

Hughesville Borough Council Minutes

February 8, 2010 – 7:00, PM

Council members and staff present – Jeffery Berger, Andrew Mook, Curtis Michael, Jillian Perry, James Savage, Richard Smith, Mayor Walter Reed, J. Howard Langdon, Dale Cahn, and Dolores Moyer

The regular meeting of the Hughesville Borough Council was called to order by Council President Jeffery Berger, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests and Visitors: Bob Simmons, Larry Dvorshock, Bill/Diane Senseman, Theresa Knott, Angie Sees, Sheila Palmeter, David Bressler, Gregory Huffman, Richard Shuler, Steve Stiger, Chris May, Frank Welsh, Bill Boatman
Fire Chief Steve Stiger reviewed activity at the fire station for 2009; didn't have exact figures for the Borough alone.

Approve Agenda: February 8, 2010, Mook moved, seconded by Michael. Motion passed.

Approve Minutes: January 4, Savage moved, seconded by Mook. Motion passed.
January 18, 2010, Michael moved, seconded by Smith. Motion passed.

Amendment to December 14, 2010: A \$.50 increase to all (regular) Non-uniform full-time and part-time employees.
Mook moved, seconded by Smith. Motion passed

Solicitor's Report: J. Howard Langdon, dockets for easements (Daye lawsuit) have been recorded; possible lawsuit pending, have been put on notice but no particulars at this time.

Police Department: See under buisness

Mayor's Report: Walter Reed said that he was contacted by the family of Chad Michaels, they are interested in doing a memorial in his honor at the Rotary clock location. Mike Beiber (a member of the family) has been appointed as liaison to work between the family and the Borough; Smith moved to approve plans before proceeding, seconded by Mook. Motion passed

Police truck needs tires they will cost approximately \$108.00 each; asked council about possible ordinances that regulate the number of people living in a house.

Would like to hire 1 or 2 more part-time officers which are experienced and could move right into the position; Personnel and Public Safety Committees will interview, Perry moved, seconded by Mook. Motion passed.

Emergency Management Report: David Bressler gave copy of Governor's letter of approval to the Mayor.

Public Works Report: Dale Cahn, discussion about Lindauer's parking lot and alley paving around light poles; Gas Co and streetcuts; need to decide what streets will be paved this year.

Water Report: Richard Smith resigned from the Water Authority Board, Savage moved to accept, seconded by Perry. Motion passed. Dominion Energy will be their new energy supplier replacing PPL savings 9.5 cents per KW; waiting for an approval from the Susquehanna River Basin to sell water to Chief, XTO was previously approved, and limits will not change; price is \$10.00 per 1,000; procedures and guidelines for reimbursement to the Borough for expenses Motion passed.

Diane Senseman and Bill Boatman submitted letters of interest. Michael moved to appoint Boatman, seconded by Mook. Motion passed.

ROLL CALL: Michael – Y; Savage – N; Mook – Y; Berger – Y; Perry – N; Smith – Y Term will end 12-2014.

Zoning Report: Code Inspections Inc.

East Lycoming Recreation Authority: Request copy of minutes, attached summary of 2009 activities.

Hughesville-Wolf Authority: Request copy of minutes

Treasurer's Report:

General Fund - Check# 6599-6618	\$ 28,483.60	Hold checks# 6612/6618
Payroll - Direct Deposit	\$ 27,062.13	
ACH Debits	\$ 21,320.01	

Smith moved, seconded by Mook. Motion passed

Borough Secretary: Dee Moyer, Lycoming/Sullivan Borough Association Meeting Notice, February 17, 2010; PSAB 100th Anniversary input; Scholarship Foundation applications; Liquid Fuels Fund has \$2,700 from last year which can be used to make lease payment on Caterpillar loader
Council requested budgets and expenses from prior years.

Business:

- Motion to void contract. Richard Smith moved to void the contract improperly entered into by the outgoing Council with the Police Chief., seconded by Curtis Michael. Motion passed.
ROLL CALL: Michael – Y; Savage – Y; Mook – Y; Berger- Y; Perry – Y; Smith – Y
- Motion to terminate employment of Chief. Richard Smith moved to terminate the employment of Richard Shearer as Chief of Police for the Hughesville Police Department., seconded by Andy Mook. Motion passed.
ROLL CALL: Michael – Y; Savage – Y; Mook – Y; Berger – Y; Perry – Y; Smith – Y
- Motion to form search committee for new chief. Richard Smith moved that an ad hoc committee of Council is formed to conduct a search and interview process for a new Chief of Police, seconded by Curt Michael. Motion passed.
ROLL CALL: Michael – Y; Savage – Y; Mook – Y; Berger – Y; Perry – Y; Smith – Y
- Andy Mook moved that Council Personnel Committee and Mayor Reed be appointed as the ad hoc committee to conduct the search for the new Chief of Police, seconded by Michael. Motion passed.
ROLL CALL: Michael – Y; Savage – Y; Mook – Y; Berger – Y; Perry – Y; Smith – Y

A member of the public wanted an explanation as to why this was taking place without any input from the public. The Solicitor explained that it was an “at will” position and that Council has the right to make changes as they see fit; the public votes for these elected officials to represent them in these decisions are needed. Council has been advised by Special Council that the “old Council” did not have the authority to enter into a 5 year contract with the Chief of Police.

- Motion to place the Mayor in charge of the Police Department during search for new Chief.
Richard Smith moved to place Mayor Reed in charge of the police department until such time as a Chief of Police is hired or an officer in charge is designated by Council, seconded by Curt Michael. Motion passed.
ROLL CALL: Michael – Y; Savage – Y; Mook – Y; Berger – Y; Perry – Y; Smith – Y

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- Council decided to stay with the 2006 version of the International Property Code and not make any changes at this time.
- UGI request for paving schedule
- SPCA recap of 2009
- Letter from Frank Welsh, previous EM Coordinator (over looked last meeting). Welsh requested that a letter be rewritten to the County stating that it was a change in administration not from lack of responsibility. Michaels moved to rewrite, seconded by Smith. Motion passed.
- Proposals for Streetscape tree maintenance: Dave Tillburg - \$1,450; C & C Tree Service – \$1,400.00 and Brown’s Tree Service - \$1,250.00. The bid was awarded to Tilburg because he’s a certified Arborist and the trees have not been professionally pruned since their planting.
- Hughesville Volunteer Fire Department Banquet info
- Hughesville Borough Water Authority discuss appointment
- Pa Boroughs Council Association for info only to Council
- A motion was made to remove a \$29,000.00 debt from the Water Authority to the Borough for lack of an audit trail. The transfer was made in 2005. Mook moved, seconded by Michaels. Motion passed.
- Borough reimbursement for Council Members attending approved training and meetings. Michael moved, seconded by Savage. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

WATER – Smith/Mook

FINANCE – Michaels/Perry

STREETS –Smith/Mook

PUBLIC SAFETY – Michaels/Savage **PROPERTIES** – Savage/Smith

PERSONNEL – Perry/Mook

Adjournment: 9:28 PM Michael moved, Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores Moyer
Borough Secretary