

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough**

December 6, 2016

Vice President Botwright 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: Amy Botwright – Vice President, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Paul Gruber, John Leshner, Clark Zimmerman, Richard Kepner – Mayor, Chad Zimmerman – Public Works Foreman, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Brad Smith – Engineer and Gary Noecker - Code Enforcement.

Absent from the meeting were Chris Kline and Tara Kennedy-Kline.

Public Comment

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.): Asks for the status of the water report, with Mr. Wertz stating that the water was testing and appears to have met the requirements. Mr. Geschwindt would like to know if there is an update for the signage matter at the school. Mr. Noecker states that the approved plans noted that all signs must comply with the zoning ordinance. Mr. Noecker will be forwarding a letter to the school district stating the signs must be in compliance with the zoning regulations.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Noecker

- **Permits:** Two zoning application were approved last month. Mr. Noecker is waiting for an application from the Steeleys at 302 Main St.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **Amendment to PTMA Water Agreement:** He and Solicitor Koch should have a draft copy completed by January.

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

- **MS4:** ARRO has provided a map of the Borough MS4 Stormwater systems. A waiver can now be applied for however, because the mapping found direct discharges to the Schuylkill River, receiving a waiver from PADEP appears highly unlikely. Mr. Smith states a pollution control plan will need to be developed for the NPDES permit.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize **ARRO to proceed with the NLI, regarding the MS4 NPDES.** Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Sewer Televising:** Berks Sewer & Drain has delivered a preliminary report to ARRO. ARRO noted a significant amount of deficiencies in the report. A meeting was held with the contractor to discuss what information is required to complete the report. The contractor is current working on the updates.
- **Miller St.:** Penndot has requested a change to the design to accommodate the demolition of an additional dwelling. ARRO is working with staff to revise the plans.

- **Well #1 Treatment:** The BART bacteria test came back positive for iron reducing bacteria. ARRO and staff met with Herb Spencer of Shannon Chemical Corporation to discuss well remediation as opposed to water treatment. Mr. Smith and Council discuss the results and the testing. In order to obtain a proposal from Shannon Chemical to treat the well, the static level of the well needs to be determined. Staff will set up the equipment to determine the static water level. Once completed, ARRO will finish and submit the report to PADEP and Shannon Chemical. Foreman Zimmerman notes that typically the treatments last from 3-5 years. **Mr. Smith will contact Mr. Shannon for further information regarding the treatment of the well, as well as submit documentation on the testing to Council.**
- **PTMA Interceptor:** The contractor has started work on the interceptor. Work is proceeding, however the contractor has temporarily stopped work until December 5, 2016. ARRO is spot checking the work. Residents with concerns should contact Mr. Smith.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence

Vice President Botwright notes the office is to open at 11:00 a.m. next Wednesday and will be closed on December 23, 26-28 and January 2.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Kepner – no report

Public Works Report – Foreman Zimmerman

Foreman Zimmerman obtained quotes for the road repair work listed in the 2017 financing. Mayor Kepner requests obtaining pricing for the extension of the storm water project that was started a few years ago.

Water and Wastewater Operator's Report – Foreman Zimmerman

Foreman Zimmerman notes that Mr. Dietrich is concerned that there is no alarm for the raw pump switches.

Property/Streets/Sanitation Committee – Mr. Zimmerman

Bids have been received for street work, with Vice President Botwright noting that that would need to be placed on hold until it is determined if those streets would need to be dug up for pipe repairs.

Sewer Committee – Mr. Wertz

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Mr. Smith to respond affirmatively to the planning module request for the Hamburg Commerce Park. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

Water Committee – Mr. Wertz

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize the purchase of 50 water meters from Exeter Supply, at a cost of \$10,950. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Mr. Gruber asks how many of the meters have been installed, with Foreman Zimmerman stating 60 meters were installed in the last 3 months. There are less than 400 meters left in the borough to be replaced. Mr. Leshner asks how the meters to be replaced are chosen, with Foreman Zimmerman stating all meters in the borough will need to be replaced. Council and Foreman Zimmerman discuss the meter replacement program. Motion carried unanimously.

Parks/Recreation – Vice President Botwright

Vice President Botwright and Foreman Zimmerman met with the new designer for the pool. DCNR stated the grant has been extended until December 31, 2017. The bids will go out in January, with the work to be completed by Memorial Day 2017.

Foreman Zimmerman notes that the individual that caused recent vandalism in the park has been apprehended and plans to plead guilty in front of the District Justice. He will be charged with criminal mischief.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz

The PA State Police Sergeant in charge of the Hamburg barracks will be attending the workshop meeting on December 20, in an effort to establish a more open line of communication between residents and the State Police.

Mr. Wertz has received the draft zoning update from Stackhouse Bensinger. **He will forward this to Council.** They have provided 68 amendments to the zoning ordinance. Solicitor Mooney recommends redrafting the ordinance and placing the list of 68 changes into the current ordinance, then advertising and adopting a comprehensive zoning ordinance.

Employee Relations – Vice President Botwright – no report

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the minutes for November 15, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the bills payable for December 6, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the 2017 budget. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to adopt Ordinance 444-2016, setting the 2017 real estate tax at 6.5 mills. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Mr. Wertz asks if this is an increase from 2016, with Vice President Botwright stating the rate is unchanged. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright references the quotes received for new copiers. When averaged out over the cost of a year, it would cost \$1,100 for a copier for the entire year. Mr. Kerper has a refurbished copier that is available to the borough, although it does not take 11"x17" paper. Vice President Botwright further notes that the only item printed on that size paper is the borough newsletter. She priced out the cost of the toner, the free refurbished copier and the cost to send the newsletter to Staples to be printed for one year, with the total expense for the year being \$700. She recommends using the free copier while it is available. If costs increase, then a new copier could be purchased.

Vice President Botwright is working on the financing details for the bank. Much of this timeline is based upon the street repairs and what need to be repaired.

Vice President Botwright has a quote to change from Carbonite to IDRIVE for the borough's online backup. The cost is approximately \$143 less expensive.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to change the borough's online backup service from Carbonite to IDRIVE, at a cost of \$229.50. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Council discusses the 2017 meeting list for the borough. The November meeting will take place on November 7. The July meeting will occur on July 11.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to approve and advertise the 2017 list of Council meetings, adjusted to having November 7 as the regular meeting. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Mr. Gruber asks if the installation of the new water meters gives the borough any leverage against the laundry mat. Council discusses whether or not the borough remains in litigation with the laundry mat. Council discusses the matter and whether a meter could be placed on the well. **Ms. Wagner is to forward the laundry mat litigation materials to Solicitor Mooney.**

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer