

**Mt. Holly Springs Borough Council
Committee Meeting Minutes-August 31, 2023**

Call to Order – Mr. Collins called the August 31, 2023, Committee meeting of the Borough Council to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance– The following members of the Borough Council were present; James Collins II, Sherry Boyles, Lois Stoner, Cathy Neff, Gay Bowman, Cindy Goshorn and Debra Halpin-Brophy. Also present, Mayor Brian Robertson and Thomas Day, Police Chief/Borough Manager.

Pledge of Allegiance – Jim Collins II led the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes – Mrs. Brophy made a motion to approve the minutes from August 14, 2023 council meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stoner and passed by majority vote.

Public Comments – Rebecca Yearick of Housing & Redevelopment Authorities was present and she informed council that Orvis will now be sold at Precision Fly & Tackle. They now have six stores in Pennsylvania. They are looking to continue to grow. The Cumberland County Planning Department will not issue a land partnership grant program this year for 2023. Ms. Yearick attended one of the sessions related to funding and prioritizing projects. The survey asks participants to note special places that should be approved. The online survey is available through October 31. Residents and business owners are encouraged to take the survey. The Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau is offering Tourism Grants the grant is intended to increase product lines, experiences and services that attract overnight visits in the County.

Chairman Collins announced that we are invited to the annual open house at the Yellow Breeches Emergency Medical Services on September 23 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. We also received a thank you from the library for our continued support and asking if we would do it again for next year.

Borough Manager's Report – Borough Manager Day mentioned that he is currently working on the budget and if anyone has any input to let him know. Borough Manager Day mentioned that he had spoke with Chairman Collins and we are not going to be replacing Jim Hoerner at this time. We are coming into our slow season, and Jonathan, Ed and myself are capable of plowing and if we need, we can save a half of year on salary and benefits. I would like to ask council if we could bump up the salary for Steve Block to \$15.00 per hour. Mrs. Brophy mad a motion to raise Steve's pay to \$15.00 per hour and it was seconded by Ms. Bowman and all were in favor. He has been a big asset to public works with Jim Hoerner's absence. Public

Works has started the painting of the curbs since there is no rain. Our goal is to get the painting that needs to be done and then we will be doing the patch work and the seams before the winter months. I told Josh to get the epoxy paint that we need to paint the fire hydrants. The church group is going to be doing that. The type of paint we use, you have to mix the epoxy and you only have so much time to finish before it hardens. Mrs. Neff asked if the Authority is still waiting for a part for the hydrant by her place? Borough Manager Day said it has been ordered and it cost about \$4300. It has been shut off and the Fire Company is aware that it is not operating. Borough Manager Day mentioned that he had received a package from Yellow Breeches EMS about their annual budget. About three or four years ago we were donating about \$5,000 and when Doug Shields was there it got bumped up to \$15,000. Next year, they are requesting \$30,000 and an additional one time only \$15,000 fee for the new radios. The request is a one-time allotment toward the County-led replacement of our entire radio system. We currently give our fire department \$30,000. We may want to consider an EMS tax. If we continue with the fire company, the library and the EMS that is a lot out of our tax base. I believe that is too excessive. Chairman Collins stated that we should keep our donation at \$15,000 for next year. Since Doug Shields left there, they now have three people taking care of everything. The EMS tax would be an additional tax. Chairman Collins thinks as far as the budget we should hold the EMS allotment to \$15,000 and Yellow Breeches should go after South Middleton for more. Borough Manager Day said that when we get the premium for worker's comp, he does the breakdown for South Middleton, Dickinson and Mount Holly Springs. South Middleton should be paying the workers' comp for the ambulance company. South Middleton then told the ambulance company that they were not paying it along with the \$50,000 they have donated in years passed. I guess they agreed to pay the \$50,000 but will not pay the workers' comp. Borough Manager Day recommends an EMS tax. We are looking at \$30,000 each year they are requesting, with that being said we are looking at about \$22 per year per resident. We would have to figure out what the mill rate would be.

The other thing that we need to talk about is the Holly Elementary School. I have heard that they are looking to consolidate the 4th and 5th graders into a new school. The enrollment in Holly Elementary is down, and the two that they are looking at getting rid of are Letort and Mt. Holly Elementary. With them building a new school for 4th and 5th graders they would be able to consolidate all of them. Borough Manager Day suggests that the Council send a letter to support keeping Holly Elementary. Chairman Collin's asked that a letter be sent in support of not shutting down Holly Elementary. Mrs. Boyles made the motion and it was seconded by Mrs. Stoner and all were in favor.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Robertson had asked about 1 Trine Avenue and mentioned that the woman is still living in there. According to Borough Manager Day she was

removed from the residence by Officer Pague. If she is there then she is in violation. Borough Manager Day will look into it.

Committee Reports – Mrs. Boyles announced that on September 30th we will be painting the fire hydrants and mulching trees downtown. The fishing club is coming out to clean the creek and who ever else would like to volunteer is welcome and a light lunch will be provided by Diamond. Mrs. Boyles also mentioned that we need to set up a budget meeting. Mrs. Boyles would like to make a motion to accept Barb Boise’s resignation as Tax Collector effective September 10, 2023 and the motion was seconded by Mrs. Neff. Mrs. Neff asked what do we do next? Borough Manager Day said that he put it on Facebook for Borough residents to fill in until the end of 2023. As it stands right now, council has the authority to appoint a tax collector until December 31, 2023. I sent a letter to the Board of Elections and they contacted the Democratic and Republican committees. So, each party is allowed to put up a name for the general election that will appear on the ballot, but it still doesn’t mean that someone can be put on as a write-in candidate. They have to be a resident of the Borough of Mount Holly Springs.

Any Other Business to Come Before Council: There was no other business to be brought before council.

Adjourn – Mrs. Stoner made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Mrs. Neff. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nanette Dusharm
Borough Secretary/Treasurer