

HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

December 7, 2004

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Rogers, Russ Ottney, Dave Szakelyhidi, Jeff Smith, Gary Habsburg, Harold Herr, Chuck Beighey, and Mayor Cathy Rape.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Slaves McBeck
 C. V. Beighey
 Harold Herr
 Tom
 Dave Rogers
 David Ottney
 Tom
 Tom
 Deane
 Russell
 STAN ZIMMERMAN
 Tom Lozar
 Bruce Ziegler
 Gary Habsburg
 Julie Habsburg
 Cathy Rape
 Tom
 Fred White
 Tom
 Dave Szakelyhidi
 Jeff Smith
 Gary Habsburg
 Fred White

Nita Gornell
 Don
 R.T. Kelly
 Tony
 Leah Fredericks
 Howard + Betty Shulman
 Roger A. Weaver
 Bob Shockey
 Fred
 Pammy
 DON KRISTOPHEL
 HILDA KRISTOPHEL
 Rose
 Rosemary Mulvey
 Bill
 Marjorie
 Ed
 Joe White

CALL TO ORDER: Jeff Smith called the regular council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES:

Harold Herr made a motion to approve the November 2, 2004 minutes. Gary Habsburg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:

Tom Franz spoke on behalf of Butler County Flood Relief Outreach that helps residents affected by the flood. He left resources for distribution.

Tim Sapienza requested Council to reconsider the vote (to not sell the water system) due to low water pressure and not an adequate storage supply. He would like to have PA American water.

Tom Murray stated that he, Tim Sapienza and Tom Ayres have tried to communicate with the community. He would like Council to reconsider. If they keep the water system, they will have to increase rates. 25% of the people in the community are tenants.

Tom Tomayko stated that he would like to see no mill increase. The money could be taken out of parks. He stated that PA American will not replace the lines. The water plant always operates at a surplus. There is money to fix the DEP finding. They will need a 600,000 gallon tank. In 3-4 years water rates can come down to normal.

Tom Ayres stated that he agrees with Tom Murray.

Diane Brenner stated that she would like to see a show of hands as to who wants to sell the system.

Gwen Schlick reiterated what Tim Sapienza said. She stated that she is concerned that the fire hydrant near her home will not put water out.

Roger Weaver commented that members of Council and the Water Authority have researched the issues of the water system. The density of the crowd doesn't mean anything. The Borough elected Council and he would like to leave it in Council's hands. He puts trust in Council.

Stan Zimmerman stated that he is disappointed that 7 people on Council know what people want. The Council is elected for us and by us.

Mike Cornell stated that he had PA American when he lived in Pittsburgh. He had excellent service and water. His bill was lower in Pittsburgh than here.

Tony Cooper stated that he agrees with Mike Cornell. He has dealt with PA American and has had good service and good water. He had to put a pump on to boost Harmony water.

Michael Lackey stated that he mostly agrees with Roger Weaver. A vote will not give a true feeling of the community. He feels Council has researched and put more time into it than anyone. They know more than anyone what needs to be done. It needs put to rest.

Ted Schlick stated that he has no water pressure. He asked Council to reconsider the vote.

Dave Morrow is concerned if the Water Authority can handle what they currently have. He would like Council to reconsider the vote.

Dave Eberle stated that a council member was approached by PA American. He questioned how anyone can make a sale when they don't know what the sale is.

Bill Kolling heard members of the Board saying they will never sell. Everything reaches a point where something must be done.

Diane Brenner stated that her daughter pays \$25 every 3 months for water. She feels that the water rates are out of line.

Karen Ottney stated that she lived in Butler and had PA American water. The service is not what you think it is. They took 2 years to find a leak and did not clean up when they were done. Water pressure was low. Going to PA American is not the answer. Council does not need to sell the system.

Chuck Johnston from PA American Water stated that Council has two options – to either sell the system or keep it and raise water rate. If they sell it they will receive \$1.5 million cash at closing. He stated that this will make Harmony Borough one of the richest Boroughs. They can lower taxes and have lower water rates. Regarding service, 2/3 of the system will be replaced. Pressure will be improved especially at Jackson manor.

Karen Ottney stated that she felt Council already voted.

John Rice explained the steps to improve the water system. He questioned how many votes are going to be taken.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from Bill Hummel
2. Letters of thank you from the Library, Steeles, Flugher, Young
3. Request from Old Dominion as to where the gas lines are

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Discussion with Bill Hummel concerning the Flood Plain. He will have an answer by the January meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fema will reimburse 100% of the money spent on Flood cleanup. Should receive the money in 7 - 9 months. A line of credit needs to be obtained to pay the bills until the Fema money is received and then pay it back. Attorney Marshall presented a resolution to set up a \$160,000 line of credit.

Harold Herr made a motion to get a line of credit from the bank and adopt the resolution. Dave Szakelyhidi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Russ Ottney made a motion to increase the Occupation Privilege Tax from \$10.00 to \$52.00 effective January 1, 2005 Dave Rogers seconded the motion.

Dave Rogers - No	Gary Habsburg - No
Russ Ottney - Yes	Harold Herr - No
Dave Szakelyhidi - Yes	Chuck Beighey - Yes
Jeff Smith - Yes	

Motion carried.

Harold Herr made a motion to adopt the 2005 budget as presented. Gary Habsburg seconded the motion.

Dave Rogers - No	Gary Habsburg - Yes
Russ Ottney - No	Harold Herr - Yes
Dave Szakelyhidi - Yes	Chuck Beighey - Yes
Jeff Smith - Yes	

Motion carried.

Public Safety: Mayor Rape reported that Chief Miller stated that there had been a lot of tire slashing and smashing of car windows.

HARB: There are two vacancies on HARB.

Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to appoint Linda McCormick to replace Brenda Benek and Jane Skelly to replace Helen Oliverio. Russ Ottney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Planning Commission: Meeting tonight with Olsen Engineers to go over the Zoning Ordinance.

Dave Rogers reported on the Huy plan and problems with the pond.

Bill Hummel brought a book up on Fema to leave at the Borough Office.

PSAB: Chuck Beighey reported on the PSAB Conference he attended.

OLD BUSINESS:

Gary Habsburg made a motion that Harmony Borough accept the PA American offer to purchase the Harmony Water distribution system for \$1.5 million dollars and that the proceeds be invested

December 7, 2004

in the safest investment instrument that offers the highest rate of return available. The interest from this investment would go into the Borough's general fund. However, the fund's principal could not be used except with the unanimous consent of Harmony Council. The sales agreement should be structured so that ownership of the plant and its equipment shall revert back to Harmony Borough after PA American stops using it to process water. Harold Herr seconded the motion. Discussion. Chuck Beighey questioned if it needed to go out for bid and the fact that it was not advertised. Gary withdrew his motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Harold Herr made a motion to submit a CDBG Grant for Mercer Street flood control. Chuck Beighey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Harold Herr commented that the Connoquenessing Creek needs dredged. Jeff Smith replied that Melissa Hart's office is working on it.

BILLS PAYABLE:

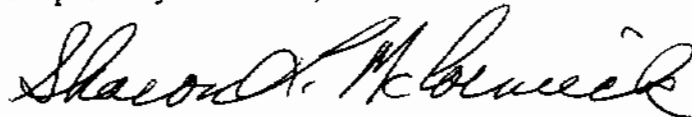
Harold Herr made a motion to pay all bills as presented except for RB Towing. Gary Habsburg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:

Tom Ayres stated that the water table is high. He is concerned that there might be another flood. He requested that pressure be put on authorities to take action.

At 9:15 PM the meeting was continued until December 14 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sharon L. McCormick
Secretary

Harmony Borough Council Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2004

7:00 PM

Harmony Borough Building Meeting room

(continued from December 7, 2004 meeting)

Attendees: Councilmen Beighey, Herr, Ottney, Rogers, Smith, and Szakelyhidi, Mayor Rape, and Solicitor Mathew Marshall

Absent: Councilman Habsburg

Visitors: John Rice, Patricia Monahan

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

7:00 Council went into its executive session to discuss Personnel and Litigation

7:55 Council came out of its executive session

Councilman Rogers made a motion to authorize Mayor Rape to meet with Butler County clean-up crew working to clean Connoquenessing stream banks.

Councilman Herr seconded the motion.

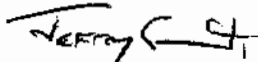
Council voted 6-0 in favor. (copy of 2005 wage rates is attached).

Councilman Rogers made a motion to freeze the 2005 wages at the 2004.

Councilman Ottney seconded the motion.

Council voted 6-0 in favor.

8:00 Meeting continued until December 30, 2004 at 7:00 PM in the Borough Building.



Jeffrey Smith
Council President

Harmony Borough Salary Ranges and Rates - 2005

Supervisor	\$24,100	\$47,700	\$39,800	\$55,599
Asst. Supervisor	\$22,200	\$25,150	\$22,200	\$28,099
Foreman	\$23,600	\$35,000	\$31,000	\$38,999
Annual Salary Range	\$23,300	\$35,950		
Hourly Range	\$11.20	\$17.28		
POSITION ELIMINATED				

Manager	\$35,100	\$86,300	\$69,200	\$103,399
Supervisor Water Treatment	\$25,299	\$37,600	\$37,600	\$37,600
Annual Salary Range	\$30,200	\$61,949.75		
Hourly Range	\$14.62	\$29.78		
Wade's Rate		\$15.75		

Laborer II	\$23,900	\$38,750	\$33,800	\$43,699
Laborer	\$17,700	\$26,550	\$23,600	\$29,499
Annual Salary Range	\$20,800	\$32,650		
Hourly Range	\$10.00	\$15.70		
Cory's Rate		\$12.00		

Operator Water Treatment Plant	\$25,300	\$40,200	\$40,200	\$40,200
Annual Salary Range	\$25,300	\$40,200.00		
Hourly Range	\$12.16	\$19.33		
Bruce's Rate		\$14.75		
Dave's Rate		\$14.60		
Torrey's Rate		\$14.75		

Secretary	\$12,000	\$35,500	\$35,500	\$35,500
Annual Salary Range	\$12,000	\$35,500		
Hourly Range	\$5.77	\$17.07		
Sharon M's Rate		\$13.25		
Sharon G's Rate		\$9.75		

December 7, 2004

MEETING CONTINUED FROM DECEMBER 14, 2004

Council Members Present: Cathy Rape, Chuck Beighey, Harold Herr, Jeff Smith, Russ Ottney, Gary Habsburg, Dave Szakelyhidi. (Dave Rogers arrived after the vote)

A Hearing was called to order to hear public comment on Ordinance # 371 concerning collection of Emergency and Municipal Service Taxes.

No comments.

The hearing was closed at 7:03 PM and the regular session was opened.

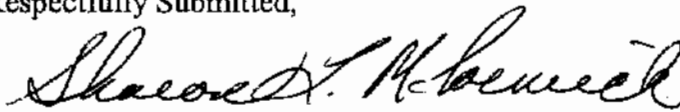
Gary Habsburg made a motion to adopt the EMS Tax. Harold Herr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Russ Ottney requested we negotiate a lower rate.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.

Minutes of hearing and continued meeting taken by, Jeff Smith, Council President.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sharon L. McCormick".

Sharon L. McCormick, Secretary