

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Shoemakersville Borough**

**August 2, 2016**

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, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Clark Zimmerman, Paul Gruber, Richard Kepner – Mayor, Chad Zimmerman – Public Works Foreman, Mike Dietrich – Plant Operations, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Brad Smith – Engineer and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting were Amy Botwright – Vice President, Tara Kennedy-Kline, John Leshner and Gary Noecker - Code Enforcement.

**Public Comment**

**Edwin Stock (Hamburg Commerce Park):** Represents King's Development Group, who is requesting water for their development on Route 61. They are asking to start with 8,000 gallons and by the end of the project they would need 18,000-20,000 gallons.

**Jerry Blecker (Hamburg Commerce Park):** The group is at a critical point in their project. The plans have been reviewed by both Mr. Brody and Windsor Twp. Preliminary/final approval will not be granted until an intent to serve letter for water is received. Mr. Blecker states they would be willing to pay the costs to place well #1 back online. Mr. Wertz discusses the well, with Mr. Smith stating that he will soon be submitting a permit application to DEP for the well. The design is almost complete and the paperwork will then be submitted to DEP, in order to obtain the water permit to complete the work. Mr. Smith discusses the water agreement, noting that any capacity requested would need to be sold to PTMA first, and that at this time, the agreement has all water allocated to other projects. Mr. Blecker discusses the communications he has had with Mr. Koch. President Kline notes that there has been no response from PTMA regarding their availability of capacity. Discussion takes place on the contracts, citing gallons/capacity vs. specific developments. There is further discussion on the water line that would need to be installed for the project.

**Jay King (Hamburg Commerce Park):** States the project could go with a private water system, but that he would prefer to support the community and use the local system. Solicitor Mooney states he will draft an agreement and forward it to Mr. Koch for review. Discussion takes place on the Bell property and the agreements between Mr. Bell and PTMA. Solicitor Mooney suggests crafting a new agreement that captures the commitments that are already made. Then moving forward, draft agreements could cite capacity and perhaps reservation fees. He suggests that **the borough submit a right to know request for any and all water capacity agreements between PTMA, Eugene Bell or any related parties.**

**Code Enforcement – Mr. Noecker – not present**

**Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney**

- **Sewer Agreement:** Solicitor Mooney and Mr. Smith discuss the agreement, with Mr. Smith noting that manhole 14 is the identifier for the outstanding issue. Mr. Wertz believes there are borough lines that connect into the 2<sup>nd</sup> St. line, which would now become PTMA's 2<sup>nd</sup> St. line. He would like the borough to be able to have the ability to remake those connections. Council discusses which borough homes would be included in the connections. Mr. Smith states a list of affected homes and businesses is being compiled. He will be drafting a list of direct connections that will connect

directly to their interceptor and indirect connections that would flow into them via the borough manholes. All parties discuss the engineering inspections of the interceptor project. Mr. Smith feels inspections would be warranted when PTMA would be in the borough's right of way and at the direct and indirect connections. President Kline would like photo documentation.

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

- **Sewer Televising:** ARRO has sent a Notice of Award to Berks Sewer & Drain Services. The borough should contact Berks when ground water levels are sufficient to detect I/I.
- **Miller St.:** The next milestone will be for the borough to sign and return an agreement with Penndot by September 26, 2016.
- **Well #1 Treatment:** ARRO is finalizing the design for the PADEP permit application
- **MS4:** The borough will need to apply for an NPDES permit for stormwater discharge by September 16, 2017. ARRO is preparing a waiver application from the PCB's requirements for the Schuylkill River, which is due by December 31, 2016.
- **Multimodal Transportation Grant:** ARRO has completed the submission for the 2017 grant. The borough may wish to consider proceeding with the preliminary engineering this year, to improve the scoring for next year's application. Mr. Wertz will solicit support from state representatives.

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

The office will be closed from August 8-12 and August 19.

**Mayor's Report – Mayor Kepner**

Senator Argall will be having a meeting concerning blight, on Wed. August 31 at 6:00 p.m. at the Penn State Schuylkill Campus.

**Public Works Report – Chad Zimmerman**

Quotes from Eshbach: \$9,550 Terry Derr: \$1,200 John Troxel: \$1,200 and R.D. Contracting: \$1,800 were submitted for the well #3 building repairs. Mr. Derr and Mr. Troxel do not have a proposed start day. R.D. can complete the project this month. Foreman Zimmerman states that the insurance adjuster had no issue with the last three quotes. The borough has a \$1,000 deductible. He further submits quotes for the replacement of the door. Council discusses the project cost and the time frame for which it should be completed.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to award the bid to R.D. Contracting for \$1,800 and to Berks Products for \$453.57 for the door, for a total of \$2,253.57. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Foreman Zimmerman would like to complete crack sealing this year, with the equipment being available the week of September 19. Last year's cost was around \$5,000. They can order the same amount and return whatever would not be used.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Foreman Zimmerman to secure the crack seal equipment and supplies, at a cost not to exceed \$5,500. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

Foreman Zimmerman states the six cameras were installed in the park and that he can show Council how to view the footage. Penndot plans to add the stop arrows and railroad crossing markings this week. He plans to have the crosswalks painted on Noble Ave. and Main St. in the near future. He asks if PTMA can be contacted regarding the meter that was replaced two weeks ago at the north end of Main St., as it does not appear to be hooked up to the box and cannot be read. **Solicitor Mooney will include this with his next communication to Mr. Koch.**

President Kline and Foreman Zimmerman discuss the park drains.

