

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough**

November 15, 2016

President Kline called the workshop meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the Shoemakersville Borough Office, 115 E. 9th St., Shoemakersville, PA at 7:05 p.m.

In attendance: Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright – Vice President, Joseph Wertz, Tara Kennedy-Kline, and Bradley Smith – Engineer – leaves after his report.

Absent from the meeting were Clark Zimmerman, John Leshner, Paul Gruber and Mayor Richard Kepner.

Visitors

Jeff Blose (832 Reber St.): Notes he is concerned with the people in the park after dark and the ongoing vandalism occurring throughout town. His home was broken into and he had several items stolen. Kids have been in the park during the early hours of the morning playing basketball. The police are aware of this, but he has not heard back from them. The kids leave when the state police arrive, but they just come back after the police are gone. He feels he knows who the kids may be. He was told by the police that if a burglary occurs they will handle the matter, but if there is an issue with kids in the park after dark, it would become a borough issue. Neighbors are becoming concerned with the potential issues these kids.

President Kline would like the police to become more responsive with these matters. **Mr. Wertz will make contact with those he knows that are affiliated with the police.**

Jim Garcia (837 Reber St.): Is concerned about the older residents near the park that could be affected. He would like to know if anything can be done to have the local police department reinstated. President Kline states that Council has looked into the matter, but the start up cost is close to \$250,000 with Vice President Botwright stating that the yearly operating expenses are also around the same amount.

Paul Kershner (831 Reber St.): He asks if the Hamburg Police could cover the area. Vice President Botwright states that Hamburg could not legally cover the borough, as they would need to cross covered state police areas to reach Shoemakersville. President Kline states that Mayor Kepner is looking into a part-time police force. President Kline states that the PA State Police can enforce vehicular laws but they do not enforce local ordinances. President Kline and Vice President Botwright discuss the cameras that are in place at the park. **President Kline or Ms. Kennedy-Kline will contact Mr. Kerper, to determine the cost of adding a camera to cover the basketball court. President Kline will look into the cost of replacing the lights at the basketball court.**

Engineer's Report

Mr. Smith notes that today was the second day of the PTMA interceptor project and that an inspector as been onsite. He notes things are going well. They core drilled into the existing manhole and put the lockset in.

Mr. Smith has reviewed the Cedarbrook Subdivision plans for water service. He has 10 comments, which he will forward to the appropriate party. His main concern is that they would be connecting directly to well #3 with their service line. They have no easement to go across the borough's property. Mr. Smith feels it would be best if they connect directly to the distribution system, next to the Kwik Shoppe.

The field work is complete for the MS4 mapping.

*A motion is by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to have ARRO Consulting send the letter of comments regarding the Cedarbrook Subdivision review. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

As a representative of the Berks County Water & Sewer Association, Mr. Smith asks if Council would be interested in being a part of the Berks County Source Water Protection Plan. This would be a planning document to assist the borough in ensuring future water quality of the borough's wells. There will be a cost to join the association, although the association has not finalized whether or not there will be a fee to join the association to become a part of the Source Water Protection Plan. The fee to join the association is dependent upon the borough's size, with the borough's fee being \$200. Mr. Smith further discusses the program and the plan, noting that it could be used in conjunction with MS4 requirements. The next association meeting will be November 17 at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Smith will let the association know that the borough is interested.

Property/Streets/Sanitation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline – no report

Sewer – Mr. Wertz

President Kline will be stopping by the plant to review the progress of the interceptor work.

Mr. Wertz notes that Blooming Glen has begun their work. They are dealing with a railing bracket issue, but otherwise all is well.

Water – President Kline

President Kline references the water issue on the 900 block of Main St. Vice President Botwright requests that for future incidents, Code Red be used for notification to residents, as well having the information on Facebook and the borough's website.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the purchase of a spare 6" gate valve for \$729.23. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wertz recommends that during the winter, borough staff open all caps and look down, to view the status of the valves and sleeves.

Parks & Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

Ms. Kennedy-Kline states that the park previously closed at 10:00 p.m. The park hours were then changed, via resolution, noting the park was closed from sunset to sunrise. Council discusses setting an actual closing time again or setting seasonal hours. Council also discusses the hours of the noise ordinance. Council decides on closing the park from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. *Ms. Kennedy-Kline will contact Solicitor Mooney to discuss the changes to the times, as well as enforcement of the ordinance.*

Council discusses speed humps and feels that due to cost, they are not feasible for the borough, although a macadam version similar to that which diverts water, is discussed for potential installation in the spring.

Vice President Botwright feels there is no consistency in lowering the chain at the skate park. Ms. Kennedy-Kline feels that with the darker, colder weather, there will be less traffic to the skate park and that the chain could be taken down over the winter. Due to recent vandalism, Ms. Kennedy-Kline feels that Council should be notified whenever an event, such as the Skate Jam, is held at the skate park.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz

Mr. Wertz notes that he and Chris Falencki will be meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday to drive throughout the borough.

Council discusses Penndot's curb/handicap project.

Employee Relations – President Kline

President Kline notes that Mr. Karasek has been working more hours this week, due to Foreman Zimmerman's vacation.

Ms. Kennedy-Kline witnessed the crossing guard at E. Noble Ave. and Chestnut St. talking on her phone and did not notice 3 children cross themselves.

Approvals/Finance/Pension

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for November 1, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills for November 15, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright notes that the office copier is broken and unable to be repaired. The copier contract was for 27,000 copies/year. The lease for the year is \$778. Vice President Botwright discusses the Konica Minolta quote and suggests obtaining a quote from Edwards Business Systems as well, especially as the quote did not include a minimum print allocation. The machine should be for black and white copies only. Vice President Botwright and Ms. Kennedy-Kline discuss purchasing a refurbished machine as well.

New Business - none

Old Business

Vice President Botwright notes that the wireless card for the garage internet is \$70/month. Through Comcast, the Starter package for 16/3 Mbps would be \$85/month. The 25/10 Mbps package is \$95/month and would include a free wireless router. Council discusses the cost and what speed would be needed.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the installation of the Comcast Business starter package at the borough garage for \$85/month. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Mr. Wertz may be able to supply a wireless router. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright notes of the resident's concern regarding a water leak at her home. President Kline will respond to Ms. Wagner's e-mail, noting that he agrees to forgive the sewer charge but not the water charge.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted - Melissa Wagner -Secretary/Treasurer