

**BOROUGH OF HATORO
COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014**

PRESENT

Vice President Tompkins, Harbaugh, Hegele, Palmer, Sheedy & Rich; Mayor Hawkes, Borough Manager Zollers, Assistant Borough Secretary Hegele, Chief of Police Gardner, Solicitor Pionzio & Borough Engineer Dougherty.

ABSENT

President Zygmunt and Treasurer Kalnjas were absent this evening.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Tompkins called to order the February 10th, 2014 Committee Meeting of Borough Council to order at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Palmer that the Police Department recently received a very generous donation from a citizen; the request was for it to be used for police officer safety equipment. Councilman Palmer stated a thank you letter will be sent.

FIRE COMPANY EXPENDITURE LIST – Councilman Palmer stated that Council is in receipt of the Enterprise Fire Company expenditure list for January. This item was moved to the February 24 Council meeting for approval.

Manager Zollers updated Council on the storm last week. He stated 2/3 to 3/4 of the Borough residents were without power. He stated as of today only 15 were without power. He stated Public Works handled many trees down. He reminded everyone that when trees come down with wires his men cannot remove due to safety issues. He stated this occurred on Williams Lane and the tree was finally removed safely over this past weekend. He stated that Moreland Towers had to be evacuated and with the help of the Fire Department, Second Alarmers and the Police. These residents were moved initially to Lehman Church and then later in the evening to the High School and then again back to the Towers the next day, all went smooth without incident. He stated the fire department answered 40 calls that night, all storm related. Manager Zollers stated there is another storm coming and asked everyone to please park cars in driveways and remove portable basketball nets from right of way.

Chief Gardner stated the EOC was opened, staffed by Emergency Management Staff, Police, Fire, Public Works and Ambulance. He stated this storm had a severe impact on Hatboro; he called in extra officers who went door to door where they knew there were power outages advising people where to go and what to do. Chief Gardner along with EM Staff praised Lehman Church; he stated they went above and beyond providing comfort to the residents of Hatboro. EM Staff worked with the County to open a shelter; a lot of residents took advantage of this. The school district and Bux Mont Transport provided transportation for the Moreland Towers residents. This was the busiest storm ever, several day event with many people impacted, Borough still actively working on this and now collecting damage expense information for the County. The Governor declared a disaster emergency, maybe able to recoup some of the Borough expenses. He stated there would be a debriefing meeting to review the storm. Chief Gardner also stated extra police officers were working because of so many homes without power. He reminded everyone to register on Nixle.com and also not to post on social media when you are leaving your home due to no power.

Councilman Hegele asked Chief Gardner to explain the difference between a warming center and shelter. Chief Gardner stated warming center is temporary, shelter is long term. There are different requirements per the NIMS definition.

Manager Zollers stated the Borough maintains a list of residents with special needs. Assistant Secretary Hegele called everyone on the list to make sure they were ok. Follow up calls were made to these residents again to ensure they were still ok. He stated residents can register with the Borough and also on the County site. He hopes people will register on both. He stated everyone called was very appreciative of the Borough calling.

Manager Zollers tip of the day to everyone was to always have a corded phone in your house. He stated so many people who lost power only had cordless phones but we did find a few that still maintained the “old fashioned” way.

Chief Gardner stated the Borough did well with minimal road closures, he stated there are still roads closed in neighboring communities.

Councilman Hegele stated many people do not realize what goes on in an Emergency in Hatboro. He stated at times the County cannot handle calls, this is one of the reasons are personnel step up and do this. He stated our personnel do a fantastic job and this is an important part of Local Government.

Councilman Sheedy thanked Manager Zollers, Chief Gardner and Assistant Secretary Hegele and all the employees for a job well done.

Manager Zollers stated the County has announced a “211” number for people to call and register damage.

Councilman Sheedy asked if a permit is required for a generator. Manager Zollers stated no if it is temporary, yes if it is a permanent hook up. He reminded everyone if you use a temporary generator please follow the manufacturer specifications at all times.

Vice President Tompkins thanked all for their hard work in this storm and for the anticipated work for the storm this coming week.

Mr. Battis, 320 W. Moreland Avenue, asked about the Borough salt supply. Manager Zollers stated we are good for this week and have more on order but it has not been delivered.

