

CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough

October 4, 2016

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 7:04 p.m.

In attendance: Chris Kline- President, Amy Botwright – Vice President, Joseph Wertz, Jr., John Leshner, 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 Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting were Tara Kennedy-Kline and Paul Gruber.

Public Comment

Jerry Blecker (King's Water): Is inquiring on the status of the intent to serve letter for water. Solicitor Mooney and President Kline discuss the letter, with Solicitor Mooney stating the draft will be revised to include updated information provided by Mr. Blecker.

John Roland (King's Water): Would like to see the will serve letter move forward, so things with Perry Township can proceed. Solicitor Mooney will be updating the draft. President Kline states this will be addressed in the water committee.

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.): He would like to know if a meeting was held between when the September workshop was to be held and this evening's meeting, with President Kline stating no meeting was held. Mr. Geschwindt would like to know if the solicitor is typically present at the workshop meetings and if a fee is charged. Solicitor Mooney states that if the agenda warrants his attendance he is present; otherwise he does not attend, and yes, his hourly fee is charged. Mr. Smith is typically at the meetings, as they focus on public works issues. Mr. Geschwindt asks how minutes are taken for the workshop meetings, with Vice President Botwright stating Ms. Wagner transcribes the minutes from the recording. He asks why the workshop meetings are not held at the church, with Vice President Botwright stating that the church is not always available for the workshop.

Mr. Geschwindt is concerned with recent safety issues regarding the apartments in the 700 block of Main St. He feels Council should focus on bringing back a local police department.

Mr. Geschwindt asks for the results of the water test, with Ms. Wagner stating the water was tested on September 1 at the water plant and New Era Logistics and that all results met the necessary requirements. Mr. Geschwindt explains that he asks for the water results because in the 1990s, his wife became very ill, with the matter being traced to the water source.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Noecker

- **Permits:** Two permits were issued last month.
- **Enforcement:** One car was towed last month, along with 15 letters being sent out, with the majority being for the apartments in the 700 block of Main St. Mr. Noecker will be speaking with the property owner regarding the condition of the trash dumpster. Mr. Zimmerman states that at 925 Main St.,

there is an unlicensed vehicle and large branches in the back yard. Council and Mr. Noecker discuss the property in the 800 block of Main St. The property owner may still be working on vehicles at the location.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **King's Development:** Has completed a draft of the will serve letter.
- **Resolution for Small Water/Sewer Grant:** He has forwarded a draft of the resolution. They are still working on the final figure for the grant application.

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

- **Solids Handling PSA:** ARRO submitted a proposal to conduct a study on various technologies for dewatering solids at the wastewater plant.
- **PA Small Water and Sewer Grant:** ARRO is preparing a grant application for the headworks project at the sewer plant. The grant would be used to install a vertical bar screen in the existing bypass channel in the wet well. The grant provides up to 85% of the cost for a water or sewer project between \$30,000 and \$500,000. The current estimate for the project is \$356,000 of which the borough would be responsible for \$53,400.
- **Sewer Televising:** The borough should contact Berks Sewer & Drain Services when ground water levels are sufficient to detect I/I in the system.
- **Well #1 Treatment:** At a recent seminar, an alternative method for dealing with the elevated iron and manganese was presented. A laboratory test can be completed to determine if the iron and manganese are the results of bacteria in the well. It could then be possible to treat the well with chemicals to remove the bacteria. The cost will be less than \$10,000 as compared to the current filtering option with an estimate of over \$80,000. ARRO recommends the borough contact Herb Spencer of Shannon Chemicals. He is willing to assist with the Hach BART test.
- **PTMA Interceptor:** ARRO has been in contact with Witman Engineers about the concerns over the permit. Witman is preparing a response to the borough concerns. The borough should decide if they are willing to waive the aggregate backfill requirement as requested by Witman. The start of construction is now October 13.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence – Ms. Wagner

The borough office will be opening at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 12.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Kepner

Fire Prevention week is approaching. Halloween will take place on October 27 & 28 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Trunk or treat will take place on October 28 at the borough park.

Public Works Report – Foreman Zimmerman

The Perry Twp. meter is still not hooked up at the north end of town. **Ms. Wagner is instructed to generate an estimated quarterly bill for the meter, and to add an additional 10% to the bill.**

Foreman Zimmerman notes that the Yoder Dr. paving project will begin on the 19th.

