

HULMEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Hulmeville Borough Council was held on the above date via Zoom. This meeting was advertised in the Courier Times, notice was posted at the Borough Hall and on the Borough website.

Roll call was taken by Mr. Wheeler

Councilmembers Present

Thomas Wheeler, President
Dan Mandolesi, Vice President
Nicholas Toth
Doug Harris
Judy Coleman
Nick Lodise

Staff in Attendance

Robert DeBias, Solicitor
John Baran, Chief
Debbie Mahon, Mayor
Secretary Dorothy Omietanski
Diane McKairnes, Treasurer
William Wheeler, Fire Marshall
Kurt Ludwig, Water & Sewer President

Councilmembers Absent: Doug Edge

Councilmembers Late to Arrive: none

Staff Absent: none

Guests in Attendance: Jim Pio, Sheri Wheeler and Marce Heald

Call to Order: Mr. Wheeler called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Wheeler Stated:

We are holding this meeting pursuant to Act 15 of 2020, and as a result of the Emergency Declaration issued by Governor Wolf. This meeting was duly advertised in the Courier Times, and by a notice posted at the Borough Hall. A recording of this meeting and a preliminary draft of the minutes will be placed on the Borough Website.

Mayors Statement:

With Pennsylvania going into the first of relaxation phases for the progress of Covid-19 restriction eases, I encourage everyone to consider your options with getting the vaccine. I continue to strongly encourage everyone to respect social distancing, wearing masks, and washing hands.

I thank everyone for their help with the May 15th Plant Dividend hosted by the Hulmeville Borough Storm Water Committee and the Hulmeville Garden Club and space graciously open for use from the William Penn Fire Company. It is estimated that there were over 75 guests this year.

I encourage everyone to visit the Hulmeville Borough website and the Hulmeville Borough 150th Committee to stay updated on all community events.

I hope to see you at one of our many events.

Minutes:

Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Harris to approve the minutes of May 3 and 18, 2021 with one spelling correction Camel to Kamel; Motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

Motion made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to continue to have the July 12th regular council meeting and July 20th work session via zoom; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

Public Comment:

- 335 Main Street – Ms. McKairnes is concerned with the number of cars and items stored outside at 335 Main Street. Mr. Wheeler told Ms. McKairnes once the Property Maintenance ordinance is passed the borough will have the power to address issues like this.

Police Report:

- Police Report - Mayor Mahon read the report for the month of May 2021: 22 Incidents, 3 Accidents, 8 Assists, 2 EMS, 12 Court, 0 Summary Citations, 29 Traffic Citations, 0 Criminal Arrests, 1 Parking and 0 Court for a total hour worked: 223, Total Salary \$5,793.25.
- Police Committee Meeting – The committee met last Tuesday and focused on policies. Mayor Mahon would like to recommend that council approve the updates to the Taser policy to reflect the new tasers purchased through the RDA grant and to approve the policy for Intoxicated Persons recommended for insurance purposes. Mayor Mahon would also like to recommend council adopts the changes made to Use of Force policy. The current policy was 90% consistent with the recommendations recently made by the District Attorney and Bucks County Police Chief's. The committee expanded on the Duties to Render Aid. Ms. Coleman expressed her concern with deadly use of force especially with regards to chokeholds. Mayor Mahon explained that the DA did not ask that chokeholds be eliminated from the policy totally, but that it be used only as a last resort. Mayor Mahon also pointed out that the technique of kneeling on the neck was never a part of Hulmeville's policy. Chief Baran explained that use of force has many steps, and a chokehold, which is considered deadly force, is a last resort. Ms. Coleman requested an extension to the work session so she has time to review the policy more. Mayor Mahon reiterated that each member of Council should have the original policy, the policy marking the changes, as well as the DA's recommendations, available for review.

Motion made by Mr. Mandolesi and seconded by Mr. Toth to adopt the changes to the Taser policy to reflect the new tasers purchased by the Police Department; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

Motion made by Mr. Lodise and seconded by Mr. Toth to adopt the new policy for Intoxicated Persons; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

- Right to Know – Chief Baran submitted the right to know request from the NAACP on May 31, 2021 and received acknowledgement of the email being received from the NAACP on June 2, 2021.
- RDA Request for Payment – The Hulmeville Police department would like to send a request for payment to the RDA for the equipment purchased totaling \$28,998.

Motion made by Mr. Lodise and seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to send a request for payment to the RDA for police equipment purchased in the amount of \$28,998.00; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

- Playground Clean Up – The next playground cleanup day is scheduled for June 19th at 12 noon. Ms. McKairnes noticed a large amount of poison ivy growing on the fence between the church and the soccer fields. Mayor Mahon recommended that council hire a company to address the matter. Most likely a

pesticide will be used and they know the proper protocols for using toxic chemicals. Mr. Mandolesi will discuss with Mark Boone. He will also discuss Mr. Boone trimming closer to the fence.

- Community Day – Community Day this year will be held on August 7th. Location yet to be determined. This year it will be an ice-cream social thanks to Mr. Toth’s contact with Mr. Softy. They will have the ice-cream truck there offering free ice-cream. The 150th committee can also have a table to sell their products. Mr. DeBias stated Bensalem has a “copsicle” truck. Chief Baran will inquire about the use of the “copsicle” truck.
- Speed On Main St – Ms. McKairnes asked if there has been an increase in cars speeding since Main St was paved. Chief Baran has not noticed an increase, however he will collect data from the traffic signs and present at a future meeting.
- Welfare Check – Mayor Mahon wanted to make all residents aware if you are concerned about the welfare of a neighbor, especially the elderly, you can call the Hulmeville Police Department and they will do a welfare check for you to make sure the person is ok.

Fire Marshal: no report

Emergency Management Coordinator: no report

Water and Sewer:

- Manhole Repairs – The two manholes on Main Street were repaired when the road was paved.

Borough Property:

- Air Conditioning – The air conditioning stopped working in Apartment B. The issue with the air-conditioner was the compressor that needed to be replaced. Chief Baran put a window unit air conditioner in until the repair could be made, which did take place today.

Trash:

- Collection Issues – Mr. Lodise needed to talk to a few residents regarding items they were putting out for collection. Mr. Lodise thanked Ms. Omietanski informing him of the issues. Ms. Omietanski stated Leck has been very good at addressing issues with trash collection right away and informing her of how to rectify the issues.

Lights:

- Issue with Light – Mr. Mandolesi stated the street light across from the Hulmeville Inn needs to be fixed. The light is on all the time.

Streets:

- Signs – Mr. Lodise had to fix two street signs – a stop sign at Reetz and a no outlet sign at Lincoln. Mr. Lodise also noticed a few no parking signs will need to be replaced.
- Potholes – Mr. Lodise and Mr. Wheeler will go through town and mark potholes for repair. There is a very large pothole on Fairview and Walnut that needs to be addressed.

Personnel:

- Job Description – The committee met to work on the job description for the office manager. The committee hopes to have their proposal complete for the work session.

Zoning:

- Black Property – No updates on the development of the Black property
- 111 Green Street – There are still unresolved issues with the property. The owner needs to discuss various issues with the Borough engineer.
- Architectural Review Board Meeting – The board met with the owner of 111 Green Street and approved the colors of the new homes to be built on the property. They also met with the owner of Hulmeville Inn and approved the repairs needed to the front steps.

Finance:

- Road Repairs – The cost of pothole repairs will come out of highway aid.
- Borough Hall – The Borough building is in need of paint and repairs to the outside windows and walls. If the grant from Tina Davis's office does not come through the cost will need to be added to the budget. Mr. Mandolesi will stop by Tina Davis's office to discuss the matter with them.
- COVID Relief – Ms. Omietanski and Ms. McKairnes addressed an email they received regarding the COVID relief. They started the process and realized that a decision would need to be made before proceeding as to what the money was going to be used for. Ms. Omietanski will forward the email to council she stressed that the form needs to be completed immediately.
- EIT – Mr. Harris requested Diane provide a report showing the breakdown of collections by year since the Borough started collecting the tax.

MS4:

- Newsletter – The summer newsletter will be printed and mailed this week.
- Floodplain Project - A compliance and sediment reduction company (David DeCarroll) reached out to several Borough employees on behalf of an anonymous customer on doing a floodplain project in Hulmeville near Newport Park (Bensalem). They were given the borough's information through the DEP.

TMDL / BMP's: Permit years 2018-2022 – DEP will be doing permit inspections. Samantha Brinker from Gilmore and Associates will keep us informed of that inspection. Due to Covid-19, this has been postponed.

- TMDL No1: encouraged riparian forest buffers for all residents along the creek
- TMDL No 2: conduct site inspections to encourage storm water control measures
- TMDL No 3: installation of 2 deciduous trees in open space or within the borough proper
- TMDL No 4: reduce infiltration
- TMDL No 5: modify basins for increased infiltration reduction
- TMDL No 7: encouraged home owners to install rain barrels
- TMDL No 8: additional provisions:
 - Continued with the 4 leaf pick-ups through the fall/winter season
 - Sump Pump inspection enforcement
 - Decide on sediment reduction project
 - Lawn and garden pick up 4/1-12/1 weekly

Floodplain: no report

Storm Water:

- Updated Data Base – Mayor Mahon appreciates any updates and contact information for new residents that have moved into our town in that storm water affects all residents and not just those who live in floodplain.

Mayor:

- Memorial Park – Mayor Mahon did talk to Ed Preston regarding adding names to the Memorial Park monument. Ed Preston will be forwarding the protocol that was established so a committee can be formed for future purposes. Mr. Coleman has volunteered to head up this committee. The committee will fall under the umbrella of the Hulmeville Historical Society.
- 111 Green Street – A few residents have called regarding the upkeep of the 111 Green Street property. Mr. Wheeler will reach out to the owner of 111 Green St to discuss.
- 129 Green Street – Someone called to report that 129 Green Street is currently being used as a boarding house.
- Wedding Ceremonies – Mayor Mahon is starting to conduct wedding ceremonies and wondered if Borough Hall could be used again. Fire Marshal Wheeler said it could be used with the same requirements that council set in place for meetings, which is all unvaccinated people must wear masks and everyone remain 3 feet apart.

Solicitor Report:

- Property Maintenance Ordinance 2018 – Council needs to vote to advertise the Property Maintenance Ordinance for adoption on July 12,2021.

Motion made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to advertise the Property Maintenance Ordinance in the Courier Times; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

- Snow and Ice Contract – Council should be prepared to discuss the snow and ice contract at the June work session. Most of the discussion will be regarding whether council would like to ask for a 1-, 3- or 5-year contract.
- Hybrid Meetings – If council is interested in having hybrid meetings in the future, they will need to pass resolutions and create policies regarding that type of meeting structure.
- Vector – Mr. DeBias recommended council ratify the vote made at the last work session regarding hiring Vector for the security systems at Borough Hall.

Motion made by Mr. Lodise and seconded by Mr. Mandolesi to ratify the acceptance of the bid by Vector Securities which was voted on at the May work session; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

- Verizon Franchise Agreement - Mr. DeBias distributed to council the new Verizon franchise agreement along with another highlighting the changes made. Council should be prepared to discuss adopting the agreement at the July meeting. Fire Marshal Wheeler noted that on page 18 the address is incorrect for the Borough.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer’s Report for June 7, 2021 was made available for inspection:

- **General Fund Checking** Balance as of May 1, 2021: \$ 364,898.76
Expenses Totaled: \$ -188,724.05

	Income Totaled:	\$ 99,343.76
	General Fund Checking Balance as May 31, 2021:	\$ 275,518.47
•	Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of May 1, 2021:	\$ 43,635.76
	Expenses Totaled:	\$ -25,660.31
	Income Toted:	\$ 25,126.15
	Sewer Fund Checking Balance as of May 31, 2021:	\$ 43,101.60
•	Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of May 1, 2021:	\$ 227,761.42
	Interest	\$ 1.93
	Sewer Fund PLGIT Balance as of May 31, 2021:	\$ 227,763.35
•	Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of May 1, 2021:	\$ 72,157.69
	Interest	\$.61
	Deposit	\$ 0
	Expenses	\$ - 14.16
	Highway Aid PLGIT Balance as of May 31, 2021:	\$ 72,144.14
•	General Fund PLGIT Balance as of May 1, 2021:	\$ 513,063.75
	Interest	\$ 4.93
	Deposits	\$ 150,000.00
	Expenses Total:	\$ 40,804.00
	General Fund PLGIT Balance as of May 31, 2021:	\$ 622,264.68

Bills: A copy of the bill list dated June 7, 2021 was provided to Council and offered for review by the public with one addition Levittown Printing \$112.30.

•	General Fund beginning balance as of May 31, 2021:	\$ 279,217.44
	ending balance as of June 28, 2021:	\$ 26,452.71
•	Sewer & Water beginning balance as of May 31, 2021:	\$ 43,843.94
	ending balance as of June 11, 2021:	\$ 24,210.29

A motion made by Mr. Mandolesi seconded by Mr. Lodise and carried unanimously to approve the bill list dated June 7, 2021; Motion carries 6-0-0.

Correspondence: none

New Business:

- Trenton and Main – Council received an email from Jasmine Lamb whose son lives at 101 Trenton Rd. Her son has experienced 3 car accidents in the last 2 years and each accident has caused damage to the property. They are requesting that something be done. They are suggesting a traffic light or flashing lights encouraging people to slow down. Mr. Wheeler reminded council that the last study done the PennDOT inspector claimed that they received very few traffic accident reports from the police for the intersection in question. Mr. Wheeler speculated that the officers do not take the time to complete the six-page report required to make it to PennDOT’s desk. In order to count as an accident with PennDOT there either needs to be a tow truck called or injury to person. Chief Baran stated he can go back three years and report just how many accidents he has reported. He will also call Trevoise State Police Station and see if they can provide him with totals as well for the accidents they handled. Requesting a study does not cost the Borough money. The only cost would occur

if the study recommends something to be installed. The Borough would have to pay the cost of installing and maintaining the equipment or signage. Council agreed to request another study. Most accidents are occurring with vehicles turning left off Main St with a car coming across the Neshaminy Creek bridge up Trenton Rd. Council has considered making Main St one way from Hulme or having a no left turn at the corner. Ms. Omietanski will send a letter to PennDOT requesting the study.

- Picnic Tables – Hulmeville Historical Society would like to purchase three picnic tables for the pavilion. Council approved the purchase and the only request council had was to not bolt down the tables to the concrete. Ms. Omietanski requested that council have discussion regarding pavilion rentals setting rules, cost and how to reserve the pavilion. Mr. DeBias also suggested the insurance company be informed that both a shed and the pavilion have been added to the property. Ms. Omietanski will contact Selective.
- Gravel – The Hulmeville Historical Society asked if council would consider spending Borough funds to add gravel at the base of the benches at the Memorial Park.

Motion made by Mr. Lodise and seconded by Mr. Harris to allow the Hulmeville Historical Society to purchase gravel for the Memorial Park not to exceed \$500; motion passed with all in favor 6-0-0.

- Wasp Nests – There are a few wasp nests above the Police Department door Mr. Mandolesi would like to call someone to remove. Council suggested asking Mark Boone, since he will already be there for the poison ivy.

Old Business:

- Traser – Mr. Toth will schedule a training session with Traser. Fire Marshal Wheeler has tried a few actions in the system and has a lot of questions. Mr. Toth suggested everyone who plans to use the system write down what they would like it to accomplish and he can forward the information to Traser ahead of training. Mr. Wheeler had a conversation with Traser and they confirmed that Hulmeville will only be charged \$2,500. Traser is developing a permitting module, however will not charge for it until the Borough requests it.
- 150th Committee Meeting – Mayor Mahon would like to have the July 7th 150th meeting at the pavilion. Everyone attending will need to bring their own chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm; motion made by Mr. Harris seconded by Mr. Mandolesi.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski,
Hulmeville Borough Secretary