

CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough

May 3, 2016

President Kline called the monthly meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the St. Luke's Church Hall, 5th & Franklin Sts., Shoemakersville, PA at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Chris Kline- President, Amy Botwright - Vice President, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Clark Zimmerman, Paul Gruber, Richard Kepner - Mayor, Mike Dietrich – Wastewater Plant Operator, Gary Noecker – Zoning/Code Enforcement , Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Bradley Smith – Engineer and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting were John Leshner and Tara Kennedy-Kline.

Public Comment

Larry Hoffman (802 Main St.): Is not in favor of the business being run out of the garage at 818 Main St. Mr. Noecker states they have been sent a zoning application, which he plans to deny. If they wish to run the business, they will need to file an application with the zoning hearing board.

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St): Would like to know the status of the school's signs. Mr. Smith spoke with the school's engineer, who stated the architect is aware of the matter and is working on it. Mr. Smith will still need to complete a final inspection on the school. **Mr. Noecker is to send an enforcement letter regarding the signage.**

Mr. Geschwindt asks for the status of the water report, with Ms. Wagner stating that Suburban tested the water at the Kwik Shoppe and the sewer plant on April 27 and that all results met the necessary requirements.

Peggy Padinske (310 E. Noble Ave.): Is still having issues with the school's electronic sign. She attended a school board meeting to ask if the sign can be turned off before 10:00 p.m. She notes the borough's ordinance states that there is to be no flashing from a sign. Council reviews the zoning ordinance and confirms that no sign is to contain flashing or intermittent illumination. **Mr. Wertz will speak to Principal Berger regarding the zoning violation.** President Kline states a letter should be drafted to specifically note of the flashing and intermittent illumination violation.

Marianna & Ed Burns (379 Main St.): Have purchased the property at 379 Main St. and plan to run their business in the station. They will preserve the historic value of the building as much as possible.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Noecker

- **Enforcement:** Four violations letters were sent last month. There is discussion on the collapsing wall at 17 Main St.
- **Junk Vehicles:** As Mr. Noecker does not enforce violations of vehicles parked in the street, he asks Council and the Mayor how he should handle the matter. Solicitor Mooney will review the PennDOT statute to verify if a vehicle is classified as being abandoned after 72 hours or 30 days.

- **Recycling Ordinance:** States that a least one residential apartment and several businesses, including the fire company, do not recycle and throw the recycling away with their trash. The dumpster for the apartments on the 700 block of Main St. is overflowing and creating a rodent issue. Mr. Noecker is to draft a letter to be sent to all businesses in town, reiterating that recycling is mandatory in the borough. Mr. Wertz will see that a notice on recycling is added to the next borough newsletter. The information could also be placed on the website.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **Wastewater Treatment Agreement:** A draft of the agreement was forwarded to Mr. Wertz. Solicitor Mooney has spoken with Mark Koch and has developed a rough draft of the language for the maintenance of the interceptor. Mr. Smith has been asked to review the agreement. Mr. Wertz and President Kline would like to see wording added on the meters, connections and ownership of the replacement line. Council discusses the interceptor line and the manholes.
- **Water Agreement:** Working with Mark Koch on the document. Solicitor Mooney may create the draft and forward it to Solicitor Koch for his review. The impact fee numbers will be forwarded to Council as soon as they are available.

Engineer's Report – report will remain on file in office

- **Sewer Televising:** ARRO has contacted three companies under Costars that offer televising. Two companies responded with prices per foot of \$1.35 and \$1.55 for cleaning and televising. Neither included manhole inspections. This is higher than ARRO's estimate of \$1.00 per foot, so ARRO is seeking approval to proceed with bidding. Mr. Smith discusses the televising process.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize ARRO to prepare a bid package for sewer televising. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. President Kline asks if this would prevent anyone in Costars from bidding, with Mr. Smith stating no. Solicitor Mooney states that Council could reject all bids and go back to Costars for a contractor. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Pine St. Connection:** Mr. Smith met with Earl Felty to look at the end of Pine St., for a potential connection location. Mr. Felty will address the matter in the next two weeks.
- **Multimodal Transportation Grant:** ARRO is trying to locate plans for the bridge. Penndot and Ms. Wagner are both searching for the plans. Mr. Smith notes a type, size and location study may need to be completed. The plans would not be required for a preliminary study, however they would be needed for a shovel ready project. Mr. Smith will present refined options and a status of the search for the plans for the May workshop meeting.
- **Well #1 Treatment:** ARRO is proceeding with engineering for the project. Mr. Wertz asks how far along the engineering work is, with Mr. Smith replying they are 25% along. He expects to provide a design to Council in early June.
- **Miller Street:** Mr. Smith has drafted a letter for Penndot, whereby the borough offers to pay 25% of the costs to adjust the water main and sanitary sewer facility on Main St., in conjunction with the new bridge work. He also notes a resolution must be signed, which authorizes the Council President and Vice President to sign all of the forms with Penndot to affect the agreement.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adopt the Miller St. Penndot Reimbursement resolution.
Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence – Ms. Wagner

Ms. Wagner has completed the training for the online bill pay. The system is ready to be used. This month the office will be closed on the 18th, 25th – 27th and the 30th.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Kepner

Mayor Kepner has received a complaint regarding speeding on the north end of Main St. He notes Ms. Wagner will contact PSP to request they increase patrols in that area.

Mayor Kepner states that some members of Council are in violation of the animal and/or zoning ordinance and asks why they weren't required to obtain a variance, rather than having Council change just that section of the ordinance. President Kline states that the entire zoning ordinance will be revamped, not just the section on animals. Mayor Kepner states it could be quite some time until the ordinance could be passed.

Wastewater Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich

In April, the DRBC annual water audit was completed. There are approximately 8 million gallons of water unaccounted for. Mr. Dietrich has included the meters at both plants and flushing hydrants and feels the majority of the water loss is due to older water meters in the borough. Mayor Kepner feels bad meters and leaks in the system are major contributors. Council and Mr. Dietrich discuss water loss and yearly water reports.

All routine water plant maintenance was kept up to date. The chlorine pump at well #3 malfunctioned, but it has been rehabbed and is back in service.

Kline's hauled 18,000 gallons of liquid sludge to Exeter, due to the current inefficiency of the belt press. A new set of belts and parts should be arriving in the near future. Axiom was on site and replaced two pneumatic cylinders on the press. The March DMR was submitted with no issues or concerns. Mr. Wertz, President Kline, Mr. Gruber and Mr. Dietrich discuss the operation of the BFP. **Mr. Dietrich states he will research the use of a surfactant.**

Council discusses the roof quotes for the blower room. Council further talks about water seepage behind the steel plate of the wall, when facing the clarifier. This occurs when there is rain. Mr. Wertz states there is a three-sided trough that the water is getting behind. Mr. Dietrich notes that in the blower room, sunlight can be seen shining through the joint between the round tank and the block wall.

Mayor Kepner and Mr. Wertz discuss the lifespan of the belt filter press, with Mayor Kepner stating the entire plant should be rehabbed every 25-30 years. Mr. Wertz and Mr. Smith state that the large list of repairs is being broken up into multiple smaller projects, in order to have repairs done in a feasible manner. Mr. Dietrich believes that in the next five years, cement work will be needed near the railing at the top of the VLR. Two shafts that the aerators roll on need replacement. Mayor Kepner asks at what point these repairs would fall under shareable costs. Mr. Wertz states that cumulative, multiple projects would be billed at the end of the year.

Property/Streets/Sanitation Committee – Mr. Zimmerman

President Kline asks **Solicitor Mooney to forward examples of street cut moratoriums.** Solicitor Mooney states that UGI is now under orders to move the bulk of gas meters out of the homes and moved to the outside front of the house, near the street.

Sewer Committee – Mr. Gruber

President Kline references the e-mail from Attorney Koch, noting of the additional fees that the borough would pay, since they are replacing the line. Solicitor Mooney notes in the agreement of the estimate and the 10% contingency. He reads the applicable section from the draft agreement. President Kline and Mr. Smith discuss the manholes noted in the agreement.

Water Committee – President Kline

President Kline and Mr. Dietrich will meet to discuss the changes for the water plant.

President Kline and Mr. Wertz discuss the water meter at 6 W. Noble Ave., with Mr. Wertz noting the meter could be slipping, thereby creating the appearance of increased water usage. President Kline will review the matter and suggests waiting until the next billing period to see if the water usage has leveled out, before issuing a credit on the account.

Parks/Recreation- Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to hire the summer recreation staff for 2016. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Vice President Botwright notes that one employee is interested in mowing at the pool as well. President Kline amends the motion, noting that candidates are required to submit the proper clearance paperwork before working. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Mayor Kepner asks who pays for the clearance checks, with Vice President Botwright stating the employee is responsible, either paying on their own or through payroll deductions. Motion carried by a vote of 4 yes to 1 abstain, with Vice President Botwright abstaining.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz

The committee is gathering information on sidewalk specifications.

Mr. Wertz will contact the school regarding the electronic sign. The borough will be sending a letter identifying the specific section of the zoning ordinance that is being violated. Mr. Wertz is awaiting zoning ordinance proposals from four firms. As the borough does not have the complete comprehensive plan on file, Solicitor Mooney suggests contacting the county for a copy. Vice President Botwright mentions ecode360.com, which lists ordinances online. Mayor Kepner references a joint comprehensive plan with Perry Township.

Employee Relations – President Kline

President Kline asks that by the end of the week, Council provide feedback on the applications received for the part-time position. He states there a few applicants that could be considered for a supervisory position. Mayor Kepner suggests hiring temps, with Vice President Botwright stating the process may be longer than just hiring someone directly. Mayor Kepner asks if the supervisor position needs to be advertised for, with Solicitor Mooney stating that it would not be necessary if qualified applicants have already submitted their application. Mr. Zimmerman asks if the borough will be using Mr. Adam again, to mow grass. Mr. Dietrich notes it would be valuable to have someone on staff to just cut grass. President Kline will speak with Chad Zimmerman on the matter.

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the minutes for April 5 & 19, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the bills payable for May 3, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright was asked by Customer's Bank if the borough has a timeframe for disbursements of the loan. Street repairs will be based upon the outcome of the sewer televising. Council discusses the water meter replacement project and the possibility of hiring an outside contractor/plumber to install the radio read meters. Council will further discuss the matter at the workshop meeting.

New Business

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to have Ms. Wagner advertise the Children's Fair parade route. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Kepner notes that the borough may need to obtain permission from Penndot for the 2017 parade route, due to the state detour for the Miller St. bridge project. Mr. Zimmerman states Penndot was asked to run the traffic south on Main St., so that traffic would remain on the lower end of town. President Kline suggests the potential need to change the parade route for that year.

Vice President Botwright will be unable to attend the May 17 workshop meeting and the August 2 monthly meeting.

President Kline would like to see a borough representative at the MS4 workshop in June. Solicitor Mooney may be attending for other municipalities and will let Council know if he will be there.

Old Business

Vice President Botwright has continually been adding information to the borough's website.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gruber. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer