

**BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024
7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER: This meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Burke.

PRESENT: A quorum was present including members of Council as follows: Sean M. Burke; Jeffrey Ketner; Brady Leahey; Walter Kalista, III; David Jacobs; William Kitt; and Clay Gingrich. Also participating: Interim Borough Manager/Borough Secretary Patricia J. Duron; Borough Attorney Jeffrey Murceak; Director of Community Development Andrew Holodnik; Chief Chris Storm; Fire Marshal Amy Hazlett; and Mayor Dodson. Director of Community Relations and Events Melanie Ramsey was absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCED: President Burke announced that Borough Council held an Executive Session Friday, April 5, 2024 at 5:30 to conduct interviews for a new borough manager.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Burke led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

MINUTES: The minutes from the meeting held on March 14, 2024 were presented for Council's review and approval. A motion to approve these minutes was made by Mr. Leahey and was seconded by Mr. Kalista. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved unanimously.

ZONING PERMIT DENIAL APPEAL HEARING: Mr. Holodnik conducted a hearing regarding the installation of curbing done without a permit and the subsequent denial of the permit for the work. The property owners, Charles and Linda Strobert, offered testimony about their appeal of the denial of the permit. Mr. Holodnik presented exhibits and offered testimony. Following the hearing, there was a discussion with a motion made by Mr. Leahey to uphold the denial of the zoning permit and to reject the appeal. Mr. Kitt seconded the motion and the motion was passed with six votes in favor and one dissenting vote.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Ms. Duron reported on the upcoming Arbor Day Ceremony. She reported on a recycling grant opportunity for the Public Works Department to purchase a truck mounted leaf collection system and to be reimbursed 90% of the cost.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The financial report was included in the agenda binders.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT: Mr. Holodnik reported that building permits had increased as well as work being done without permits. He also advised that the Borough will host a permit workshop for the public in April. He discussed health and safety issues and advised that

once the comprehensive plan update is completed; he wishes Borough Council to consider adopting the International Property Maintenance Code. He updated all on the status of the comprehensive plan update.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS & EVENTS REPORT: Ms. Ramsey was absent.

FIRE MARSHAL: Ms. Hazlett discussed brush collection and that burning of brush is not permitted. She advised that she is researching grant opportunities toward fire prevention education and safety.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT: Chief Storm presented the department's March report.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Dodson discussed permit parking in his neighborhood.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Elda Boose, 141 Bedford Street: Thanked the Borough for their progress toward stormwater mitigation.

Shawn Leydig, 407 Beaver Street: Street sweeper, Borough spending and manager interviews.

Richard Latker, 703 Allegheny Street, Community Watchdog: Discussed and presented a petition to Borough Council regarding the Phoenix Volunteer Fire Department (PVFD).

Stan Neal, 142 Beaver Street: Defended the PVFD against others' remarks.

Gerard Nale, 109 Bedford Street: Indicated that he "echo-ed" Elda Boose's comments.

Jim Fitch, 109 BelAire Road: Advised that a traffic study should be done for the traffic problems around the Hollidaysburg Senior High School.

Eric Schmitt, PVFD: Requested Council's support for a grant of \$60,000 toward the purchase of a fire engine.

Steve Albright, 421 Bedford Street: Spoke about having an identification logo on the Borough vehicles. Thanked Public Works for cleaning out the pipe during the heavy rain. Advised that people should stop criticizing the PVFD.

Devin Kurty, PVFD: Explained that he had paid his dues and was there to defend his character.

OPEN AGENDA:

Mr. Gingrich: Stormwater mitigation in Gaysport and the detention pond.

Mr. Burke: Copy of the Borough's Health and Safety Ordinance. Requested a link to the International Property Maintenance Code.

Mayor Dodson: Permit parking on Wayne Street. Ordinance updates.

Mr. Leahey: Update on the business district cleanup in May. Post Office parking meters.

Mr. Kitt: Stormwater management in his ward.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-13: CONSENT AGENDA:

- a.) Resolution No. 2024-13 for bill list number 4 totaling \$242, 634.19
- b.) One Certificate of Appropriateness – 400 Blair Street

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-13

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONSENT AGENDA

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg, Blair County, Pennsylvania, that:

- 1) **Bill List No. 4** dated April 11, 2024 authorizes payment of expenses totaling \$242,634.19 consisting of accounts payable and owing the Borough of Hollidaysburg from duly appropriated moneys is hereby approved.
- 2) **One Certificate of Appropriateness** is to be Approved and Council Authorizes the Zoning Administrator to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness/Zoning Permit as follows:

400 BLAIR STREET – UPDATE HVAC SYSTEM – CHRIS ROGERS

- Get retroactive approval for updating the existing system
- The new system will be two mini split units
- This is a contributing structure within the Historic District

DULY adopted by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg this 11th day of April, 2024.

Sean M. Burke, President

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Duron, Secretary

A motion was made by Mr. Kalista and was seconded by Mr. Ketner to approve Resolution No. 2024-13. A vote was taken with the motion carrying, seven votes to zero votes.

STORMWATER UPDATE IN GAYSPORT: Todd Banks discussed the detention pond and the acquisition of the land. It will be a 2025 construction project.

EAST END STORMWATER PROJECT/ PENNVEST LOAN APPLICATION: Todd Banks of Stiffler McGraw presented an update on the submission of the PennVEST loan documents. November cutoff for a January meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Kitt and was seconded by Mr. Leahey to apply for the PennVEST loan.

BOROUGH SIDEWALKS: Mr. Leahey reminded residents about the 25% grant reimbursement for sidewalk and curb repair/replacement.

VEHICLE LOGOS: Mr. Gingrich had requested this agenda item for consideration. A price quote for the logos for 40 vehicles and installation was presented for Council's consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Kalista and seconded by Mr. Jacobs to use the Chimney Rocks logo on the vehicles.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF HOLLIDAYSBURG AND THE AFSCME LOCAL 3157: This MOA will approve the starting rate for summer helpers to be \$14.00 per hour and will increase by .50 each consecutive year that they return to work with the Borough of Hollidaysburg. A motion was made by Mr. Kalista and was seconded by Mr. Ketner. A vote was taken and all voted in favor.

ACCEPT THE MULTIMODAL GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000.00: Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Kalista and was seconded by Mr. Leahey to accept the multimodal grant in the amount of \$400,000.00. A vote was taken with the motion carrying with six votes in favor and one vote against.

PVFD REQUEST FOR A \$60,000 GRANT FROM THE BOROUGH (TABLED): Mr. Gingrich made a motion to remove this item from the table for discussion. Mr. Jacobs seconded this motion. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Gingrich that the \$60,000 grant be paid by the Borough directly to the lender, and also contingent that an agreement with the PVFD and signed by their President to provide a quarterly loan statement showing the payments are being made on the loan, and a current balance sheet at the time that the agreement is signed. This motion was seconded by Mr. Kitt. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION: UPDATE ON THE ELIMINATION OF JACKSON STREET PARKING SPACE IN THE BOROUGH (TABLED): Mr. Leahey made a motion to remove this discussion from the table and to remove it from the agenda. Mr. Ketner seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The motion was passed with seven votes in favor. Mr. Leahey requested that this item be reconsidered on the May agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-14 DISPOSITION OF MUNICIPAL PUBLIC RECORDS: A motion was made by Mr. Kalista to approve Resolution No. 2024-14 for the Disposition of Municipal Public Records. Mr. Ketner seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The motion carried with seven votes in favor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-14
DISPOSITION OF MUNICIPAL PUBLIC RECORDS**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg, Blair County, Pennsylvania, that

WHEREAS, by virtue of Resolution No. 2023-12 adopted the 13th day of April, 2023, the Borough of Hollidaysburg declared its intent to follow the schedules and procedures for the disposition of records as set forth in the Municipal Records Manual approved December 16, 2008; as amended July 23, 2009, and March 28, 2019, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Act 428 of 1968, each act of disposition shall be approved by resolution of the governing body of the municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg, Blair County, Pennsylvania, in accordance with the above cited Municipal Records Manual, hereby authorizes the disposition of public records attached hereto as **Exhibits A and B**.

DULY adopted by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg this 11th day of April, 2024.

Sean M. Burke, President

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Duron, Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-15 APPROVING LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANS GRETKA REALTY: Mr. Leahey made a motion to table this resolution until the May meeting. Mr. Ketner

seconded and a vote was taken. All voted in favor and the motion was passed.

APPROVE A FIREWORKS PERMIT APPLICATION: Mr. Kalista made the motion to approve the application and issue the permit. Mr. Gingrich then reworded the motion and requested that the insurance certificate be updated and the subrogation box checked. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion and the motion passed with six votes in favor and one against.

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE AN AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 850 ENGINE BRAKE RETARDER: Mr. Leahey made a motion to advertise to amend Ordinance No. 850. Mr. Ketner seconded that motion and a vote was taken. The motion passed with seven votes in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-10 APPROVING A SUBDIVISION PLAN 27 & 107 BEDFORD STREET: Mr. Burke and Mr. Gingrich recused themselves from discussion and any action on this item due to conflicts of interest. Mr. Leahey made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-10 Approving a subdivision plan for 27 and 107 Bedford Street. Mr. Ketner seconded this motion and a vote was taken. The motion was approved with five votes in favor and two abstentions.

REAPPOINT THE FIRE MARSHAL TO JANUARY 1, 2026: A motion was made by Mr. Kalista to reappoint Amy Hazlett to a term as fire marshal until January 1, 2026. Mr. Leahey seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Burke announced an executive session to discuss personnel and that Council would not return to this meeting.

Patricia J. Duron, Borough Secretary