

**HONEY BROOK BOROUGH COUNCIL
SECOND MONTHLY MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

The First Monthly Meeting of Honey Brook Borough Council was called to order by Council President Bill Ford at 7:00 p.m.. The meeting was held at Borough Hall and all members answered Roll Call except Alyson Leisey. Also in attendance was Tricia Swinty, Assistant Secretary.

Citizens Comments on Agenda Items

None

Approval of Previous Minutes

Mr. Florio made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cooper to approve the minutes of February 5, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Payment of Bills

Ms. Jenzano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Florio to approve payment of bills. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Presentations

Mr. Peter Coll, 109 Dorsheimer Lane, addressed Council with concerns of the budget shortfall that may occur due to the price increase of the green trash bags and residents using other alternatives for trash collection. He presented to Council a Residential Solid Waste & Recycling Collection Study from 2016 which was done by Lansdale Borough. The options described 3 options based on feasibility, implementation logistics, and annual out-of-pocket costs. Mr. Coll stated he is bringing this to the attention of Council for possible consideration for the 2025 budget and trash collection service.

Mr. Ford stated he attended a ZOOM meeting last week hosted by Waste Zero on this same subject which included using trash totes in the future. Mr. Ford is waiting for the ZOOM material to be emailed to him which will be presented to Council at a future date. Mr. Florio and Ms. Hill stated that at the last COG meeting a discussion was held regarding Regional Trash Collection which would cut down the cost for many municipalities. They stated further discussion on this will be done at a future COG meeting and will be presented to Council

Council thanked Mr. Coll for the information and asked him if he would be interested in joining the Trash Committee. Mr. Coll agreed.

Communication/Secretary's Report

None

President's Report

Mr. Ford stated that the new Ford F550 truck is at New Holland Ford for the second time this year for repairs.

Mayor's Report

Mr. Halvorsen informed Council the Mr. John Knecht was sentenced last week to 9 ½ to 20 years in prison.

Monthly Reports

Treasurer & Tax Collector Report - In-house portion of annual DCED audit was held on February 9 and virtual workers compensation was completed.

Police Report – None

Public Works – Public Works report is included in this month's packet.

Code & Ordinance – None

Planning Commission – PC will be meeting on Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Old/Pending Business

Discussion/consideration to meet with Honey Brook Township regarding the Comprehensive Plan – Mayor Halvorsen and Ms. Hill met with Mr. Warren Obenski, Honey Brook Township Manager, to discuss the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan which is required to be updated every 10 years. Both Borough and Township will again join in completing the plan. Mayor Halvorsen explained that the first round of grants is due next month. The Township and Borough will apply for the fall grant. Mr. Halvorsen explained the scope of work can be changed/modified/amended after the grant is submitted and awarded. Mr. Obenski said there is the possibility for another grant from the Conservancy. The Borough and Township representatives will be meeting again.

Mr. Florio informed Council that the Local Government 201 course has been rescheduled for February 24. He also said that new Council members need to be trained in NIMS; Ms. Swinty said she will get the information together for this course.

New Business

Consideration to purchase a new copier for the police department – Officer Klinger requested to purchase of a new copier for the Police Department. A Brother color laser All-In-One printer was suggested by Customer Computer for a price of \$1,149.99. Mr. Ford stated his concern that there is no service contract if this should breakdown. Ms. Swinty said she will call Rothwell, which is the company the Borough office computer was purchased from. Council agreed to a \$2,000 cap for a copier and service agreement. A motion was made by Ms. Jenzano, seconded by Mr. Florio, to authorize the purchase of a copier and service agreement for the police department at a cost not to exceed \$2,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Consideration to send 2 members to the Honey Brook Community Partnership event on 2/29/24
– Mr. Florio and Mayor Halvorsen said they will attend.

Public Presentations

Mr. Sam Fisher, 640 Vine Street, asked Mr. Ford if he looked into the trash bags that are being placed by the entrance to the Honey Brook Express Gas Station. Mr. Ford said he has been monitoring the situation and the bags have been removed.

Mr. Ford stated a concern to Pastor Sam of the Honey Brook Presbyterian Church. Mr. Ford witnessed a group a people leaving the church on 2/14/24 and one person stopped in the cross walk in the east bound lane of Route 322 with his back to oncoming traffic. Mr. Ford asked that Pastor Sam inform his congregation that this is a very dangerous practice and that once they are in the cross walk to not stop walking. Pastor Sam stated they do have a flashing light on the cones at the cross walk; Mr. Ford suggested the flashing light be moved several feet before the cross walk to warn motorists. They will also look into getting a predominately larger flashing light.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was properly adjourned.

Tricia Swinty
Borough Assistant Secretary