FINANCE – Councilman Harbaugh stated he had nothing for his agenda for this evening but just an update. He stated Staff along with his committee recently met with PFM advisors to look at Borough debt. He stated the advisors will be putting together numbers for Council in the coming weeks. Councilman Harbaugh thanked the hard working staff and mentioned that before he was elected to Council he did not realize all the work and time involved.

GRANTS AND FUNDING – Councilman Sheedy stated he had nothing for his agenda this evening.

PUBLIC WORKS – Councilman Hegele stated he had one item for his agenda tonight.

NPDES MS4 Permit Update - Engineer Dougherty stated as part of our NPDES MS4 Permit process, the public must be educated on this process. He explained what NPDES MS4 is, he stated the process is to reduce and/or eliminate pollution in runoff. He stated it is a six part permit which is as follows: education, involvement, ordinance, construction projects and housekeeping. Engineer Dougherty reviewed each of the steps and what is involved. He also encouraged people to get involved and stated if anyone did wish to get involved to contact the Borough offices.

Manager Zollers stated that as a result of the storm last week, there are a lot of trees and limbs down in the Borough. He announced there would be a special pick up on Wednesday, February 12th. He reminded and reviewed with everyone that the rules for placing them out still apply.

FACILITIES & PARKS – Councilman Rich stated he had nothing for his agenda this evening.

ZONING/HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ZONING UPDATE – Councilman Tompkins stated he had one item for his agenda this evening.

MU OVERLAY ORDINANCE UPDATE – Solicitor Pionzio stated staff has met with residents and reviewed the proposed changes; some changes have been made per the resident meeting. She is asking Council to approve authorizing the advertisement of a public hearing at the April 14th meeting. This item was moved to the February 24th meeting for approval.

ADMINISTRATION

FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE– Assistant Secretary Hegele stated that some minor revisions were needed to the fee schedule for 2014 and they were as follows: bulk collection fees for disposal of all televisions and computer monitors, kennel fees for the holding of stray dogs, increase in special event fees for staff and equipment time, parking space permit fees and daily and commuter lot fees. Councilman Harbaugh asked if the PODS/Dumpster Fees were included. Manager Zollers stated no; those fees are set by the ordinance. Councilman Hegele asked about the kennel fee. Chief Gardner stated the Borough incurs costs for holding stray dogs in the kennel, there is license fee, food, walking, there is a lot that is mandated for the kennel. Chief Gardner stated dogs are rarely kept over 24 hours and felt this fee will help offset the costs to maintain the kennel. Councilman Sheedy asked if someone dumped a tv on his lawn would he have to pay for it to be picked up. Manager Zollers stated yes.

WAYFINDING SIGNAGE UPDATE – Vice President Tompkins and Manager Zollers have reviewed all the locations as recommended by the Planning Commission and are ready to order the poles and signs to move forward. He stated that there will be leftover grant money and they would be looking at other signage in other locations to expend the funds.

Mr. Battis, 320 W. Moreland Avenue asked if new park/pool rules signs could be ordered under this grant. Vice President Tompkins stated this is being explored.

This item was moved to the February 24th Council meeting for approval.

2014 EVENT REQUEST – RESTAURANT WEEK – Manager Zollers stated this is a new event this year with no Borough services needed, Council does not need to take any action but he just wanted to announce the event for the public and the Chamber of Commerce.

CELL TOWER LEASE UPDATE – Solicitor Pionzio stated this is for the tower at the Little League Field, the owner of the tower has changed and with that comes some changes to the terms of the lease. She has reviewed the changes and made some changes also. Vice President Tompkins asked if there is a Professional Services Agreement to cover her fees. Solicitor Pionzio stated no but her office has not spent a lot of time on this matter. This item was moved to the February 24th Council meeting for approval.

2014 CDBG GRANT DISCUSSION – Manager Zollers stated he just received information on this and has not had time to investigate this. Vice President Tompkins asked him to look into this and get more information for Council. Engineer Dougherty stated this is a HUD funded grant administered by the County.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the February 10th, 2014 Committee meeting of Council was adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred “Fred” Zollers
Borough Secretary

Transcribed by Assistant Borough Secretary Diane Hegele