

**HOLLIDAYSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2010, AT 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President John P. Stultz, Jr., who presided. Present: Council members Joseph A. Pompa, Harold D. Burket, John W. Brenner, Timothy M. Baranik and Amy Webster Sill. Also present: Borough Manager Mark G. Schroyer, Solicitor Nathan W. Karn, Sr., Community Development Director Ethan Imhoff, Finance Director James Gehret, Sgt. Rodney Estep, Main Street Manager Jamie Baser and Borough Secretary Ann M. Andrews. Absent: Council member Michael W. McLanahan, Mayor Joseph R. Dodson and Jr. Council member Lindsay Sill.

President Stultz led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a few moments of silence in honor of the men and women serving in the military.

President Stultz announced that Council had met in Executive Session following the budget meeting held on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel.

It was moved by Mr. Brenner and seconded by Mr. Baranik to approve the Minutes from the October 14<sup>th</sup>; October 18<sup>th</sup> and October 27<sup>th</sup> meetings. There being no objection, motion carried, 6-0.

President Stultz then called for **Staff Reports and Special Business.**

Finance Director Jim Gehret reported that the Financial Report as of October 31, 2010, had been included in the packets for Council's information.

President Stultz stated the Zoning and Building Permits issued for the month had also been included for Council's information.

Mr. Imhoff reported on a previous enforcement issue at 423 Front Street. The owner of the property has complied with the Order.

Main Street Manager Jamie Baser reported on the following:

- Winterfest Parade will be held on Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 p.m. She was asking for volunteers to walk in the parade and distribute bags from local merchants.
- Light-up Night; Soup Sampling; and Santa Land will be held on Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 p.m. Anyone wishing to serve soup that night was asked to notify Ms. Baser.
- Win the Window competition. Twelve angels will be placed in different storefronts and children will be trying to locate them.

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Manager Schroyer reported on the following:

- The Borough (Water) Authority has received notice of a \$1.5 million dollar loan for the Brush Mountain Project
- Several downtown merchants expressed concern over the Bradford Pear Trees and the fruit which has dropped onto their sidewalks and is being tracked into their businesses. Mr. Schroyer stated that after the first of the year, he and Mr. Imhoff, the Shade Tree Commission and the Partnership will meet to discuss this issue.

Mr. Schroyer also reported that an Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel issues would be held following the Council meeting.

Fire Marshal Robert Kerns, who has been quite ill, came before Council to report on fire prevention activities conducted during the year and thanked several members of the Fire Department for their assistance. Mr. Kerns reported that over 200 smoke detectors were given out free of charge to anyone who requested one and in many cases, installed by fire company personnel at no cost, as well.

Mr. Kerns also reported that at the State Firemen's Convention the Phoenix Volunteer Fire Company was chosen to receive the Outstanding Fire Safety Education Award. Mr. Kerns passed the plaque around for Council to see.

Fire Marshal Kerns also thanked the McLanahan Corporation for their contribution to fire safety. Several employees are members of the Fire Company and are permitted to leave work to respond to fire calls.

President Stultz thanked Mr. Kerns for all his contributions.

Mayor Dodson was absent due to a family illness; therefore, there was no Mayor's Report.

Jr. Council member Lindsay Sill was attending the Senior High School Musical presentation.

At this time, President Stultz called for **Public Comments**.

The following persons came before Council in support of the retaining the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership Main Street Manager Program for the year 2011:

- Mr. J. T. Tidd, President of the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership and business owner at 506 Allegheny Street
- Ms. Dawn Garrity, Director of the Presbyterian Home and also representing the Women's Club

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- Ms. Jane Beerbower, co-owner of Beerbower Jewelry, 315 Allegheny Street
- Ms. Sue Richards, Rolling Hills
- Ms. Connie Hurd, Branch Manager of C&G Savings
- Mr. Michael Fiore, representing “Operation Our Town”
- Mr. Sam Britz, 319 Allegheny Street
- Mr. Pat Baechle, 408 Union Street
- Mr. Joe Keller, 420 Allegheny Street
- Mrs. Diane Osgood, owner of Town Square
- Mr. Christopher Brown, 1119 N. Montgomery Street
- Mr. Ben Mazur, a business owner and also a member of the Steering Committee of Growth & Relationships of Young Professionals (GRYP)
- Ms. Jane Sheffield, 802 Allegheny Street, Executive Director of the Allegheny Ridge

Mr. Bruce Seiler, 146 S. Montgomery Street asked Council to consider naming the Gaysport Bridge (old iron bridge) in memory of Sgt. Tim Lightner who was born and raised in Hollidaysburg and died fighting for our Country.

