses to ask for donations towards Trine Park Community Appreciation Day.

-Christmas Light Decorations replacements have not been ordered, we still have spare decorations available.

-Trine Park update- The park has been marked off for the gaga court from the donation made by the Ramsey Family (\$1200.00), which will cover the materials. Public Works will start Wednesday (April 3rd). Will have stone, fabric and mulch for a kid friendly court.

Playground mulch (truck load) has been added to Trine and Tichy Parks. The guys did a nice job and the parks look great. The price of the mulch increased around 45% from last year.

-Shetter's Property- Gene is totally out of the property, but the garage still has some items which Gene gave permission to get rid of. Any tools that can be salvageable will be used by Public Works, everything else will be placed in the dumpster. Plan for renting the house for \$750.00 per month to a public works employee. The garage will eventually have shelves for records storage, plastic storage containers will be used so no mice can invade. Snow plows, and other machinery can be stored in the off season. The garage is not temperature controlled.

-Red Dump Truck- Gas was inadvertently put in instead of diesel fuel. Was towed to D&D in Newville, and awaiting estimate on repair, and approval to begin repair work. Employee offered to pay for the damage, but a letter of reprimand is a better solution.

-Trees downtown- dead trees were zip tied, the holes will be completely dug out, cleaned, before the new ones are planted (Japanese Lilac's). Plan to pick up Monday and plant on Tuesday.

-Bortek Vac System for leaves- Our current equipment is "shot" and we are looking in applying for grant to cover the cost (deadline May 9). One option available, a tow-behind trailer with dump box which we could blow leaves curb side without residents having to bag them. The cost is \$145,000, our price of 10% would be \$14,000. If equipment is purchased, the borough would have to consider an ordinance (or amendment to current ordinance) to prohibit the burning of leaves/brush. (Currently small limbs and brush can be burned with a permit). Public Works will take care of brush and leaf pickup and there will be no need to burn. Recreational pit usage will still be okay. Any chipping the borough does is taken to the farm owned by Dickinson College. A motion by Mr. Schnitzer to proceed with inquiries for the grant to purchase the leaf vac was seconded by Mrs. Bowman, the members voted to approve unanimously.

-Advertising for the secretary/treasurer position until May 3rd. The Admin Committee will then review the applications and set up interviewing times starting May 13th. Tom will reach out to Dickinson College and PSAB for additional advertising.

-Question about timers at Trine for the pickle ball courts. The only lights that are timed currently are for the basketball courts. One speed bump has been installed at Trine and a second will be added at the pickleball court to reduce the speeds of vehicles.

No other business

Executive Session-Council members moved into Executive Session at 7:21pm, to discuss personnel action.

Members returned back into session at 8:10 pm, voting to accept payment terms for past employee James Hoerner.

Adjourn – Mrs. Bowman made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Mr. Schnitzer. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm..

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Johnson
Interim Borough Secretary/ Treasurer