

# HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING February 1, 2011

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Rice, Frank Luek, Dave Szakelyhidi, Jack Shanks, Tim Sapienza, Jill Allman, Dave Eberle, and Mayor Cathy Rape.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

*Sharon M. ...*  
Wade ...  
JACK SHANKS  
Frank Luek  
Cathy Rape  
John Rice  
Jo Annette ...  
BOB FRANZ  
SUSAN FRANZ  
Frank ...  
Frank ...  
Dave Straubridge  
TOM MURRAY  
Jim ...  
Mark ...  
Joan Szakelyhidi  
Rita ...  
Crispin ...  
Lestie ...  
Ken ...  
Tim ...  
PHIL LOPE  
Cathy Rape  
ANNE TACHESKY

February 1, 2011

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Jack Shanks, Council President, called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**AWARD OF APPRECIATION:**

Mayor, Cathy Rape presented Tim Sapienza a plaque in appreciation of 32 years as Harmony Borough's Fire Chief.

**RATIFY RESOLUTION:**

Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to ratify a resolution to fill Michelle Barto's seat by Tim Sapienza. Jill Allman seconded the motion. Motion carried with Tim Sapienza abstaining.

**MINUTES:**

Frank Luek made a motion to approve the January 4, 2011 minutes as presented. Tim Sapienza seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MODIFICATION TO COUNCIL PROCEDURES:**

Jack Shanks explained the modification to Council Procedures. Before each motion there will be an open forum for both Council and residents to talk about the motion.

**CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. Letter from Armstrong referencing an increase in Cable Rates.
2. Notice from the Department of Emergency Services of quarterly training for Emergency Management Coordinators to be held March 16.
3. Letter from the Humane Society requesting a signed agreement with the Municipality. Tim Sapienza made a motion to accept the agreement. Frank Luek seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. Letter from the Borough's Engineer, Bill Hummel stating that he had finished the drawings for the school Zone and sent them to PennDOT. He is waiting for a reply.
5. Shared Services worked together sharing leaf pickup. They are going to discuss snow removal.
6. Received a form from PennDOT to sign to be allowed to submit forms on line. Tim Sapienza made a motion to approve the online forms. Dave Szakelyhidi seconded the motion. Motion carried.
7. Notice of Grant Applications for parks. Frank Luek is to take to the Parks Board.
8. Email from Butler County COG in reference to LED lights and the contact person for purchasing them
9. Notice of a COG Webinar concerning sign assessment
10. Letter from the Local Government Academy of an intern program that is being offered
11. WBCA Minutes.
12. A letter from the Office of Patricia McGrail concerning an open records request and documents sent out
13. Letter on redeveloping blighted property
14. COG Minutes
15. Invitation from BCBA for a dinner meeting February 17

16. Letter from the Election Bureau stating that the position of Elected Assessor had been abolished
17. An email from Linda Rocco requesting a survey be filled out concerning projects in Harmony
18. A request from Linda Rocco concerning a Leadership Group Survey
19. Email from John Rice concerning Christmas Tree pickup
20. A letter from the Butler County Tourism Bureau wanting to know how they are doing
21. A letter from the Z-H Chamber of Commerce requesting contributions for Horse Trading Days
22. Notice from PSAB of their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference
23. Chamber Chatter of local events

**SOLICITORS REPORT:**

Attorney Racunas explained Direct Energy's bill. Harmony Borough switched electric providers but still owe Direct Energy for services rendered. Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to pay the Direct Energy bill of \$614.00. Jill Allman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A letter was sent to the Ethics Committee concerning eligibility of Council members voting who have spouses on the Historic Harmony Board, are employed or are themselves members and hold a position. They replied that they will notify Harmony Borough of their decision in 21 days and if Harmony Borough has not heard from them, consider that they have obtained an extension.

An intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement needs to be signed by Jackson Township and Harmony Borough stating that they will work in cooperation with the paving project for 2011 with Jackson Township agreeing to reimburse Harmony Borough for all costs associated with paving Edmond Street and any street located in Jackson Township.

Attorney Racunas also reported that he had corresponded with the Airport Authority and they are contacting PennDOT for an application for a grant.

**BOARD REPORTS:**

**COG:** No Report.

**HARB:** No Report.

**Water Authority:** Dave Szakelyhidi reported that they are ready to fill the new water tank.

**Parks Board:** Frank Luek reported that the Parks Board is applying for a matching grant to buy gravel for the boat launch at a cost of approximately \$150 and for the Trail maintenance at a cost of approximately \$400. Tim Sapienza made a motion to use the grant for maintenance of the boat launch and the walking trail. Jill Allman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Parks Board will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of February. Motion carried.

Frank Luek stated that the Parks Board requests that money be budgeted for the parks in next year's budget.

**Shared Services:** Jill Allman made a motion to advertise the Shared Services ordinance. Dave Szakelyhidi seconded the motion. Motion carried. (The Ordinance authorizes Harmony to enter into an intergovernmental cooperation agreement with Zelienople to share equipment and provide the option to establish fees for the use of Borough equipment and provide for an effective date.)

There will be a Shared Services Meeting on Thursday, February 3.

John Rice read a financial report of the Silvester Celebration and recommendations for the 2012 Silvester Celebration from Michelle Barto. (Attached)

Tim McCracken thanked Foxes Pizza and Mark Sapienza for the donation of pizza for the Silvester Celebration.

Jack Shanks suggested that the Parks Board take charge of the Silvester Celebration.

Joan Szakelyhidi asked if the profit made this year could be put aside for the 2012 Silvester Celebration.

Jack Shanks will write Michelle a thank you letter for all the work she did organizing the Silvester Celebration and 5K race.

**Staff:**

- Police:** No Report
- Office:** No Report
- Superintendent:** No Report
- Building Inspector:** No Report

**OPEN ISSUES AND STATUS:**

- Personnel:** No Report.
- Finance:** Dave Eberle reported that the December Finance Statement showed that there was \$20,000 more income than expenses at the end of the year.
- Public Safety:** The drawings have been sent in for the School Zone. The Flood Plain has also been sent.
- Facilities:** The new cleaning company has started and is doing a good job.

Jill Allman made a motion to approve the log cabin agreement with changes made. Tim Sapienza seconded the motion. Tim commented that the Butler County Tourism needs to help bring people into Harmony. If they were doing their job, the information center would not be needed. He also stated that he was upset because people were chastised for the way they voted at the last meeting.

John Rice questioned if there is anything in the budget for upgrading the parking lot and also questioned if anyone had looked at the liability insurance.

The insurance company stated that Harmony Borough is covered with liability insurance. There is standard insurance for all Borough property.

Dave Eberle stated that Harmony Borough has taken on a lot of maintenance – boat ramp, trail, and there is no money.

Jack Shanks stated that HBA is going to maintain the brochures.

Tom Murray questioned the amendment to the agreement.

Attorney Racunas stated that there's zoning issues.

Mr. Murray stated that the Borough has to give some money to help the community. He feels that the Borough should maintain the lot.

Tim McCrackin told Council to look at the project as a business association project. He feels that location wise and safety wise it has been looked at. He would like Council to reconsider.

Attorney Racunas stated that a letter has been sent to the Ethics Board questioning if there is a conflict of interest for the mayor and three members of council to vote. He has not received an answer yet.

Bob Franz remarked that this is a Business Association project.

Attorney Racunas stated that he discussed it with the Ethics Board and it is their opinion.

Attorney Lope questioned if he submitted additional information.

Attorney Racunas answered that he had submitted the new information but has not heard back yet.

Suzie Rape asked if the Borough wanted an empty town. People can't come if there's no parking

Gwen Lutz stated that she doesn't see where the museum has anything to gain.

Attorney Racunas stated that the property is up for sale.

Joe White commented that there needs to be a tourist center as signs lead into Historic Harmony.

John Ruch asked if the Ethics Board was told that Historic Harmony was a 501 C, charitable educational organization?

Bob Franz asked if they wanted to lease the lot what it would cost.

Cathy Rape questioned when the lot went up for sale again.

Dave Szakelyhidi stated that Harmony joined with Zelianople with the Joint Comp Plan. Parking lots are one of the items on the plan.

Gwen Lutz asked what the mortgage was. Approximately \$410 a month.

Delsa White stated that the Joint Comprehensive Plan discussed making the entrance to Zelianople and Harmony more pleasant. There's got to be a solution. It shouldn't be that difficult

Tim Sapienza stated that when he was on Council he wasn't allowed to vote for the Paragon extension because Penn Power provided electricity. (He worked for Penn power)

Delsa White commented that Historic Harmony did go to HARB with their request.

Jack Shanks stated that Frank Luek and Dave Szakelyhidi are abstaining from voting.

JoAnnette Cynkar stated that there are 24 Members in the Business Association and they have events planned.

Vote on the Motion:

John Rice – No

Frank Luek – Abstain

Dave Szakelyhidi – Abstain

Jack Shanks – Yes

Tim Sapienza – Yes

Jill Herr – Yes

Dave Eberle – No

Motion carried.

Jack Shanks reported that he and Jill Allman are looking at an inventory of the buildings and what could go in.

Harmony Borough has no Fire Marshall. Frank Luek made a motion to establish the position of Fire Marshall. Dave Szakelyhidi seconded the motion. Motion carried with Tim Sapienza abstaining.

Jill Allman made a motion to appoint Tim Sapienza as Fire Marshall. John Rice seconded the Motion. Motion carried with Tim Sapienza abstaining.

**Finance:** Jack Shanks reported that Harmony Borough owes \$12,098 for their share of the Comp Plan. He is going to talk to Jim Pashk to see about delaying the payment until the Borough's tax money comes in.

**Streets:** WBCA is putting a sewer line under Peffer Street. They agreed to pay \$10 for the street opening permit but wanted to know if they had to pay the bond of \$22,500. They would not agree to pay the legal fee to write the agreement, so decided to go ahead and pay the \$22,500.

Jack Shanks stated that there is a bill for \$1,200 for the dumpsters that were ordered during the flood.

Tim Sapienza reported that he saw a divot on Spring Street. WBCA said that it is not from their sewer line.

Shack Shanks brought to Council's attention that the Street Committee needs to have a meeting to discuss paving for 2011 – Spring Street, First Street and a portion of Edmond Street.

Attorney Racunas is looking at the agreement concerning the Walking Trail to see who is to shovel the sidewalk from the bridge to the trailhead.

Tim Sapienza made a motion to send the Storm water Management Ordinance to Bill Hummel for him to review. Dave Szakelyhidi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Facilities:** Discussion on the sale of Otto and Gerts. (253 and 257 Mercer Street) Attorney Lope stated that the Sherriff's Sale of the building is scheduled for March 18, 2011.

**Business and Development:** Jack Shanks reported on the HBA meeting last Thursday. They discussed upcoming activities, starting a farmers market, doing an inventory of buildings, etc.

Cathy Rape stated that there are safety issues concerning snow removal. Some residents are not shoveling their sidewalks. She questioned what should be done. John Rice stated that it is the Mayor's responsibility to notify the people that they need to remove the snow.

**BILLS PAYABLE:**

Frank Luek made a motion to pay all bills as presented. Tim Sapienza seconded the motion. Motion carried.

February 1, 2011

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mark Sapienza questioned why Harmony Borough takes the Borough's trucks outside of Harmony for maintenance. He also asked where the trail started and ended.

Motion on paying the bills carried.

Delsa White stated that she is happy Otto and Gerts sold.

Tom Murray stated that the sidewalk from the bridge to the trail was put in with the grant money for the trail. He feels the Borough should clear the sidewalk.

He also commented that the Borough should consider getting a grant for painting and upkeep of the Municipal building.

**ADJOURN:**

Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim Sapienza seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Sharon L. McCormick

Secretary



# 2011 Harmony Silvester Celebration Financial Report

## Race Income:

### Donations:

- Butler Health System: 1500.00
- McCrackin Motorsports LLC: 500.00
- Historic Harmony: 500.00
- Armstrong: 500.00
- Law Offices of Patricia McGrail: 300.00
- Sapienza's Service: 250.00
- The Salon by Marion Davis: 250.00
- The Exchange at Harmony: 200.00
- The Beneigh Agency LLC: 100.00

Race Registrations: 7041.00

**Total Income: 11,141.00**

## Race Expenses:

- Zambelli Fireworks: 3500.00
- Print King: 309.73
- Ibis Tek T-shirts: 1312.00
- Jim Scaranati Misc Expenses: 179.97
- Jim Scaranati Race Director Services : 782.00
- Seneca Boosters day of race services: 641.00
- Miles of Smiles Timing Services: 744.00
- T&M Hardware Tent for DJ: 135.00
- Race Awards: 104.70
- Zelenople Fire Police: 100.00
- Ambulance Service: 130.00
- Hot Chocolate for Racers Dave Strawbridge: 58.65

**Total Race Expenses: 7997.05**

**2011 Total Profit: 3143.95**

2010 Total Profit: 1089.13

## Race Donations:

- Harmony Colours (Diane Smith): Race Art work
- Centerline Boring: Spot light for square
- Grace Church: Parking and property to place spot light on
- Mr. John: port a johns
- Parking: Robinson and Grace Church
- Sign Innovations: Ball drop

## Recommendations for 2012 Silvester 5k and Ball Drop Celebration

- Sole sponsorship of the race is a Harmony business so that way the entire race and celebration are anchored by Harmony business. If this is not something a Harmony business is able to take on, then the request to BHS needs to be made in the very near future as they a lot their monies for activities like this in the very early part of each year. Historically, in order to be the sole race sponsor, the donation was 1500.00
- Being in charge of the race and ball celebration is a lot of time and work, for one person to do and my recommendation is as follows for the race to run one of 2 ways:
  1. Harmony pays a race director such as Jim Scaranati to plan/organize/coordinate/run the entirety of race and give updates to council on a monthly basis of the progress and expenditures. Over the last 4 yrs myself or Jeff Smith worked collaborately with Jim and split all the responsibilities and duties. The planning of the race it's self even in collaboration with someone else is a lot of time and work.

Or
  2. A person such as Jim Scaranati completely takes over the race and pays Harmony for allowing it to be run in Harmony however doing this could potentially change the name and sponsorship of the race. This person would come to Harmony for permissions for such things as road closures, use of the boro building on race day etc.
- A separate person should be in charge of the ball drop celebration all together. Potentially, this is something the HBA could be the planners of.
- Recommendation was given to Michelle about using a different firework company due to height of fireworks. This has never been brought as an issue before and Zambelli is giving Harmony an excellent price for fireworks. This all inclusive price includes the liability insurance for not only Harmony but for the property owner from where they are being set off. In 2009, using a different company was checked into and it was discovered that Harmony would have to not only pay for the fireworks, but also the boro would have to get a liability policy on its own and also one for the property owner. Also a place for firework storage would be needed if there was inclement weather and they couldn't be shot off. Zambelli provides storage for their fireworks in case of inclement weather. I spoke with my contact at Zambelli after the celebration and told him that the fireworks needed to be higher and he said that next year, just to remind him of that and they will use a different type of shell. Also another solution for this potential issue is to go back and request the use of the Creek side site for shooting off the fireworks

Best Regards,  
Michelle Barto