

**HOLLIDAYSBURG BOROUGH JOINT MEETING  
COUNCIL AND HOLLIDAYSBURG LIBRARY BOARD  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2010, AT 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Council President John P. Stultz, Jr., who presided. Present: Council members Joseph A. Pompa, Harold D. Burket, John W. Brenner, Michael W. McLanahan, Timothy M. Baranik and Amy Webster Sill. Also present: Borough Manager Mark G. Schroyer, Mayor Joseph R. Dodson, Community Development Director Ethan Imhoff, Finance Director James Gehret and Borough Secretary Ann M. Andrews.

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 then turned the meeting over to Borough Manager Mark Schroyer. Mr. Schroyer stated the purpose of the joint workshop was to discuss the status of the library building project and to address specific issues and concerns regarding said issue. Mr. Schroyer stated Solicitor Dorezas previously expressed several legal issues associated with the acceptance of the Keystone Grant, such as: Council would be legally responsible to see that the Library is built and paid for; the Borough would ensure that funding is available for the operation of the Library in the future if the Library could not sustain itself; the Borough shall assure the undisturbed use and possession of the facility as a public library for (50) years or the useful life of the project; and the grant would add costs to the project by requiring prevailing wage rates. Questions concerning the ownership of the building; the make up of the Library Board and full time versus part time construction manager were also discussed.

Librarian Janet Eldred and Library Board Member Joseph Keller presented an overview of the Library project, including the plans, the time schedule and answered questions. The Library Board is planning to advertise for bids in January; open bids in February; award contract in March; begin construction in April with completion in December 2011. This is subject to funds being available to construct the Library.

Mr. Robert Teeter discussed fund raising efforts to date. He stated that Representative Jerry Stern indicated that he would do everything possible to see that Capital Budget funds are released. Mr. Teeter stated that the Library has the matching funds; the drawings; the site and the community support - just need to have the funds released.

Attorney Lee Sill and Board Member Rich Reimer spoke in support of the Library project and also responded to questions raised by Council.

Community Development Director Ethan Imhoff discussed Library compliance with respect to Borough procedures and regulations. Mr. Imhoff stated the construction plans for the new Library were approved and mentioned that he and Mr. Keller had discussed potential zoning issues with the current Library building.

Several Council members expressed concern with respect to the Borough accepting the \$575,000 Keystone Grant funding and the conditions of acceptance placed by the State. Council also expressed concern regarding cash flow/funding gap should the Library not sell their current property or if the Keystone Grant funds were reduced.

Mr. Keller responded to Council's concerns. He stated that since the Library Board purchased and paid for the property and expects to raise all the funds needed, the Library would be owned and controlled by the Library Board. The Board's intention was to have an inspector on site at least once per week.

Mr. Schroyer stated the Library project would have an impact on both his time and the Finance Director's time. Separate accounts would have to be established, construction meetings attended; overseeing the work, in general. All bills, checks, audits, etc. would need to come through the Borough for Council approval.

Mrs. Astride McLanahan, 1111 Pine Street addressed Council. Although in support of the Library, Mrs. McLanahan suggested the Library be built with funds raised and not accept the Keystone Grant with all the strings attached. She also stated that a full time inspector be on the project.

Mr. Paul Plummer, 905 Penn Street also spoke in support of the Library and the need to have full time inspection services. He further stated that the Board should proceed; advertise for bids and if the bids come in too high, don't accept the Keystone Grant.

It was suggested that Mr. Keller and Mr. Schroyer meet with the architect to discuss the full time inspection services, the ownership of the Library and get an estimate from the Attorney for additional legal fees related to the construction phase of the project.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of Council to move forward on the Library project and proceed to the bidding portion of the development. Mr. McLanahan opined that there should not be any cost to the taxpayer.

There being no further business to come before Council, President Stultz adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.