

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Shoemakersville Borough**

**January 2, 2018**

Mayor Remp called the reorganization meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the St. Luke's Church Hall, 5<sup>th</sup> & Franklin Sts, Shoemakersville, PA at 7:04 p.m.

**In attendance:** Chris Kline, Amy Botwright, Tara Kennedy-Kline, John Leshner, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Clark Zimmerman, Bradley Smith - Engineer, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Dustin Remp – Mayor, Gary Noecker – Code Enforcement Officer and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Mayor Remp calls for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Remp opens the floor for nominations for President of Council.

Mr. Leshner nominates Chris Kline for President of Council. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Vote taken for President of Council, with all 6 members voting yes for Mr. Kline.

Mr. Kline accepts the position of President of Council.

Mayor Remp opens the floor for nominations for Vice President of Council.

President Kline nominates Amy Botwright for Vice President of Council. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Vote taken for Vice President of Council, with all 6 members voting yes for Ms. Botwright.

Ms. Botwright accepts the position of Vice President of Council.

Mayor Remp turns the meeting over to President Kline.

President Kline asks if any residents present would like to be considered for the vacant seat on Council. Steve Gilbert raises his hand.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to appoint Steve Gilbert to the Shoemakersville Borough Council, until the next municipal election. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Once Mr. Gilbert has the affidavit of residency notarized, he can be sworn in by Mayor Remp and officially begin serving on Council.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to appoint the Solicitor, Sewer Engineer, Borough Engineer, Sewer Enforcement Officer, Auditor, Actuary, Vacancy Board Chairperson, Secretary/Treasurer and Right-to-Know Officer, Code Enforcement Officer/Zoning Officer, Building Code Official, Surveyor, Fire Marshal, Emergency Management Coordinator, Tax Collection Committee Representative, President Pro Tem, Animal Control, the Municipal Authority, the Recreation Board and the Zoning Hearing Board as per the list provided. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Vice President Botwright states they would be appointed until such time as Council would choose to make a change. President Kline clarifies the list to note that Ms. Kennedy-Kline is still an active member of the Recreation Board through 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Public Comment**

**Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.):** Asks when the garbage will be picked up, with President Kline stating pick-up day will be Wednesday, due to Monday's holiday. When a holiday precedes the pick-up day, both trash and recycling will be delayed one day.

Mr. Geschwindt asks for the status of the water report, with Ms. Wagner stating Suburban Labs tested the water on December 7 at the Kwik Shoppe and the sewer plant and that all results met the necessary requirements. President Kline asks if he is receiving the Code Red messages, as some residents are not. Mr. Geschwindt has been receiving the messages.

**Randy Helsman (Always Safe Sidewalks):** Per Mr. Wertz's request, he is present to discuss his firm's specialty in sidewalk repairs. Mr. Wertz's hope is that the firm could process batch sidewalk repair work and save residents money. Precision Concrete Cutting uses the sawcut method to repair trip hazards up to a 2" maximum. Any offset up to ¼" is deemed ADA acceptable. They perform minor repairs, but would subcontract out any replacement work. The average repair time is 30 minutes per trip hazard. Council and Mr. Helsman discuss the repairs and the associated costs. Council discusses whether or not the borough could conduct business directly with the company. Their firm is a part of the Keystone Purchasing Network. If the borough were to join that group, the borough could use their bid and no additional bids would need to be obtained. Solicitor Mooney would like to review the cooperative's formation documents.

An assessment could be performed, to note which sidewalks could be repaired. In towns of similar population and size, the cost per trip hazard ranged from \$96.39 to \$115.77 with costs varying on the condition of the sidewalk. Ms. Kennedy-Kline notes of her concern regarding the minimum depth of the sidewalk that would need to remain after the repair. Ms. Kennedy-Kline asks if they require a minimum amount of work before they would begin, with Mr. Helsman noting they typically mobilize at the repair costs of \$5,000/day. Solicitor Mooney states that the borough has secondary liability for every sidewalk within the borough.

## **Code Enforcement – Mr. Noecker**

- **Sidewalks:** The zoning ordinance does not allow for trees to be located between the curb and the sidewalk. Mr. Noecker and Council discuss that the trees could be a cause for some of the needed sidewalk repairs, but if the tree were in place before the ordinance, it would be considered a pre-existing non-conformity. The tree would be the homeowner's responsibility. President Kline states that the violation notice sent to residents could point out that the tree could be the cause of the needed repair.
- **Enforcement:** Mr. Noecker will be sending an open burn notice to residents on Main St. They have also placed fireworks in the burn, causing the PA State Police to be called.
- **17 Main St.:** Mr. Noecker and Council discuss the status of the property. Even though there is an identified mortgage holder, Solicitor Mooney states the borough could still proceed with the condemnation process. Council and Solicitor Mooney discuss the foreclosure process and the costs that could be recuperated through a lien. Ms. Wagner states that the firm who will take ownership after the foreclosure has requested an invoice for any expenses related to the upkeep of the property. Foreman Zimmerman and Ms. Wagner will draft and send the invoice.

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

- **Pod/Dumpster Ordinance:** Submits a copy for **Council's review**.

- **Wolfe Contract:** For **Council's review**, Solicitor Mooney submits the contract between ARRO and the borough, so that ARRO can provide consulting services to Wolfe Dye & Bleach.
- **Pre-Treatment Ordinance:** The ordinance will be completed shortly.
- **PTMA Interceptor:** **President Kline will forward Solicitor Mooney the response he received from PTMA**, regarding the payment the borough sent for the interceptor project. Funds were withheld, due to labor charges.
- **Core 5:** The developer is still interested in water capacity through the borough.

**Engineer's Report – Mr. Smith – report will remain on file in office**

- **Pool Renovation:** Rebar is finished and the pool walls have been shot as of December 12, 2017. The concrete was covered adequately to protect it from the cold weather. The project is currently on hold until the weather improves. An extension of time was obtained with ARRO assistance.
- **NPDES Renewal:** A copy of the final NPDES permit was delivered to the Borough on December 15, 2017. The permit expires on December 31, 2022. The Borough will have to implement the following:
  - ✓ Borough must develop and submit a Pollutant Monitoring Plan for PCB's within 12 months of the effective date of the new permit.
  - ✓ Once approved, the Borough must implement the plan within 60 days of approval.
  - ✓ Once approved, the Borough must submit an annual report to PADEP and DRBC.

Mr. Wertz asks Mr. Smith to submit comments on the **NPDES permit requirements, which Mr. Smith will forward to Council.**

- **Wolfe Dye & Bleach:** Color and TDS results continue to be very high coming from Wolfe, causing WWTP effluent results to be high. Now that the new NPDES permit has been issued, the WWTP also has an effluent color limit of 200 units. ARRO recommends adopting the draft pretreatment ordinance and entering into the technical assistance program with Wolfe as soon as possible.
- **Small Project Grant:** ARRO drafted a narrative and developed a preliminary cost estimate for the grant application. ARRO recommends the Borough schedule a meeting with State Representative Knowles or Senator Argall to visit the site and discuss the project. ARRO can assist in scheduling the meeting. Deadline for the application is February 28.
- **Multimodal Transportation Grant:** A grant has been awarded to the Borough for the beam repair and painting of the Main St. Bridge over the Pigeon Creek. ARRO is preparing a PSA for the engineering.
- **Miller Street:** A contract has been awarded by Penndot to Kinsely Construction Inc. Total price for the bridgework is \$3,695,633. Penndot scheduled a utility meeting for January 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the bridge. Anticipated start of construction is March 2018. The December 15 preconstruction meeting focused on Penndot's explanation of their terms to the

contractor. **Mr. Smith will forward the meeting minutes to Council.** Mr. Smith recommends having ARRO on site at least part-time, with borough staff filing in the remaining time, when work is being completed on the borough's water & sewer facilities. The borough must be able to certify the construction met the necessary specifications, otherwise, the borough would lose the matching grant. A portion of ARRO's fee is reimbursable from the state.

- **Bridge on Main Street:** PennDOT has approved the report and the Borough can now proceed with the designated repairs to the abutments and expansion joint. ARRO can assist as needed. Council is in favor of Mr. Smith's recommendation to incorporate this work with the Multimodal Grant.
- **Solids Handling:** ARRO has received information that some of the proposed pilot test units are not available until spring 2018. The remaining pilot tests for the study will be scheduled in the spring of 2018, pending equipment availability.
- **Clarifier #2 Repairs:** Blooming Glen was to complete the majority of the clarifier repairs prior to the New Year, however due to the weather, they are currently holding off on the work.
- **ARRO Staff:** Ms. Brenner will be taking maternity leave at the end of next week.

#### **Secretary's Report/Correspondence – Ms. Wagner**

For January and February, the office will be closing at 4:15 p.m.

#### **Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp**

Mayor Remp thanks the residents for their support and notes of his intent to be a hands on mayor and to have an open line of communication with the residents.

#### **Public Works Report**

President Kline states the staff is currently on site repairing a water main break at 9<sup>th</sup> St. & Apple Ln., and that he commends their efforts in this cold weather.

#### **New Business**

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for December 5 & 19, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Vice President Botwright amends the motion to reflect minutes for December 5 only. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for January 2, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills for ratification for December 19, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve payment application #3 for the pool renovation project, in the amount of \$353,575. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Mr. Wertz is surprised that the project is that far along, with Vice President Botwright stating the DCNR extension was not obtained when the pool was being shot, so the project was pushed along. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve payment to Kline's, at a cost not to exceed \$1,500 to remove grease and scum at the wastewater treatment plant. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the \$3,861.55 purchase of an influent flow meter from Hach. The item was on ARRO's repair list and was budgeted for by Mr. Dietrich for 2018. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

Mr. Zimmerman states that a lien should be placed against the laundry mat from the date of the last lien. Council and Solicitor Mooney discuss the matter, with Solicitor Mooney stating the owner withdrew his lawsuit against the borough.

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 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner  
Secretary/Treasurer