

CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough

August 7, 2018

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 7:02 p.m.

In attendance: Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright –Vice President, Tara Kennedy-Kline, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Steve Gilbert, Dana Smith, Dustin Remp – Mayor, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Bradley Smith – Engineer, and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: John Leshner

Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp

In recognition of National Night Out, Mayor Remp presents Cpl. Mohn and PA State Police Hamburg Station Commander Sgt. Hafner to answer any questions the public may have related to police matters. Sgt. Hafner thanks Mayor Remp and provides background on his career. Sgt. Hafner introduces Cpl. Mohn. Sgt. Hafner explains National Night Out as being an opportunity for the community to meet law enforcement and ask them questions.

Richard Geschwindt lives at the corner of Reber St. & Noble Ave. and notes that especially on weekends between the hours of 11:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. there is excessive speeding on Noble Ave. He asks if extra patrols can be completed in the area during those times.

President Kline asks if speeding enforcement is different on a borough road versus a state road. Sgt. Hafner states speed enforcement signs are enforced regardless of the road ownership. This is enforced through running radar or with the use of certified speedometers. When running radar, the troopers need to have a safe place to run it, from the officer's and traffic standpoint, as well as a place to safely pull over vehicles without being a traffic hazard. Cpl. Mohn notes that if smaller roads are not properly posted it is difficult to enforce, as if there are no speed limit signs, the speed limit is assumed as 55 mph. He further notes that when enforcing with radar, they must following the vehicle for at least one mile, when a speed limit changes or lowers. Mayor Remp notes that the area across from the pool would be a good place for troopers to sit. President Kline asks how the troopers feel about traffic calming signs. Sgt. Hafner states that the advisory signs can be a deterrent, but that they are unenforceable. He notes that speed bumps will also reduce speeding. President Kline asks when residents should call the state police versus the borough on matters. Sgt. Hafner states that residents should contact the borough for ordinance issues and should contact the state police for crime matters. Reporting incidents can aid the police in starting a trail of events. Residents may call the barracks for clarification on incidents.

Melissa Kauffman and her two year old daughter were walking their dog when a pit bull running loose latched on to their dog. Trooper Strauss responded and instructed her to contact the dog warden, which she has done, but has not heard back from yet. She asks who enforces this matter. Sgt. Hafner notes that the dog warden is the one to contact on such matters, as the state police have limited capabilities to enforce the dog laws. The trooper's primary concern in this situation is safety of the people. Mayor Remp asks to speak to her after the meeting. Mark Paine asks if a resident could put the dog down if they felt threatened. Sgt. Hafner notes that it could be a liability issue if deadly force were used. He notes there may be a borough ordinance that covers leashing dogs. Kim Hermansader asks if pepper spray could be used in this instance, with Sgt. Hafner noting that the spray would be appropriate to use.

Cpl. Mohn notes that noise complaints are difficult for them to enforce, since the state police do not enforce local ordinances. They can however, enforce disorderly conduct matters, which do have a higher burden. Sgt. Hafner states that residents should call the police if the matter would be something such as a loud party where underage drinking is occurring or if there were a large amount of vehicles at the location.

Delilah Remp asks what type of support would the state police like from residents. Sgt. Hafner would like the public to understand their job and to work with them. There are a certain amount of troopers that are divided between several areas. If the borough has any events where they would like state police present, PIO David Boehm or CSO Megan Tornielli can be contacted for support. There is a citizen's police academy and also a youth police academy for children sponsored by the state police. Ms. Kennedy-Kline asks if the state police could aid with starting a crime watch, with Sgt. Hafner stating that they are available to offer tips and that the County Crime Watch could also offer information.

Mark Paine states there is a significant amount of speeding near his house on the south end of Main St. He asks if extra patrols could be set up in the area on Mohrsville Rd. He is concerned with the additional traffic being detoured through town. Sgt. Hafner notes that extra patrols could be established, and that a marked vehicle could be placed in the area. He refers to his earlier statement regarding logistics of the road way, posted speed signs, and safe areas to pull over vehicles. Troopers can park in a driveway provided they have the property owner's permission. Mr. Paine offers his driveway as parking for the troopers.

Mr. Geschwindt asks if tickets can be issued to individuals parking along Route 61, near Sheetz. Sgt. Hafner states that they can enforce the parking statutes on the interstate, but do not enforce local parking ordinances. If signage is posted, the troopers can enforce the parking, standing, and stopping laws. Mr. Geschwindt states there is signage between the two driveways. He notes that tractor trailers stop along Route 61 and block the view of vehicles exiting the parking lot. He also states that cars pull onto the shoulder of the road even though signage prohibits this action. If this occurs again, Sgt. Hafner advises Mr. Geschwindt to contact the barracks with a license plate number so they can investigate the matter. Vice President Botwright notes that if it is a tractor trailer, the business should keep a log of where their trucks travel and when.

Vice President Botwright thanks the state police for their service and notes that whenever she has contacted the department, a trooper has always responded within 30 minutes. President Kline notes that LED lights have been placed at the pool and park to increase visibility at night. He asks Sgt. Hafner to contact him if the patrolling troopers have any feedback on additional safety measures the borough can implement.

Public Comment

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.): Notes of the potholes at the intersection of 5th & Franklin Sts. He asks for the water test results, with Ms. Wagner stating that Suburban Labs tested the water on July 3 at the water plant and New Era Logistics and that all results met the necessary requirements.

Mark Paine (25 Main St.): Is concerned about the property at 17 Main St. He states that rodents, foxes, and snakes are outside the home and is concerned that the pests, as well as the black mold on the building, are creating an unsafe environment. He notes that there is one remaining vehicle on the property. Foreman Zimmerman states a van full of items is parked in the rear of the property. **Ms. Kennedy-Kline will contact the tow company.** The borough is cutting the grass on the property. Mr. Paine states that someone was on the property and noted that dumpsters will be dropped off to be used during demolition. He further states that a bank representative was taking pictures of the outside of the building and that the inside of the home would need to be photographed as well. Ms. Kennedy-Kline states that the building inspector provided a letter stating the home is unsafe and needs to be demolished or repaired. As Council is unaware of any bank currently involved in the matter, President Kline asks Mr. Paine to contact the borough the next time anyone is at the property, so that the borough can obtain more information. The home has been condemned;

however the process to have it demolished is taking more time. President Kline and Solicitor Mooney discuss the property, with Solicitor Mooney noting that he needs to receive a copy of the building inspector's notice, as well as copies of all enforcement notices sent to the property, in order to file for the court's authorization to tear down the building. **President Kline will forward the information to Solicitor Mooney.** Ms. Kennedy-Kline notes that the building inspector's letter has a deadline for the property owner to either repair or demolish the building. **Solicitor Mooney will also check to see if the property has recently been listed for a Sheriff's Sale.**

Melissa Kauffman (820 Washington St.): She notes there are several areas in town where shrubs are overhanging the sidewalk and asks who enforces that ordinance. Ms. Kauffman is asked to contact the borough office so that the code enforcement officer can be notified of the locations. President Kline notes that if someone contacts the office with a complaint, the property owner in question is never notified of who formed the complaint. She also notes of the poor condition of Apple Ln., with President Kline stating that the borough is pursuing a grant to repave the entire roadway.

Code Enforcement – Foreman Zimmerman

- **Enforcement:** Foreman Zimmerman sent several notices regarding vehicles and high grass.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **Bond Issuance:** Solicitor Mooney recommends an extension of the lease for the sewer plant. The lease should include a rollover provision, unless either the authority or the borough gives notice. **He will contact Solicitor Rauch.**
- **Second St. Paving:** The letter to PTMA regarding the roadway repairs will be sent.

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

- **USDA Loan Application:** ARRO and borough representatives met with the regional director of the USDA Loan Program to discuss possible improvements to the sewer plant. Funding is available, however clarification is needed to determine if the authority or the borough would qualify for the funding.
- **Wolfe Dye & Bleach:** A meeting should be scheduled with Wolfe to have them apply for the permit. ARRO recommends enforcing the adopted pretreatment ordinance. Wolfe should be instructed to enter into the technical assistance program. Mr. Dietrich spoke with Mark Wolfe, noting that TDS levels are becoming close to the limits. He informed Mr. Wolfe that the DRBC instituted a color limit as well. Engineer Smith notes the importance of the permit for Wolfe. A formal meeting will be scheduled.
- **DCED Multimodal Transportation Grant:** ARRO submitted the application for Apple Ln.
- **Penndot Multimodal Transportation Grant:** The application will be submitted for Apple Ln.
- **Scum Pump Replacement:** The scum pump has been ordered.
- **Clarifier Repairs:** Descoco has completed the repairs to replace the rusted parts with stainless steel, at no cost to the borough. Once the scum pump project begins, the repairs to the equipment will begin.

- **VLR #2:** This project is scheduled to be completed after the scum pump and clarifier repairs are made.
- **Solids Handling:** ARRO presented a finalized report at the July 17 meeting.
- **MS4:** At the workshop meeting, ARRO handed out a memo and task list of items that need to be completed by the borough to comply with the NPDES permit for the stormwater. As directed, ARRO is working on the illicit discharge detection and elimination plan.
- **Small Project Grant:** The grant application for the solids handling equipment has been submitted. Due to the large amount of applications received, an award of the grant has been postponed until September 18, 2018.
- **Sheetz Land Development:** Sheetz has responded to ARRO regarding closing out the project. Mr. Soyka from Sheetz has been contacted again, as plans have not been submitted as promised.
- **Source Water Protection:** Additional information was sent to Council from SSM concerning items from the initial meeting. A geologist report and a list of potential sources of pollution were sent via email. A follow up meeting needs to be scheduled with Council to continue to develop the plan.
- **Main Street Bridge Repair:** ARRO has contacted the PennDOT District 5 bridge engineer regarding the submission and is waiting for a response. Council would like to utilize the remaining \$6,300 of liquid fuels funds with the county that is allocated for the bridge.
- **NPDES Implementation:** ARRO has submitted a pollutant monitoring plan for PCB to PADEP. Once approved by DEP, the borough will have 60 days to implement the plan.
- **Miller Street:** A contract has been awarded by PennDOT to Kinsley Construction. The project is scheduled to be completed in December 2019.
- **Sewer Televising:** Ms. Kennedy-Kline has received a quote from Folk Paving for street repairs. Vice President Botwright will compare the Folk Paving quote to Engineer Smith's road repair estimates.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence

The county will be holding a public hearing on Thursday, August 30 to discuss their Consolidated Plan for 2019-2023. If Council is agreeable to the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, a resolution should be passed.

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to adopt the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, Resolution 112-2018. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

The borough office will be closed from August 20-24 and 31.

Public Works Report – Foreman Zimmerman

The cameras and proper signage have been installed at the park and pool. The final inspection of the pool has been completed by the Perry Twp. building inspector. Foreman Zimmerman notes that hydrant flushing

is complete. President Kline asks if he has heard back from UGI regarding their use of the pool parking lot for the gas line work. As Foreman Zimmerman has not heard anything, **President Kline will contact UGI.**

Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich

Wiring by Wall replaced a cooling fan in a drive for the booster pumps. Suburban Labs took samples from wells 4, 4, and 6 before and after UGI did their boring work to relocate their line under the river. Mr. Dietrich will obtain the results.

Descoco made the repairs in clarifier #1. On July 17 the sewer plant was run on generator power for about 45 minutes. Blooming Glen was the only contractor that appeared for the pre-construction meeting for the scum pump project. The belt press continues to work efficiently. The new belts will be installed this week. Mr. Dietrich will follow up with Mr. Dissinger regarding the steps and walkway at the chlorine contact tank. As there has been an odor of a chemical cleaner and visible foaming over the last year, Mr. Dietrich and Ms. Brenner visiting Folk Paving to learn about their process for washing equipment and their method of collecting the water, to be sure the chemicals are safe for the sewer plant. Everything appears fine, although Mr. Dietrich is waiting to review the MSDS for the chemicals. Routine maintenance and reporting is up to date.

Property/Streets/Sanitation Committee – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

Ms. Kennedy-Kline will review the road estimates from Folk Paving. Council will discuss which roads are of the highest need and also the financing and budgeting for the road projects at the workshop meeting.

Sewer Committee – Mr. Wertz

Axiom submitted a quote to repair the shredder, for a cost of \$4,300.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to have Axiom repair the shredder at a cost not to exceed \$4,300, per their quote #191043. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Vice President Botwright asks for the cost of a new unit, with Mr. Dietrich stating that new units are no longer produced, as it is an older model. President Kline states that this issue would most likely disappear if the borough proceeds with the solids handling project. Mr. Wertz states something would still be needed since the solids handling would need to be pumped into the system. Motion carried unanimously.

President Kline discusses the USDA loan application, for the headworks project. This loan could also be utilized as a backup if the grant application for the sludge handling is not approved. President Kline states that although the borough operates the plant, it is owned by the authority. To apply for the loan either the authority would need to be the application or the borough could be the applicant, with proof that the borough has a right to run the plant. Whichever option is pursued, ARRO needs to compile the paperwork to submit to the USDA by September 30.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to have ARRO proceed with the USDA application. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Water Committee – President Kline

Ms. Wagner will forward a copy of the signed Core 5 agreement to PTMA for their signature.

Parks/Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

Movie in the park will be Friday, August 10 at 8:30pm. Coco will be shown.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz – no report

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 July 17, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for August 7, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried by a vote of 5 yes to 1 abstain, with Vice President Botwright abstaining.

President Kline has reviewed the budget to date, noting that expenses are currently at 58% of the budget and income is at 70%. This is similar to this time last year. The aggregate of the fund balance is up \$300,000.

New Business

Mayor Remp states that the borough is pursuing the Hometown Heroes Program, though it is a lengthy process.

Although Perry Township does not wish to install a speed reduction sign near the north end of Main St., Mayor Remp will continue to pursue the matter.

Old Business

Ms. Wagner notes that the apartment owner that had an outdoor party and received a noise complaint stated that the ordinance allows for a special permit to be obtained in order to continue the event after hours. However, the ordinance only allows for the police department to issue the permit. Therefore, noise from the party may not continue after 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Dietrich asks for an update on the 2nd St. paving project, with President Kline stating that a letter will be sent to PTMA on the matter.

Ms. Kennedy-Kline asks if there is an update on the sale of the pool property. Solicitor Mooney believes the other party is still going through the planning process. Vice President Botwright states they still have not repaired the holes that were dug on the property. **Solicitor Mooney will contact them again regarding the needed repairs.** Council and Solicitor Mooney discuss rescinding the bid.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer