

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Shoemakersville Borough**

**July 11, 2017**

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

**In attendance:** Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright – Vice President, Joseph Wertz, Jr. Tara Kennedy-Kline, Clark Zimmerman, Richard Kepner – Mayor, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Brad Smith – Engineer, Gary Noecker - Code Enforcement and Zoning and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting were Paul Gruber and John Leshner.

**Public Comment**

**Robert & Vernie Noecker (1043 Water St.):** Notes of potholes to be addressed on Apple Ln. and also on 6<sup>th</sup> St., in front of the Holly House.

**Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.):** States there are potholes at the intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> & Reber Sts. Mr. Geschwindt asks for the results of the water report, with Ms. Wagner stating Suburban tested the water at the Kwik Shoppe and the sewer plant on June 1 and that all results met the necessary requirements.

**Thomas Furillo (Furillo Trucking):** Did not sign in. Speaks later in the meeting.

**Code Enforcement – Mr. Noecker**

- **Permits:** Three permits were issued in June.
- **Enforcement:** One vehicle with no registration was towed. The owners of 372 Main St. were sent a letter and permit applications for the PVC above ground pool that was installed. The installed a dog kennel fence around the pool. Mr. Noecker further notes that those same property owners had a controlled burn, which did not include a grate over the fire, several days ago. The fire chief was contacted but did not respond.
- **Schwenk Report:** Mr. Noecker references Mr. Schwenk's question on sending non-traffic citations to 302 Main St., 17 Main St. and 401 Pine St.

Council and Mr. Noecker discuss the property at 17 Main St. Solicitor Mooney states the borough will need to go to court to properly condemn the property as unfit and unsanitary. He believes the owner is deceased, but that there is an heir. **President Kline will forward documentation and a timeline of events to Solicitor Mooney.** Council discusses having the borough cut the grass and remove the vehicles from the property, then filing a lien against the property for the expense. Ms. Kennedy-Kline and Solicitor Mooney discuss non-traffic citations and associated fines. Solicitor Mooney states that the borough could cut the grass, tear down the house, etc, and could place that lien against the property. The borough could execute on the judgment. The lien would attach to the property and the borough could take ownership, unless someone would outbid on the judgment. Ms. Wagner is to contact Karen Hamm, to determine if taxes have been paid on the property.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize borough staff to cut the grass, remove the vehicles and any external debris from 17 Main St. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to authorize Michael Schwenk to issue non-traffic citations for violations as necessary. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Ms. Kennedy-Kline asks if this is to include the addresses on Mr. Schwenk's report, with Vice President Botwright stating it was for any citations in general. Mayor Kepner asks if the borough can still cite the owner if the borough cleans the property, with Solicitor Mooney stating they can be cited for each occurrence. Motion carried unanimously.

Foreman Zimmerman is asked to either take off or tack on any loose siding on the 17 Main St. property, and to take pictures and document any action taken. Foreman Zimmerman notes that a dumpster would be required to clean up the back of the property before grass and weeds could effectively be addressed. He plans to use the John Deere to load the dumpster. Council discusses the matter, with Mr. Wertz noting that a backhoe could be called in to assist in the clean up.

### **Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney**

- **Wolfe Dye & Bleach:** Working with Ms. Brenner on the pretreatment ordinance, which should be ready for the July workshop meeting.
- **Pool Property:** Solicitor Mooney is completing the agreement of sale.
- **Zoning Ordinance:** Solicitor Mooney recommends including the growing, processing and dispensing of medical marijuana in the ordinance, as it currently does not allow anywhere in the borough for this to take place.

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

- **MS4:** ARRO has forwarded the borough copies of the Pollution Reduction Plan for public comment. An ad was placed in the Reading Eagle, with the public meeting to discuss the plan and accept public comments being scheduled for the August 1 monthly meeting.
- **NPDES Renewal:** The application is completed and PADEP's technical review has begun. With the NPDES renewal process, the potential exists for PADEP and/or DRBC to impose more stringent limits and/or additional parameters on the borough's wastewater plant effluent discharge. Additional monitoring/testing and/or future facility improvements/upgrades may be necessary in order to comply with the renewed permit. Vice President Botwright asks if the higher requirements may relate to Wolfe Dye & Bleach, with Mr. Smith stating that he is unsure what the requirements are just yet.
- **2017 Road Project:** Advertising will take place with an anticipated bid award at the August meeting.
- **HASD Elementary School & Parking Lot:** The borough's counteroffer of providing either \$4,500 or an exemption for the ramp at Peach & 4<sup>th</sup> Sts. was sent to the HASD's architect. The school has responded by asking that the original offer of \$662.00 be accepted. Mayor Kepner asks if the current situation meets the current ADA regulations, with Mr. Smith noting it is not current, as the standards have changed. Council and Solicitor Mooney discuss the situation, with President Kline suggesting that a meeting be set up with the school superintendent to discuss the options. Mr. Wertz offers to attend the meeting.