According to borough ordinance, leaves are not to be purposefully placed into the gutters. Foreman Zimmerman would like to know if the leaves should be swept up or left in place. He is asked to remove all leaves in the gutters.

Foreman Zimmerman would like to rent a hot box, to fill in potholes before the weather changes.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to rent a hot box, for up to three days, at a total not to exceed \$1,250. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

President Kline and Foreman Zimmerman discuss pigging lines for wells 4 & 5. Mr. Bonkovich was contacted to identify the lines. Foreman Zimmerman marked from well 5. He plans to add a rough drawing to the prints. There is a 20' section that is at an unknown depth. Mr. Bonkovich will determine how far down the section is. As pigging is not an option, President Kline asks if there is an alternative. Foreman Zimmerman met with Moyer Well Drilling, who is looking into the matter.

Water and Wastewater Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich

The annual service agreement with Hach was signed and faxed in for the water plant instruments. Lead and copper samples were collected throughout the distribution system for regular DEP compliance, with results not being back yet. There was an issue with the control of an automated valve on the water filter, but it was cleaned, inspected and corrected without any outside help. The monthly reports were submitted and all routine maintenance was kept up to date.

Last month, digester 1 was pumped down and Penn Power serviced the generator. Two dumpsters of sludge were hauled, the DMR was submitted, and the routing maintenance was kept up to date. Kline's was contacted for pricing on a vac truck, for one day, to remove some accumulations of grease around the plant. The cost, with disposal, is \$2,690. This does not include digester 1.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Kline's to utilize the vac truck for one day, at a cost not to exceed \$2,700. Seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Motion carried unanimously.

A salesman from Process Masters Polymer was at the plant to perform jar testing; he has a liquid and dry product that will suit our needs. Polymer has not been purchased for over one year. A 55-gallon drum is \$877.50, with 10 bags of dry polymer being \$1,622.50 and lasting 30 times longer.

On the belt press, one of the rollers is very rusted and in need of being replaced. Envirodyne is working on pricing for that roller and the necessary bearings.

Mr. Wertz thanks Mr. Dietrich and Foreman Zimmerman for their proactive approach with maintenance issues.

Property/Streets/Sanitation Committee – Mr. Zimmerman

Council discusses PTMA's street cut permit and whether or not the waiver from backfill should be permitted.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to deny the waiver and to require stone to backfill, per borough standards. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to permit **Ms. Wagner to issue the street cut permit, per the conditions as provided by the borough engineer.** Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Foreman Zimmerman notes that PennDOT marked all handicap ramps that they will be repairing along Main St.

Sewer Committee – Mr. Wertz

Mr. Wertz will present the Blooming Glen railing information at the workshop meeting.

Solicitor Mooney recommends that Council pass the resolution, allowing the amount of the small grant application to be filled in by the secretary and Council President, upon the engineer's certifications.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Ms. Wagner and President Kline to approve the resolution and to submit the application for the small water grant process, per the feedback of the cost from the borough engineer. The grant has a cap of \$500,000. This is an 85%:15% grant. Mr. Smith recently spoke to the county regarding the application. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

Water Committee – President Kline

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the will serve letter to King's Real Estate Group, pending changes to the gallons per day and correction of the EDUs by the solicitor. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

Parks/Recreation – Vice President Botwright

Trunk or Treat will take place at the borough park on Friday, October 28 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. There will be activities for the kids, as over 200 children participated last year.

Vice President Botwright met with the pool design firm, who will have the pool renovation bids out by the end next week. The work will begin in spring, finishing in time for the pool to open that summer.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz

Mr. Wertz asks that Council submit to him their comments regarding zoning ordinance changes. Solicitor Mooney states that matters to be address should include wifi towers, small towers and rights of way towers.

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 September 6, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the bills for ratification for September 20, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the bills payable for October 4, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright reviews the latest figures on electricity pricing.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to go with NEXtera Energy, for the 36 month bid term, at a cost of .05387 kwh. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright notes that budget workshops will take place on October 18 & 25. She asks that any budgetary information to be considered be given to her by October 17. The list will include the Mayor's notation for ordinance codification. Foreman Zimmerman will attend on the 18th and Mr. Dietrich will be

present for the meeting on the 25th. General, highway and garbage funds will be addressed on the 18th and water & sewer will be reviewed on the 25th.

New Business

Ms. Wagner states that EMC Jarrod Emes has suggested Council taking NIM 100-400 training classes. Information can be found at <https://training.fema.gov/nims/>.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Zimmerman to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer