

CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough

March 7, 2017

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, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Tara Kennedy-Kline, Paul Gruber, Clark Zimmerman, Richard Kepner – Mayor, Chad Zimmerman – Public Works Foreman, Mike Dietrich – Plant Operations, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Brad Smith – Engineer, Gary Noecker - Code Enforcement and Zoning and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer

Absent from the meeting were Amy Botwright and John Leshner.

Public Comment

Larry Wagner (730 Main St.): Received a letter regarding the condition of his sidewalk and is seeking documentation on what defines what is allowed to make the repair and who will perform the inspection and issue the permit, as the ordinance copies included with his letter did not clearly state what needs to be repaired or what is allowed as a repair. **Mr. Wertz will look into the matter and provide the information to Ms. Wagner.** President Kline requests that the information be forwarded to all parties that received a sidewalk letter.

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.): States there should be an ordinance with sidewalk specifications, as when his father was Zoning Officer, he worked with the Borough engineer to develop such an ordinance. According to this ordinance, line and grade must be obtained through the Borough engineer. Mr. Geschwindt asks for the status of the water report, with Ms. Wagner stating Suburban tested the water at the Kwik Shoppe and the sewer plant on February 1 and that all results met the necessary requirements.

Larry Hoffman was unable to attend the meeting, but asked Mr. Geschwindt to inform Council that there are 8-10 people living in one rental unit at the apartments at 730 Main St. Mr. Wertz states that the property maintenance code should address the issue. Mayor Kepner states this may only cover unrelated families. Solicitor Mooney notes that this is also the case under zoning as well.

Josh Schaeffer (On The Grind): President Kline introduces Mr. Schaeffer and notes that his organization helps to rehabilitate parks and skate parks. Mr. Schaeffer states that their group is classified as 501c3 and can obtain grants. They hold fundraisers to raise money as well. Council and Mr. Schaeffer discuss utilizing the remaining one or two tennis courts to enlarge the skate park, in addition to discussing the concrete equipment that could be built in the skate park. Mr. Schaeffer further notes that his masonry company has completed work on several skate parks and would be able to submit a proposal for work to expand the existing skate park. Ms. Kennedy-Kline requests that they submit a formal proposal for work to be completed using the donated funds of \$6,000 that was mentioned at the last meeting, as well as for their recommendations on expanding the park. A proposal will be submitted for the workshop meeting. Solicitor Mooney notes that this type of work could be considered a professional service and would therefore not be subject to bidding limitations. It should also be noted that if the organization is raising the funds and performing the work without any Borough funding, then the bidding thresholds would not come into effect.

Sean Kerschner (FreshLife): Has received favorable feedback on the skate park and is appreciative of Council's support. He and his organization are in favor of bettering the skate park and keeping it in a positive light.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Noecker

- **Enforcement:** Two letters were sent regarding vehicles. One vehicle was towed. The second letter was sent back as undeliverable. Council discusses how to proceed, and per Solicitor Mooney's suggestion, decide that the vehicle is to be posted, with the citation giving a time frame to have the vehicle moved. If the vehicle is not moved, it should be towed.

Ms. Kennedy-Kline asks if much feedback was received regarding the sidewalk letters, with Mr. Noecker stating he heard back from the majority of the residents that received the notice.

Mr. Wertz notes that Mr. Schwenk will need to be sworn in.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **Customer's Bank Resolution:** The resolution to authorize officials to initiate withdraws and advances from the loan account is ready for execution.
- **2nd Amendment to Water Supply Agreement:** Has reviewed the changes with PTMA and feels the Borough is in a position to finalize the agreement with them.
- **3rd Amendment to Wastewater Agreement with PTMA and Wolfe:** Has reviewed the changes. The revisions will be discussed with PTMA and Borough representatives at a meeting scheduled on March 15 at Barley Snyder.

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

- **MS4:** ARRO is working on the Pollution Reduction Plan to address the base load that was calculated for sediment from the Borough. A reduction of 10% is required within five years of the permit issuance.
- **Multimodal Transportation Grant:** The Borough's application for 2016 was denied. ARRO is preparing a 2017 application. The application period closes July 31. The municipal audit for 2016 is needed to complete the application.
- **Sewer Televising:** President Kline spoke with the owner of Berks Sewer & Drain, who agreed to his proposal for the Borough to pay \$1,980 and retain \$1,020 for the inserts and the Borough's labor.

Mr. Smith states that the only Costars quote received for the lining was from USG, for \$6,375. USG was also the low bidder for the 2017 televising, with a bid of \$21,775.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve \$21,775 for the 2017 sanitary sewer cleaning and closed-circuit televising as presented by ARRO. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. The lining is under a separate bid. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize USG to proceed to repair 15' of sewer lateral for \$6,375. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Mr. Gruber asks if the work should be monitored during the process and inspected afterward, with Mr. Smith stating that it should. President Kline states this could be coordinated with Borough staff. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Penndot Route 61:** ARRO attended a utility meeting to discuss the Penndot betterment project for Route 61. There are impacts to both sanitary and water infrastructure. Penndot's Utility Coordinator will be sending a schedule to the Borough for incorporation of the utility modifications. The consultant had planned to install an infiltration bed on the northeast corner of the intersection of Routes 61 & 662. This is within Zone 1 of the wellhead projection zone for both wells #3 and #6. In order to avoid contamination of ground water, ARRO has requested that this facility not be built.

If the Borough had a source water protection plan, it would delineate zones more accurately than what is currently in place. This could give the Borough more legal grounds to defend the wells. Council and Mr. Smith discuss the plan and the zones. The Borough could join the PA Source Water Assessment and Protection Plan. Development would be free to the Borough and PADEP would perform all of the work. Once the Borough would adopt the plan, among other requirements, an annual meeting would need to be held, which could also take place at the same time as the MS4 meeting. Mr. Smith will supply the plan paperwork for the March workshop meeting.

- **Solids Handling:** ARRO proposed five different types of dewatering technologies in a meeting with staff. After review, three options were chosen for further study; a centrifuge, screw press and a volute press. ARRO will be contacting vendors to schedule lab testing and/or pilot tests.
- **Chapter 94 Report:** ARRO is currently preparing the report, anticipating it to be completed by mid-March. It is due to PADEP by March 31.
- **Sheetz Land Development:** Sheetz has responded to a communication from ARRO concerning closing out the project. Sheetz stated they will look into the matter and finish the project. No time table was given by Sheetz at this time. ARRO will continue to maintain contact with them.
- **Perry Elementary School & Parking Lot:** A zoning permit application has been submitted to relocate the signs. A contractor is being scheduled to fix the curb and sidewalk. The school wishes to have a meeting to discuss Peach St. and will contact the Borough to set a date and time for the meeting.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence

Council approves Ms. Wagner's request to close the office at noon on Friday, March 17.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Kepner

Jarrold Emes has requested the Borough fund up to \$150 for a plaque and proclamation to honor a member of the fire company. Mayor Kepner spoke with Solicitor Mooney, who stated that this would be permissible, provided Council approves the expense.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize \$150 to be spent on the plaque. Seconded by Mr. Gruber. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works Report – Foreman Zimmerman

Foreman Zimmerman attended the utility meeting regarding Penndot's Route 61 project with Mr. Smith. It was noted that two fire hydrants need to be moved back 11'. Mr. Smith notes that Penndot will be pay 75% of the costs, not the full 100%, as the Borough is in the state's right of way. Council, Foreman Zimmerman and Mr. Smith discuss the right of way.

Mr. Smith is asked to request a copy of the survey from Penndot's engineer.

Foreman Zimmerman, Mr. Dietrich and Herb Spencer reviewed the three-day process for the well #1 treatment. Mr. Spencer will be onsite for the 3rd day of the procedure.

Foreman Zimmerman obtained pricing from Duke's Root Control, to include the lines that were in the 2016 televising project, along with their annual routine maintenance. The planned maintenance will be \$3,500. With the additional work included, the cost will be close to \$10,800. Foreman Zimmerman and Council discuss the pricing and the lines.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Duke's Root Control to perform the annual maintenance necessary for the warranty and to perform an additional amount of approximately 5000', not to exceed \$11,000. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Foreman Zimmerman spoke with a representative from The Lighthouse Church, who will be performing a community outreach project in the area in August. Foreman Zimmerman asks that he be notified if anyone is aware of an individual or family in need that desires to have work completed, such as a porch repair. If there is no residential need, they may be able to assist with work at the park or pool.

Water and Wastewater Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich

He and Mr. Mohn completed a flagger training course. Their certification is valid for three years. Mr. Dietrich met with Suburban Lab to examine the 2017 water system sampling schedule from DEP, to be certain all required testing was scheduled. President Kline has been working on some valve control issues at the plant. All routine maintenance was kept up to date, with filters being rinsed and backwashed.

In February, Mr. Dietrich met with Ms. Brenner to gather information for the Chapter 94 Report. They also discussed 5 different sludge thickening machines. Sludge test samples have been ordered, but not yet sent out. Penn Power was on site to perform the semi-annual servicing of the plant generator. They once again recommended replacing the belts, batteries and air filter for a cost of \$1,615.

There was excessive foaming in the VLRs throughout February. As such, the tanks were rotated as needed. The VLR blowers were turned off, which aided in reducing the foaming. On March 24, Mr. Dietrich and Ms. Brenner have a meeting scheduled at Wolfe Dye & Bleach with the plant engineer, for a full walk-through to observe and evaluate their facilities.

Blooming Glen is honoring their 2016 pricing for the blower room roof repairs. JP Smith provided a verbal estimate of approximately \$12,000. DESCCO has yet to provide a firm quote.

Property/Streets/Sanitation Committee – Mr. Zimmerman

Mr. Zimmerman, Foreman Zimmerman and Mr. Smith will work together regarding the bid package for the 2017 road work.

Mayor Kepner asks if the road work could be completed after the Children's Fair, so as not to disrupt the parade route. As part of the bid package, the Main St. road work is not to begin until after the Fair.

Sewer Committee – Mr. Wertz

He and Mr. Gruber will be attending the meeting with PTMA at Barley Snyder.

Water Committee – President Kline

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adopt Ordinance #445-2017 for the water tapping fee. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

Parks/Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to appoint Nate Wiles to the Shoemakersville Recreation Board for a 5-year term. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Mayor Kepner asks if Mr. Wiles is a Borough resident, with President Kline stating that he lives on Main St. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Kepner asks if there are any changes with this year's Children's Fair, with Ms. Kennedy-Kline stating there are no major changes.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to appoint Larry Sundberg to the Zoning Hearing Board for a 5-year term. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Mayor Kepner states a third member must still be appointed to have a complete board. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to waive the formal land development plan requirements to allow the fire company to submit a sketch plan for record, provided the plan adheres to the zoning ordinance requirements. Seconded by Mr. Gruber. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee Relations – President Kline

Solicitor Mooney requests an executive session.

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Mr. Wertz

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the minutes for February 21, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to clarify that Michael Schwenk is being hired as an independent contractor, to address zoning, code enforcement and property maintenance code issues. Solicitor Mooney recommends that a professional services contract be signed. Mr. Wertz notes that the hiring will be subject to an acceptable written contract. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried by a vote of 4 yes to 1 no, with Mr. Gruber voting opposed.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the bills payable for March 7, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adopt Ordinance #446-2017 to participate in the Berks Co. MS4 Steering Committee. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adopt Resolution 104-2017 authorizing the President, Vice President and/or Treasurer to sign checks. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Solicitor Mooney notes that only 2 of the 3 signers are needed. Motion is amended to state that 2 of the 3 signatures are needed for approval. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

The Board recessed into executive session at 8:57 p.m. to discuss personnel. Regular session reconvened at 9:14 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried by a vote of 4 yes to 1 no, with Mr. Wertz voting opposed. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted -Melissa Wagner -Secretary/Treasurer