Mr. Gruber asks **Foreman Zimmerman to change his e-mail signature**, as it still lists a former employee's name. He also asks for clarification on Foreman Zimmerman's report, which listed that weeds were safely sprayed. Foreman Zimmerman replied that weeds were sprayed throughout town, but nothing near a drinking water source was sprayed.

### **Water and Wastewater Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich**

DEP sent their report on the water plant and system inspection that took place in June. Two primary items to address are to update the emergency contact information, which is taking place, and to tidy up the electrical conduit leading down well 6, along with better securing the well cap. A signed copy of the report will be returned to DEP this week. All monthly reports were completed. The DEP inspection also suggested having a back up water system operator on file. Mr. Smith noted that ARRO has water operators on staff.

Axiom checked the tapping sound occurring at sludge pump 2 and noticed that it was installed without grease fittings for the two main bearings. New bearings have been ordered. There were electrical issues with two of the four VLR aerator motor controls. New wiring was run to one, which is back in services. The second one may be a more costly repair.

Mr. Dietrich met with a representative from Blooming Glen, to review the blower room roof repairs, for which he provided an estimated. This individual is a former employee of Envirodyne and has been out to trouble shoot the belt press in the past. He may be able to provide more affordable pricing on parts that could be needed. Mr. Dietrich is waiting for a roof estimate from Eastern Environmental. President Kline would like Mr. Dietrich to follow up with all quotes, to confirm their intensions with the handrails.

Kelly Brenner will be overseeing sewer plant operations next week, while Mr. Dietrich is out of town. She will check in with Foreman Zimmerman on a daily basis and will stop by the plant on Tuesday, to confirm the samplers are set up and functioning. She will return on Wednesday morning, to prepare the samples for the lab. She has also been placed on the sewer plant call-out list.

President Kline, Mr. Smith and Mr. Dietrich discuss the use of a centrifuge at the plant, as well as having sludge studies performed. Mr. Smith discusses the meeting he attending concerning surfactant. The company is actually offering a process to put on the front end of the belt press that would use air pressure to blast the sludge and break it up. As the effect does not last long, the sludge could re-congeal into its old form if this is not placed at the front of the press. They claim a 3-5% boost to the solids. Council, Mr. Smith and Mr. Dietrich discuss the process. **ARRO can submit a proposal to outline the process of what needs to be done.**

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

Mr. Zimmerman confirms with President Kline that three specific blocks on Main St. are included in the financing. Mr. Zimmerman also notes of potholes to be addressed at Park & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sts.

### **Sewer Committee – Mr. Gruber**

Quotes are still being compiled for the blower room roof repairs.

### **Water Committee – President Kline**

President Kline met with Mr. Dietrich, Foreman Zimmerman and an engineer to review the computer system that does the data logging. The software stopped running as the computer had previously been upgraded to Windows 10 and the software is not compatible with that operating system. President Kline and Mr. Dietrich will meet to discuss spreadsheets that may have been affected. President Kline and Mr. Dietrich discuss how the plant is operating. There are still issues with the backwashing.

### **Parks/Recreation- President Kline**

Pricing to install 7 LED light fixtures in the park will cost \$4,200. The return on investment is 4-5 years. Council discusses the lighting & fixtures and whether or not the benefits would outweigh the costs.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to purchase and install the LED lights at a cost not to exceed \$4,200. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz**

Mr. Wertz reminds Council that he is looking for their feedback on the zoning ordinance changes by the workshop meeting. Mayor Kepner asks if the ordinance is to be updated to include medical marijuana. Solicitor Mooney states that it will need to be added to the industrial section of the ordinance, at least for the growers. There are strict guidelines, as well as an expensive application process to be involved.

Mr. Wertz feels that the 1” mark would be a good standard for sidewalks. He feels the change in elevation would be 1” in 6”.

### **Approvals/Finance/Pension – Mr. Wertz**

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the minutes for July 5 & 19, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the bills payable for August 2, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

### **New Business**

Ms. Wagner states that two applications have been received for the vacant crossing guard positions, with one application that has not yet been returned.

The 2015 tax collector audit has been completed and distributed to the Mayor and the finance committee. Additional copies are available at the office.

Mr. Gruber received a phone call regarding the 8’x10’ playhouse that Mr. Wertz constructed on his property for his daughter. He states that chicken wire is around the playhouse and that there are chickens inside. Mr. Wertz agrees with this, along with him receiving a letter from Mr. Noecker about 8 -10 months ago, stating that he was not in compliance with the zoning ordinance. The caller feels that Mr. Wertz is taking advantage of his position on Council, by not following the ordinance and that Council is setting a precedence. He feels the proposed pet ordinance appears to be persuaded by Council. While he is in agreement with the dog portion of the ordinance, he believes that farm animals should not be permitted. As a whole, he is against the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Gruber feels there is a conflict with President Kline working for Wiring by Wall. During a prior meeting, President Kline stated he was not currently working for the company, but after the meeting, he clarified to Mr. Gruber that he will be working for them in the future.

Mr. Gruber states that Mr. Wertz should be appointed as sewer committee chair, as he (Mr. Gruber) does not have the time to oversee the committee. Discussion on Council obligations takes place between Mr. Gruber and President Kline.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner  
Secretary/Treasurer