- **Penndot Route 61 Project:** Mr. Smith shows the drainage plans for the Penndot project along Route 61 and briefly reviews what will occur, noting discharge to Pigeon Creek, sumped inlets crossing the road and a detention basin with an impervious liner, on the opposite side of Sheetz. All of this is currently being proposed as Penndot maintained, by their consultant.
- **Utility Relocation Letter & Resolution:** The letter and resolution will provide the borough 75% of the cost to relocate utilities, similar to what occurred on Miller St.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize the Council President and Borough Secretary to sign the resolution and letter of offer to Penndot for 75% reimbursement. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Secretary's Report/Correspondence**

The pension plan audit is currently underway and should be completed next week. RKL has sent the 2016 tax collector's audit report. Ms. Wagner requests to open the office at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 16.

### **Mayor's Report – Mayor Kepner**

Mayor Kepner asks if people had been given authorization to park their vehicles on the skate park. Ms. Kennedy-Kline states that Fresh Life was given permission to park their van on the skate park, to unload their equipment for events. Mayor Kepner asks if a railing would be installed on the ramp, with Ms. Kennedy-Kline stating a ramp could not be installed, but that the contractor is looking at alternative safety measures.

Mayor Kepner asks what changes are being planned with the pool renovations. Vice President Botwright states the pool will need to be resurfaced. Based on the final bids budgeted, slides, a new diving board and potentially a climbing wall is to be installed. Even if the project cannot start on August 7, there are other things that can be done, such as adding a bathhouse and moving the sewer line. Mayor Kepner asks if any thought was given to increasing the parking lot at the pool by using some of the skate park. Vice President Botwright states that additional pavement cannot be added because of the impervious surface issues. People can currently park at the skate park, along the fence at the pool and behind the pool.

### **Public Works Report – Foreman Zimmerman**

Foreman Zimmerman requests up to \$500 to purchase 3 coil springs for the park to keep on hand, as the last one has been utilized. 1-2 springs are replaced each year.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize up to \$500 to replace 3 coil springs for the park equipment. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

Markers will be placed on the boundary line near the sale of the pool property, once all of the paperwork is addressed.

Foreman Zimmerman states that well #1 is scheduled to be back on line next week, although he has been exercising the well.

The replacement of the hydrant at Noble Ave. & Chestnut St. has been delayed, as the borough needed to update information in Penndot's system as to who may prepare paperwork for projects on state owned roads. Foreman Zimmerman plans on all of the work being completed through the sidewalk, but would like to file the paperwork in preparation for the possibility of needing to open the street. One lane would need to be shut down and traffic would be detoured down Chestnut St.

Foreman Zimmerman states the temporary parking in the 200 block of Main St. is going well and requests to have this become permanent.

**Property/Streets/Sanitation Committee – Mr. Zimmerman**

\*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to authorize **Solicitor Mooney to draft an RFP for the trash and recycling contracts**. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Solicitor Mooney asks if Council is happy with the current contract or if changes are requested. Council and none of the visitors present have any issues. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Zimmerman states the borough crew has been moving forward with potholes.

Mr. Furillo references the property at 17 Main St., stating that titles would be needed to remove the vehicles, under the theft prevention act. He further notes the borough could also abandon the vehicles and remove them at will. Mayor Kepner states the towing company could apply for salvage titles.

Foreman Zimmerman contacted Perry Township and asked them to forward a message to Mr. McKinney regarding the pothole located at the north end of Main St., near PTMA's manhole. Temporary fill cannot be used, as it would block access to the manhole.

**Sewer Committee – Mr. Wertz**

PTMA provided a highlighted list of their concerns, which will be forwarded to Council.

Mr. Wertz notes that Mr. Dietrich was pleased with the work completed by Cryts. Mr. Dietrich has been authorized to purchase parts for the belt press. Digester #1 was nearly empty, so the valves can be replaced.

**Water Committee – President Kline**

Well #1 will be online next week.

**Foreman Zimmerman is asked to contact David Bonkovich**, to perform a leak survey on the streets included in the road project.

Foreman Zimmerman notes of the sinkhole located on Franklin St. where Wexcon is performing the interceptor work for PTMA. Mr. McKinney was contacted, who stated that Wexcon would remedy the situation, which they have not yet done. Foreman Zimmerman put patching in the hole.

**Parks/Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline**

\*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to hire Wyatt Conrad to work in the snack bar at a rate of \$7.25/hr. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

The annual pool party will be held on Wednesday, July 26 from 7-10 pm, at a cost of \$5 per person.

Vice President Botwright notes the hot water heater at the pool is no longer working.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to purchase a tankless electric hot water heater for the pool at a cost not to exceed \$200. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Mr. Zimmerman asks if the amount will be enough, with Vice President Botwright stating the heater is on demand. Motion carried unanimously.

**Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz**

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the B&X annexation plan, conditional upon the applicant following the requests made in ARRO's June 28 letter. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Council is to provide feedback on the zoning ordinance updates for the July workshop meeting.

**Employee Relations – President Kline – no report**

**Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright**

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for June 20, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for July 11, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried by a vote of 4 yes to 1 abstain, with Vice President Botwright abstaining.

**New Business**

Mayor Kepner would like Council to authorize Solicitor Mooney to update the no parking ordinance to include the 200 block of Main St.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Solicitor Mooney to update the no parking ordinance to make permanent the temporary no parking in the 200 block of Main St. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

Foreman Zimmerman will provide the information to Solicitor Mooney.

**Old Business**

President Kline notes that the radar signs are on backorder and will report a delivery date once he receives an update.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer