

CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough

November 6, 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, Steve Gilbert, Dana Smith, Dustin Remp – Mayor, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Bradley Smith – Engineer, Chad Zimmerman – Borough Foreman, Michael Dietrich – Sewer & Water Plant Operator, and Melissa Wagner- Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: John Leshner, and Joseph Wertz, Jr.

Public Comment

Edward Burns (379 Main St.): Submits photos of rain water running down the street and pooling on the rear of his property and asks Council what the borough can do to resolve the matter. During the last major event, there was 29" of water in his basement, with the water entering at the north and rear walls to the basement. President Kline notes that Main St. is owned by PennDOT and that the property abuts the land owned by the Blue Mountain Railroad. Solicitor Mooney notes that water will follow the topography of the land and would not change unless something is done to divert the water. The ground is saturated and the water has nowhere to go. Mr. Zimmerman states that a swale may help resolve the issue. President Kline asks **Engineer Smith to look at the issue and offer possible solutions.**

Mark Paine (25 Main St.): Sheriffs have placed new material on the building at 17 Main St. and have also posted it for a January 11 sale. The grass has been cut. The front wall occasionally makes a creaking noise. Solicitor Mooney notes that he filed paperwork against both the bank and the property owner. Mr. Paine voices his continued concern with the building being a safety hazard. President Kline asks **Mr. Zimmerman to close the sidewalk off after 25 Main St., to deter anyone from walking in front of 17 Main St.**

Mr. Paine states that the state police were parked in his area to monitor the speeding. He thanks whoever was involved in that action, but notes however, that a more opportune time for the trooper to catch speeders would be from 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Zimmerman

- **Notices & Permits:** Two permits were issued in October.
- **Enforcement:** Eleven code violation notes were sent last month. The log fence at 372 Main St. was removed. However, there is a large wood pile near the building that will be monitored, as well as other violations on the property. Fire violations are monitored by the fire marshal.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **PTMA:** Waiting to hear back from the authority regarding the paving of 2nd Street.
- **Sale of Pool Property:** Waiting to hear from Mark Koch regarding the property paperwork changes.

- **Shoemakersville Municipal Authority:** No update from the authority on the sewer agreement.

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

- **Filter Media Replacement:** ARRO is contacting various vendors about replacing the filter media at the water plant.
- **Wolfe Dye & Bleach:** Has returned their questionnaire, which ARRO is evaluating.
- **USDA Loan Application:** Funding is available, however clarification is needed to determine whether it is the authority or the borough that would qualify for the funding.
- **Clarifier Repairs:** ARRO will brief Council on the bid results at the workshop meeting.
- **MS4:** Engineer Smith attended the Berks County MS4 Steering Committee meeting. The committee is communicating with PADEP about road drainage being a point discharge. Other items discussed were recruiting master watershed candidates, a need for more water quality testing locations on Berks County streams, and education programs for municipalities to meet MCM #1 & #2. Council and Engineer Smith discuss water quality issues. ARRO attended the meeting at no charge to the borough.
- **Main Street Bridge Repair:** The project is being prepared to bid now, in hopes to complete the bridge repairs before PennDOT works at the intersection of Noble Ave. and Route 61.
- **DCED Multimodal Transportation Grant:** The grant application was submitted for Apple Lane.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence

The borough office will be closing at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 7 and will be closed from November 21 – 23.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp

Mayor Remp thanks Charlie Hoshauer from the fire company for coordinating members to be present at intersections during trick-or-treating. Mayor Remp received positive feedback regarding trick-or-treating being one night. Other Council members heard negative feedback, with President Kline suggesting that if there is one night for trick-or-treating, that it be held on the same evening as trunk-or-treat at the park.

Mayor Remp will be meeting with Sgt. Flynn, the new PA State Police station commander. He will also be submitting budget figures for police coverage, whether it is for the borough's own force or for coverage by a neighboring department.

Public Works Report – Mr. Zimmerman

The well #5 line replacement is almost complete, with just the trench needing to be filled. The line was jetted and the water from wells #4 & #5 combined has now doubled. Folk Paving will be submitting a price to address the temporary fix on the 600 block of Main St. Mr. Zimmerman will be out of the office from November 9 – 15.

Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich

Mr. Dietrich reviewed the annual Hach service contract for the water plant and found that several obsolete items were listed for service. Adjustments were made, saving the borough \$800. A new distribution system chlorine sampling plan was approved by DEP, meeting the October 29 deadline. The plan takes full effect next April and allows for staff to obtain the required testing certification through Suburban Lab. The water line from well #5 to well #4 was replaced. Mr. Dietrich thanks Mr. Zimmerman for his good work with the well project.

Folk Paving completed the blacktop patching around the sewer plant. The low bid for the clarifier #1 project is Blooming Glenn at \$24,999. This will be addressed during the workshop meeting.

Blooming Glenn is still working on the price for the stairs and walkway for the chlorine contact tank. The new scum pump and control panel were delivered, but not yet installed. Penn Power performed the semi-annual maintenance on the generator. Duke's Root Control performed their warranty work on the sewer lines at Main St., 7th St., and Noble Ave.

Property/Streets/Sanitation Committee – Mr. Smith

Mr. Smith discusses final changes to be made to the proposed dumpster ordinance with Solicitor Mooney.

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to authorize Solicitor Mooney to amend and advertise the POD, and disabled parking ordinances. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

President Kline responded to UGI regarding questions they had on their street cut permit. They are seeking relief from the permit fees. President Kline would like to see visual inspections be completed by ARRO. UGI asked if the parking area can be treated differently from the driving lane, so there could be a different mill and overlay. As the ordinance does not permit that, a variance would be needed. Council discusses if there are any concessions that would be beneficial to the borough. President Kline is unaware of the timetable for the project.

Sewer Committee – President Kline

Mr. Dietrich received a quote for a new 2" submersible pump.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to purchase the submersible trash pump at a cost not to exceed \$850. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Mr. Dietrich and Vice President Botwright discuss the ship from location. Motion carried unanimously.

Water Committee – President Kline – no report

Parks/Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to approve payment #4 made to Stoneridge Inc. for \$99,599.23. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. This payment was made as part of the pool project. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve payment #5 to Stoneridge Inc. for a cost not to exceed \$38,000. pending receipt of the as-built drawings. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. This is the final payment for the project. Council discusses the DCNR requirements. Ms. Kennedy-Kline amends the motion to include DCNR's approval of the drawings as well. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright states that the contractor is working on moving the water line so that slides can be installed.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Vice President Botwright – no report

Employee Relations – President Kline

Two applications were received for the part-time road crew position. A third application is also expected. The matter will be discussed when the third application is received.

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for October 16, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for November 6, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright states that the Animal Rescue League is revising their fee structure, with the new contract being \$2/resident, which would be \$2,756 for Shoemakersville. This amount does not include any extra fees. The borough has not utilized the ARL's services for the last 2 years. If no contract were signed, a resident would either have to pay the appropriate fee or the animal could be refused. Council discusses the previously budget amount of \$1,000. President Kline suggests offering that amount to the ARL for consideration. Ms. Kennedy-Kline discusses the borough's current contract with No Nonsense Neutering for cat control.

New Business

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the advertising of the 2019 budget. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Mayor Remp and Vice President Botwright briefly discuss a police budget, with Vice President Botwright stating that without the police figures, the borough is already budgeting a deficit, with multiple projects being planned. Mr. Gilbert would like to see finalized police figures. Motion carried unanimously.

President Kline notes that there will be a holiday decorating contest in the borough. The \$500 prize will be supplied jointly by the Recreation Board and Ms. Kennedy-Kline's business.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to advertise the 2019 tax rate at 6.5 mills. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business - none

There being no further business, a motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Melissa Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer