

**CENTRE HALL BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
December 8, 2011**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joe Hammaker, President; Harry Henry; Norma Crater; Kathryn Long; Harold Mowery; and Christine Butts

OTHERS PRESENT:

Beth Araujo, Borough Secretary; Ray Hankinson, Mayor; and John Miller, III, Solicitor

CITIZENS PRESENT: William Luse, Centre Hall Lions Club

CALL TO ORDER: President Joe Hammaker called the meeting of the Centre Hall Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

CITIZENS: Mr. William Luse of the Centre Hall Lions Club presented an offer to help provide several trees and to help with the planting of trees on Pennsylvania in the spring of 2012. When the Tree Committee meeting is scheduled, Mr. William Luse will be invited to attend the planning process as the representative for the Lion's Club. Mayor, Ray Hankinson, will be invited to make a presentation at the 70th Year celebration of the Centre Hall Lion's Club in March.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

1. A motion was made by Councilman Harry Henry and was seconded by Councilman Harold Mowery to approve the Minutes of the November 10, 2011 Council Meeting: Ayes –6; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
2. A motion was made by Councilman Harry Henry and was seconded by Councilman Harold Mowery to approve the Minutes of the November 28, 2011 Special Council Meeting: Ayes –6; Nays – 0. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: A motion was made by Councilman Norma Crater and was seconded by Councilman Christine Butts to approve the Financial Statements as presented for the month of November 2011 and to continue to pay the bills: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0. Motion passed.

ZONING / CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT:

2 Permits: Awning with a Sign; Sun Room Addition
1 Letter about loose cats

STATE OF THE BOROUGH REPORT:

1. Old Hotel owner wants to landscape alongside the new sidewalk and to landscape the entrance and alongside the building front. He would like the Borough to consider painting hash marks before and after the entranceway and possibly helping in the costs of the landscape stones for along the sidewalk. Materials will not be available until the spring.
2. Leaf collection is about done
3. Preparing for winter

LONG RANGE PLANNING: Nothing new to add.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Tree Committee is to consider taking down two trees on Pennsylvania Avenue (301 S. and 119 N.) and to also have the Arborist look at the tree near/on the Borough's right-of-way at 102/106 E. Potter Street.
2. A motion was made by Councilman Norma Crater and was seconded by Councilman Harry Henry to adopt the 2012 Council Meeting Dates to be advertised: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
3. A motion was made by Councilman Harold Mowery and was seconded by Councilman Kathryn Long to reappoint the following with their terms:
Municipal Engineer for 2012 – Robert Decker, Nittany Engineering;
Municipal Solicitor for 2012 – Mr. John R. Miller, III, Solicitor;
Planning Commission 4-year term – Mr. John Martz;
Centre Hall-Potter Sewer Authority 5-year term – Mr. Steven Welch;
Zoning Hearing Board 3-year term – Mr. Michael Redin;
Tri-Municipal Park Advisory Board 3-year term – Mrs. Michele Whitman;
Sewage Enforcement Officer for 2012 – Mr. Chuck Herr; and
Sewage Enforcement Officer Alternate for 2012 – Ms. Pamela Winter:
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
4. The EMA Coordinator letters of interest were read and considered; a motion was made by Councilman Harry Henry and was seconded by Councilman Norma Crater to appoint Mr. Barry Fisher as EMA Coordinator for the Centre Hall Borough: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
5. Numerous complaints have been received about the new sign at Grace United Methodist Church. Discussion was held about how this sign is flashing anywhere from 3 to 30 seconds, not rotating like what was described and approved by Council. A motion was made by Councilman Christine Butts and seconded by Councilman Harry Henry to send a letter expressing the Council's concerns and ideas for correction: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0. Motion passed.
6. The reply letter from the Centre Hall-Potter Sewer Authority was discussed and tabled until the spring when monitoring can begin.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing new to report.

CORRESPONDENCE (INCOMING):

1. Received contribution thank you from the Penns Valley Area Historical Society.
2. Received an invitation to the Public Officials Day at the Farm Show on January 12th.
3. Received an invitation to the First National Bank for program on December 13th.
4. Compliance posters update

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. The MPO helped provide funds for our new sidewalks.
2. On November 15th the Bio-Mass Boiler at Penns Valley Area Schools was fired up and seemed to handle the load just fine.

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SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

1. Beginning January 1, 2012, purchasing/quotes/bidding requirements are changing. Purchasing from \$0.00 to \$4,000.00 now to \$10,000.00; 3 Quotes from \$4,000.00 - \$10,000.00 to \$10,000 - \$18,500.00; and Bidding from over \$10,000.00 to over \$18,500.00.
2. Mr. Miller will write a letter about the State Ethics form needing to be turned into the Municipality in order to qualify to take the Oath of Office in January.
3. A motion was made by Councilman Norma Crater and was seconded by Councilman Christine Butts authorizing Mr. John Miller, III, Solicitor to prepare and advertise an Ordinance authorizing the Tax Collector to charge a tax certification fee of \$15.00 for adoption on January 3rd, 2012: Ayes – 5; Nays – 1 (Harold Mowery). Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. **STREETS –BUTTS** - Write more parking tickets.
- B. **WATER – MUTERSBAUGH** – Nothing new to report.
- C. **FIRE AND POLICE – MOWERY** – Nothing new to report.
- D. **SOLID WASTE AND SIDEWALKS – HENRY** – Nothing new to report.
- E. **LIGHTS AND NUISANCE – LONG** – Nothing new to report.
- F. **FINANCE – CRATER** – Nothing new to report.

OTHER:

1. President Joe Hammaker thanked Councilman Harold Mowery for serving as a Council member, followed by other council members offering their words of thanks. Councilman Harold Mowery stated that this has been an interesting experience learning how the government works and offering his wishes of luck for the future council.
2. Expressions of “Merry Christmas and Happy New Year” were exchanged by all present.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:27 p.m., it was moved by Councilman Harold Mowery and was seconded by Councilman Kathryn Long to adjourn the meeting: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0. Motion Passed.

Respectfully Submitted,



Beth Ann Araujo, CGS
Centre Hall Borough Secretary