

**BURGETTSTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR WORK SESSION MINUTES**

November 18, 2020

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Public comments and questions not pertaining to the agenda items will be held to the end of the meeting.

Attending: Council Members: Phil Esno
Janet Castellino (Via Phone)
Annie Hull
Joyce Nicksick (Absent)
Susan Reynolds

Mayor: Mary Ann Reedy (Absent)
Solicitor: Not Present
Secretary: Debbie Resnik
Treasurer: Debbie Resnik

Visitors: Janet McClain
Brian Jeffries

Roll Call Absent:
Joyce Nicksick
Mary Ann Reedy

Hearing: Advanced Telephone Systems, Inc d/b/a/HTC Communications, Brian Jeffries speaking on their behalf for the granting of a cable franchise in Burgettstown Borough

- a. received a grant from Washington County to run fiber into surrounding areas
- b. Borough was not included in the grant, but close enough boundaries to include the borough to run telephone and internet throughout the borough
- c. HTC offers all fiber

Questions/Comments:

Susan Reynolds, "You stated that the Borough was not included, but close enough for you to do this?"

Brian, "That was correct."

Susan Reynolds, "So what were the areas you applied for?"

Brian replied, "The roads we were running on a lot of them were unserved. Joffre, Langeloth and certain areas in Slovan.

Susan Reynolds, "So, mostly in Smith Township and Jefferson Township."

Brian "Yes"

Susan Reynolds, "What areas do you service, Hickory, and what are the surrounding areas?"

Brian, "We do South View, Cecil, 844 area, Cherry Valley and Atlasburg."
Phil, "Why is HTC required to get a franchise for cable television and not telephone or internet services."

Brian, "FCC allows the telephone and internet providers to run lines on poles throughout municipalities and boroughs and they are permitted to use the telephone poles in those areas to provide telephone and internet services without offering any franchise fees.

Cable television being a different kind of service, the provider must offer franchise fees to the area they provided these services.

HTC reviewed all services that are offered.

Franchise agreement will permit HTC to come into the borough and offer cable television.

HTC will send mailers out whenever services are ready for install.

Motion will be approved/disapproved granted a cable franchise to HTC

Communications pending approval by solicitor under 4. New Business (f.)

1. Financial Report:

a. Review of bills to pay at December 2020 meeting

Susan Reynolds made the Motion to pay the bills for December

Second by-Annie Hull

Motion Carried-None Opposed

b. Discussed tentative budget as presented

Motion to accept and advertise under 4. New Business (b.)

2. Council Comments / Reports:

a. Annie Hull

i. Fire Report – None

- Council discussed and Fire Departments requested for letter Section 147(f) approval and written agreement for purchase of a new tanker
- This approval letter does not constitute any financial involvement or obligation of the Borough

Annie Hull made the Motion to accept this request upon the approval of Peter Halsey

Second by-Janet Castellino

Questions/Comments:

None

Motion Carried-None Opposed

b. Janet Castellino- Via Phone

i. Police-No Report

c. Joyce Nicksick- (Absent)

i. Parks – No Report

- d. Susan Reynolds
 - i. Recreation-No Report

Susan Reynolds would like to have a Christmas tree placed at the Corner of Main, along with cut out picture silhouettes for residents to take their family or friends down to the corner for a photograph.

Council was all in agreement

Susan Reynolds will speak with Zach Bugay about placing the Christmas decorations throughout town Thanksgiving weekend.

Council was all in agreement

Phil discussed with council that the quote for the Corner of Main electric will cost around \$3,000.00.

Cintas and Unifirst were contacted for uniform pricing

- Unifirst was lower bid

Questions/Comments:

Susan Reynolds questioned if work boots were included with this service

Resnik replied, "No that allowance with increased in the budget from \$50.00 to \$150.00 per year.

- e. Phil Esno-Report filed as read

3. Mayor's Report: Absent

4. New Busines:

- a. Susan Reynolds made the Motion to accept the "Coronavirus Relief Fund Agreement" with Washington County and to submit agreement prior to the November 30, 2020 deadline.

Second by-Annie Hull

Motion carried-None Opposed

Questions/Comments:

None

- b. Annie Hull made the Motion to advertise the 2021 tentative budget for final adoption in December

Second by-Susan Reynolds

Question/Comments:

None

Motion carried-None Opposed

- c. Shady Avenue Spay and neuter was successful

- d. Council reviewed the 2021 Meeting calendar for 2021

- e. Annie Hull made the Motion to accept Unifirst as the uniform service for 2021

Second by-Janet Castellino

Questions/Comments:

None

Motion carried-None opposed

f. Susan Reynolds made the Motion to accept granting a cable franchise to HTC Communications pending approval by solicitor.

Second by-Annie Hull

Questions/Comments:

None

Motion carried-None Opposed

5. Old Business:

Annie Hull would like Phil to address the Street Department that masks must be worn at all times now. (inside and outside no exceptions)

Council discussed meetings being held during these high numbers of COVID

- Annie Hull would like to resume only to the Business Meetings
- Susan Reynolds is okay with holding meetings as members are the only ones in attendance

Council all agreed that if upcoming meetings are not necessary, then borough will cancel and keep updated through emails and phone.

7. Public Comments / Questions: None

8. Motion to Adjourn @ 7:17 PM

Susan Reynolds made the Motion to adjourn

Second by-Annie Hull

Motion carried-None Opposed