Mr. Barry Bidlespach, 1307 Poplar Avenue, stated his support for the Main Street Manager Program, but the purpose of his attendance was to ask about the status of Highland Hall. Mr. Bidlespach shared his thoughts regarding the possible uses of Highland Hall and an overhead bridge across Penn Street. President Stultz stated that there is no report on the this Agenda, but asked staff to have a report for the next meeting.

At this time, Council members discussed the Main Street Manager Program.

It was moved by Mr. Brenner and seconded by Mr. Pompa that Council reconsider funding the Main Street Program for 2011, as follows:

\$20,000 from Parks and Recreation  
5,000 from General Fund  
10,000 from the Partnership

Long and lengthy discussion followed. For the benefit of the audience, Mr. Pompa explained how the Main Street Program was originally to have been funded, but in actuality had been funded solely by the Borough over the past several years with no contributions by the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership. Mr. Pompa, who voted against funding the Main Street Program at the budget meeting, was willing to reconsider if the Partnership would guarantee the Borough would not lose any money and that the Partnership contribute \$10,000 and all the expenses and revenues come through the Borough and at the end of the year, any deficits would have to be made by the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership.

Mr. Baranik, who also previously voted against the funding, agreed with Mr. Pompa and stated he would reconsider, but would not vote on this issue at this meeting. He stated he did not want to move forward without a formal written plan. He also requested that the someone from Council sit on the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership Board of Directors.

Mr. Pompa agreed with Mr. Baranik that a formal written agreement be drawn up between the Partnership and the Borough and presented at the next Council meeting. Mr. Pompa then withdrew his second and Mr. Brenner retracted his motion.

Mrs. Webster Sill had spoken with many of her constituents and stated that they were not interested in paying for the program.

Mr. Burket stated he had also spoken with his constituents and was not in favor of supporting the Main Street Program.

The consensus of Council, with the exception of Mrs. Webster Sill and Mr. Burket, was to have a written agreement between the Hollidaysburg Community Partnership and the Borough stating that the Partnership would contribute \$10,000 to the Borough; all revenues and expenditures be run through the Borough and any shortfalls will be made up by the Partnership, the manager and/or a member of Council serve on the Partnership Board and the manager participate in the hiring and firing process from this point forward.

President Stultz recognized Council for **Open Agenda items, which are items to be included on a future agenda.**

Mr. Burket asked to have a report on Highland Hall for the next meeting. Mr. Imhoff stated, if Council wished, he could update them at this meeting. Mr. Imhoff reported that nothing has been going on. The Borough had been awarded a \$350,000 grant that the developer could use to rehabilitate Highland Hall. He further stated the Borough cannot force the developer to do anything with the property so long as the building is being maintained. The grant agreement with the owners of Highland Hall will expire on December 31, 2010, but the funds will remain available for use with another developer until 2012.

Mr. Brenner asked that Council consider Mr. Seiler's request to name the Gaysport Bridge in memory of Sgt. Lightner. Mr. Schroyer will check into this and report his findings to Council.

At this time, President Stultz recognized Manager Mark Schroyer to present the **Consent Agenda.** The following items were presented:

- 1) Approve Bill List 10
- 2) Approve Parking Meter Program Between 11-26-10 thru 1-1-11
- 3) Approve Certificates of Appropriateness

It was moved by Mr. Burket and seconded by Mr. Pompa to adopt Resolution No. 2010-51 approving the Consent Agenda.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-51**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- 1) Bill List No. 11 dated November 18, 2010, authorizes payment of expenses totaling \$1,041,106.99 consisting of accounts payable and owing the Borough of Hollidaysburg from duly appropriated monies, is hereby approved.
- 2) The holiday season proposed parking meter enforcement program to extend expired parking time for 20 minutes is hereby approved. Said program runs November 26, 2010, thru January 1, 2011.
- 3) The following Certificates of Appropriateness are hereby approved and the Zoning Officer is authorized to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness:
  - a) 511 Allegheny Street - business signage

**DULY** adopted by the Council of the Borough of Hollidaysburg this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2010.

**(s) John P. Stultz, Jr.**

President of Council

ATTEST:

**(s) Ann M. Andrews**

Secretary

There being no objection to the motion, Resolution No. 2010-51 approving the Consent Agenda was unanimously adopted, 6-0.

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The following **Unfinished Business** was presented.

### **TRAFFIC ORDINANCE**

Rick Pope, Director of Water Operations, reported the findings of the traffic count and speed tally recently done at Beech Street and Maple Avenue and on Allegheny Street near Bella Street. The findings do not warrant a stop sign at Maple Avenue and Beech Street, but the Borough could post a lower speed limit. Allegheny Street is currently posted at 25 mph, therefore, there is nothing more that could be done except for additional police enforcement. Mr. Pope stated that dead end signs have been placed at Jackson Farm Drive. Mr. Baranik asked if crosswalks could be painted on Holliday Hills Drive where it meet the traffic circle at PennMont Academy. Mr. Pope stated that the Borough could look into this in the spring.

### **JAKE/ENGINE RETARDER ORDINANCE**

Mr. Imhoff stated that PennDOT responded to the Borough's request regarding the engine brake retarder study. The results of the study conclude that the Borough may restrict engine brake retarders on N. Juniata Street and Route 22.

It was moved by Mr. Burket and seconded by Mr. Brenner that staff be authorized to draft an ordinance for Council's consideration. There being no objection, motion carried 6-0.

### **CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS - 615 MULBERRY STREET**

Mr. Imhoff stated as Council will recall, the HARB denied a request to install vinyl windows at 615 Mulberry Street at its September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Following the October 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting wherein Council directed the members of the HARB to assist the property owner with obtaining quotes for repair of the windows, the HARB followed up with the applicant, Joy Johnson, in obtaining quotes. Although the quote to repair the existing wood windows cost less, the applicant still wanted to install vinyl windows. Standing on the Secretary of the Interior Standards, the HARB voted at its November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting to again deny the Certificate of Appropriateness. Mr. Imhoff stated that Council should either uphold the HARB recommendation for denial or overturn the HARB recommendation and approve the Certificate of Appropriateness.

Following discussion, it was moved by Mrs. Webster Sill and seconded by Mr. Brenner to overturn the HARB recommendation and approve the Certificate of Appropriateness. With the exception of President Stultz, who voted nay, motion carried 5-1.

Mr. Schroyer reported that he and Mr. Gehret are continuing to work on the 2011 Budget. The budget will be available for public review starting Monday with final adoption scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup>. The budget includes a new police car, but does not include a dump truck for Public Works nor have any monies been budgeted for remote readers for the Water Department. Any monies from the bond proceeds would be for Capital Expenditures and any monies from the theft would be placed in a General Fund Savings/Rainy Day account. As it currently stands, the 2011 Budget does not reflect any tax increase.

The following items were presented under **New Business**.

#### **APPOINTMENT TO 24 MEMBER GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Schroyer stated that the Blair County Planning Commission is asking Council to appoint an elected official to serve on the 24 Member Government Advisory Committee for 2011. The appointment would involve attending two meetings per year (January and July) and be the primary point of contact between the Blair County Planning Commission and Council.

Mr. Brenner stated that if no other member of Council was interested in serving on the Advisory Committee, he would volunteer. It was moved by Mr. Burket and seconded by Mr. Baranik to appoint Mr. Brenner to the 24 Member Government Advisory Committee. There being no objection, motion carried.

#### **DISCUSS - GARBAGE HAULING**

Mr. Schroyer stated that staff has been looking into hauling services and would like permission from Council to authorize staff to solicit quotes from several local haulers to provide services for Borough facilities. It was the consensus of Council that staff be authorized to request quotes from Burgmeier Hauling; Paul Kane and Ken Wertz.

#### **DISCUSSION - RENEWING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CENTRAL PA HUMANE SOCIETY AND THE BOROUGH**

Mr. Schroyer stated that the Humane Society is asking the Borough to renew the existing agreement with the Humane Society to provide animal care and complaints. The fee for their services would be \$64 per animal during normal working hours and \$85 after normal working hours.

Mr. Schroyer stated he just received a bill for \$700 from the Humane Society which is for repeat calls at one location and whether to bill the owner. Discussion followed that anytime the owner can be found, they should pay to get the dog back. It was the consensus of Council that the agreement between the Borough and the Humane Society be renewed, but staff work with the Humane Society to modify said agreement.

President Stultz stated that Council would hold an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and personnel. He then adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.