

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

**January 4, 2016**

Mayor Kepner 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 7:00 p.m.

**In attendance:** Clark Zimmerman, John Leshner, Amy Botwright, Chris Kline, Paul Gruber, Tara Kennedy-Kline, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Michael Sassaman - Engineer, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Richard Kepner – Mayor, Steve Savarese – Public Works Supervisor, Michael Dietrich – Wastewater/Water Plant Operator, Gary Noecker – Code Enforcement Officer and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Mayor Kepner swears in the 4 elected members of Council.

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

Ms. Botwright nominates Chris Kline for President of Council. Seconded by Mr. Wertz.  
Mr. Zimmerman nominates Amy Botwright for President.

Nominations for President of Council are closed.

Roll call vote taken for President of Council, with 6 members voting yes and Mr. Zimmerman voting no.

Mr. Kline accepts the position of President of Council.

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

Mr. Wertz nominates Amy Botwright for Vice President of Council. No other nominations.  
Nominations for Vice President of Council are closed.

Roll call vote taken for Vice President of Council, with all members voting yes for Amy Botwright.

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

Mayor Kepner turns the meeting over to President Kline.

\*A motion is made by President Kline to make the following appointments for 2016:

Solicitor: Barley Snyder – Keith Mooney, Sewer Engineer, Borough Engineer & Sewer Enforcement: ARRO Consulting, Auditor: Reinsel Kuntz & Leshner, LLC, Vacancy Board Chairperson: John Santilli, Secretary/Treasurer and Right-to-Know Officer: Melissa Wagner, Code Enforcement Officer/Zoning Officer: Gary Noecker, Code Enforcement Officer: Steve Savarese, Building Code Official: Building Inspection Underwriters of PA, Surveyor: E. R. Felty, Fire Marshal: Rusty Wagner, Tax Collection Committee Representative: Amy Botwright, President Pro Tem: Joseph Wertz, Jr., Animal Control: Animal Rescue League, Municipal Authority: John Santilli for a 1 year term and Recreation Board all for 5 year terms: Briane Botwright, Shilpa Moser, Jennifer Adams and Kristi Hartman. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Public Comment**

**David King (16515 Pottsville Pike):** Present to discuss the water request for his project at Route 61 and Zion's Church Rd. The plans for the project will be submitted to Perry Township. He notes that things are moving forward with placement of a traffic light at Zweizig Rd. Mr. Wertz states that no action regarding water has been taken by the borough, but that a meeting will be scheduled with PTMA to renegotiate the water agreement, so that water will be properly allocated. Solicitor Mooney and Mr. Wertz state that as of today, the borough is overcommitted, with Vice President Botwright noting this is based on projects that are unfulfilled in Perry Township. Solicitor Mooney states the Mr. Bell has paid for water and it is his capacity, unless he sells it back to PTMA. There is discussion on the project, water allotment and expanding the water capacity. **Mr. Wertz will follow-up with Mr. King on the matter.**

## **Code Enforcement – Mr. Noecker**

- **No Parking Signs:** Mr. Noecker would like to know if any progress has been made with replacing the missing sign on the 300 block of Park St. Vice President Botwright states that if the street is listed in the ordinance, then the sign should be replaced.
- **School Signs:** Mr. Noecker states that the sign information was included in the plans that were approved by Council. It was missed in the plans that the signs violated the borough's 75' angle sight view. **President Kline would like the plans to be reviewed.**

## **Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney – no report**

### **Engineer's Report – Mr. Sassaman**

- **PTMA Interceptor:** ARRO met with Witman Engineers & Consultants to discuss the interceptor. WEC will be looking into the viability of combining the interceptor along Second St. ARRO asked about connecting the borough's sewer to the PTMA interceptor at Pine St. This was acceptable to WEC and they would put in a stub for the borough, if requested.

ARRO estimates the cost of construction to connect to the proposed PTMA interceptor would be \$36,500.

A spreadsheet showing capacities within the Pigeon Creek Interceptors was discussed. ARRO made an assumption that the sewer conveyed flow to the plant based on drainage area, as actual flows were not available.

- **Well #1 Treatment:** ARRO contacted two vendors about using their technology to treat the water from the well to remove iron and manganese. A site visit was conducted today.
- **Multimodal Transportation Grant:** President Kline questions whether or not the borough's grant application was submitted, as he did not find it listed on the website. **Vice President Botwright will review the website list as well. Mr. Smith will also be asked to review the information.**
- **Bridge on Main St.:** Penndot has approved the report and the borough can proceed with the designated repairs to the abutments and expansion joint. The estimate for repairs is \$7,771.

- **Revised Total Coliform Rule:** Effective April 1, 2016, the borough will need to comply with the RTCR for the EPA. The borough will be receiving a letter from PADEP requesting the submission of the sampling plan within 30 days of receipt of the letter.
- **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System:** The borough will be required to obtain an NPDES permit for storm water by 2018. A representative from the Berks County Planning Commission will be present at the February workshop meeting to provide an overview of the program.

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

Ms. Wagner requests to close the office at noon on Monday, January 18.

**Mayor's Report – Mayor Kepner**

Mayor Kepner has spoken with Jarrod Emes, who stated that the issues with the Code Red System have been resolved. **Ms. Wagner is asked to cross reference the borough's resident list with those listed in the Code Red System, to determine which residents may not be in the system yet.**

**Public Works Report – Mr. Savarese**

Mr. Leshner asks **Mr. Savarese to look into the drainage issue at the end of the borough office driveway.** Mr. Leshner believes that a pipe was to have been installed to aid in drainage. Mr. Zimmerman and President Kline state that a swale may have been dug instead of the pipe installation. Council discusses the drainage issue in the area.

Vice President Botwright asks Mr. Savarese about the condition of the garage roof, with him stating repairs have been made, but that the roof is still leaking, although he is unsure where the leaks are originating from.

**Water/Wastewater Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich**

Mr. Dietrich submitted the necessary information for the water reporting violation letter from December. He noticed that several reports were overdue and is halfway through completing those reports. The annual DRBC report will be worked on next week.

When the well motor and pump for well 4 were replaced, there was initial a vibration for the first day or two, but things are now running well.

**Mr. Dietrich is given permission to obtain pricing to have the meters calibrated at the water plant and all of the wells.**

Employees met with Chris Wilson from Exeter Supply to review the Seaquest addition process. Mr. Wertz provides the operating permit that was received in the mail.

For the wastewater plant, Mr. Dietrich added a block of grease fighting material to the wet will and is awaiting any results, such as a general reduction or noticeable breakdown of grease in the tanks. The December DMR was submitted with no issues.

**Mr. Wertz asks Mr. Dietrich to obtain pricing to have the influent valve repaired.** Mr. Dietrich believes the issue is stripped gears in the automatic gate valve that opens and feeds the VLR.

## **New Business**

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for December 1 and 15, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for January 4, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wertz asks **Solicitor Mooney to move forward with drafting an ordinance to enact the most recent property maintenance code, which would be the 2012 version.**

Council briefly discusses the international fire code, noting this will be placed on the agenda for the workshop meeting.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Penn Power to perform the yearly inspection of the generators at the sewer plant, for the amount of \$735. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to exonerate three individuals that have moved, from the 2015 per capita tax. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Kepner asks if the 2016 meeting schedule has been set, with Vice President Botwright stating the list has been set and advertised.

Mayor Kepner and Council discuss the list of letters sent by the Code Enforcement Officers. Mr. Wertz notes that the ordinances were reviewed and that there is no requirement to have a 60 day waiting period to have any violation addressed and that discretion may be used to set the deadline date.

## **Old Business**

Mr. Leshar asks when online bill pay will be accessible on the borough website. Vice President Botwright states this process will take some time, as the borough will need to set up a merchant account and a machine to accept the payments in the office. President Kline notes that Ms. Kennedy-Kline has experience with merchant accounts and may be able to assist, if needed.

Mayor Kepner asks if a Council member was appointed to the Recreation Board, with President Kline stating a member was not. **Ms. Wagner is to review the ordinance, to determine if a Council member is required to be a Recreation Board member as well.**

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Leshar to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner  
Secretary/Treasurer