

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough**

March 5, 2019

Vice President Botwright called the monthly meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the St. Luke's Church Hall, 5th & Franklin Sts., Shoemakersville, PA at 7:06 p.m.

In attendance: Amy Botwright –Vice President, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Steve Gilbert, John Leshner, Dana Smith, Dustin Remp – Mayor, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Bradley Smith – Engineer, Chad Zimmerman – Borough Foreman, and Melissa Wagner- Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: Chris Kline, Tara Kennedy-Kline

Public Comment

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.): Asks when trash will be picked up this week, with Vice President Botwright stating that it will be Wednesday.

Mr. Geschwindt asks for the water test results, with Ms. Wagner stating that Suburban tested the water on February 15 at the Kwik Shoppe and the sewer plant, and that all results met the necessary requirements.

Mark Paine (25 Main St.): Asks if residents without the internet could be notified through Code Red of a delay in the trash pick-up. Vice President Botwright states that since the delay was only 1 day, no call was sent.

Mr. Paine notes that 3-5 vehicles were not towed from Main St. during a prior snow event. Mr. Zimmerman believes that there was not an official snow emergency called, therefore vehicles were not required to be moved. If vehicles are not removed and staff is aware of the vehicle owner, they will knock on doors to have the vehicles moved during a snow emergency. The tow company is notified of any snow emergency and when they are to begin towing.

Mr. Paine references the sale of 17 Main St., scheduled to take place on March 8. He notes that the front wall is collapsing further and that the hole in the wall is growing much larger. During a recent wind storm, he and another neighbor moved tin that had been blown around, back onto the property. Solicitor Mooney states that the court case is moving slowly, however the bank informed the borough that they have bids out to stabilize and repair the property. Ms. Wagner notes that the bank will not touch the property until the review of the repair bids is complete.

Code Enforcement – Foreman Zimmerman

- **Permits:** Two permits were issued in February.
- **Enforcement:** During a prior snow event, numerous notices were sent to residents regarding the removal of snow from the sidewalks. No notices needed to be sent after the last snowfall.
- **Property Maintenance:** A hearing will take place on March 12 at the District Justice Office for the property at 401 Pine St.

- **Vehicles:** A notice was placed on the windshield of the vehicle parked on 4th St. The notice is no longer on the vehicle. The owner's legal address is in Reading. Mr. Zimmerman is looking into having the vehicle towed.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney

Once Ms. Kennedy-Kline returns to the area, he will contact her to finalize the matter they have been working on.

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

- **Main St. Bridge Repair:** A preconstruction meeting was held at the borough office on February 19. All signs for the project detour have been placed in the borough. Shop drawings are being reviewed. Ms. Wagner is to contact the county regarding the release of the funds they are holding for the bridge.
- **Clarifier Repairs:** Repairs will begin shortly. Blooming Glen will forward a schedule to ARRO.
- **Scum Pump Replacement:** The pump is operational as of today.
- **VLR #2:** ARRO recommends adding a front end to the specifications to incorporate a completion date and liquidated damages language.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize ARRO to add language regarding liquidated damages and a completion date for the VLR #2 project. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Additional Work at the Sewer Plant:** ARRO asks if Council wishes to proceed with any of the following budgeted items at the plant:
 - Design of headworks and sludge handling equipment
 - Sludge dumpster railing replacement
 - Rehab RAS Pump #1
 - Digester #2 cleaning and maintenance
- **Filter Media Replacement:** PADEP is still reviewing the report for the replacement. Low bidder Blooming Glen has agreed to hold the contract price for three months. Mr. Wertz and Engineer Smith discuss the running of the wells and filters during the project.
- **MS4:** The topographical survey was completed by Earl Felty. ARRO is proceeding with the design of the bioswale.
- **Sewer Televising:** ARRO is working with staff to prepare a list of repairs to include in the quote for COSTARS.
- **Source Water Protection:** An additional meeting is scheduled for the March workshop to further discuss the plan.
- **Sewage Enforcement Officer Work:** The owner of 843 Grant St. would like to install an on-lot sewer system, as the nearest sewer line to the property is on Water St. Engineer Smith submits an SEO services rate table for consideration. The fees will be paid by the property owner. A portion of the area is in the flood plain.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Solicitor Mooney to draft a resolution to adopt the SEO fees as submitted by Engineer Smith. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence

The borough office will be closing at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 8.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Remp has noted there are 41 poles along Main St., Noble Ave., and Franklin St. that can be used for the Hometown Hero banners. He will document the pole information to forward to Met-Ed.

Mayor Remp commends the public works employees for the good plowing work this season. He has received few complaints.

Public Works Report – Mr. Zimmerman

Mr. Zimmerman requests permission to attend a training course on the duties of a zoning officer, for a cost of \$50. He also requests that Kyle Roth attend pesticide re-cert training for \$35, and a right of way applications course for \$85.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to spend \$170 for training and education for the public works department. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Zimmerman asks Engineer Smith to contact the contractor for the Pigeon Creek Bridge project, regarding increased “road closed” signs, especially heading southbound. Detour signage is adequate.

Operator's Report

Last month a water main break at 4th & Franklin Sts. was repaired. Mr. Dietrich & Mr. Wertz discuss the increased need to backwash filter #2 more often. Mr. Dietrich attending a plant maintenance class, a pesticide class, and two webinars for spray license credits last month.

The scum pump project was completed today. Mr. Dietrich notes that the system is set so that when the tank reaches a certain level, it is triggered to circulate and mix for 3 minutes, then pump to digester #1 until the lower float tells the pump to stop. The installation of the walkway over the chlorine contact tank went well and is complete. Penn Power was called to inspect the generator, as it had a random fault, which locked it out from running for a day. They had no explanation for the cause, but reset and tested the unit, which is now working fine. Mr. Dietrich saw Mr. Mast outside of work, and briefly discussed the reimbursement invoice sent to PTMA. Mr. Dietrich invited Mr. Mast to the sewer plant, with Mr. Mast and Mr. Witman visiting the plant. PTMA and the SMA will be invited to send 1 or 2 representatives to the April workshop meeting.

Committee Reports

Property/Streets/Sanitation – Mr. Smith

Mr. Smith and Mr. Dietrich discuss the issues with the unit heaters at the sewer plant. Mr. Smith states the unit is out of date, so Mr. Dietrich will obtain the physical dimensions for Mr. Smith to research a new unit.

Mr. Zimmerman is waiting to hear back from Met-Ed regarding brighter street lights throughout the borough.

Mr. Zimmerman reviews the information from AT&T regarding new cell phones for the road crew employees. The plan would be updated, along with a 4th line being added. The first 3 months will cost \$100/month more, to pay for the phones. The matter will be further discussed at the workshop meeting.

Sewer – Mr. Wertz

Mr. Wertz is working with Mr. Dietrich and Engineer Smith to resolve a residential sewer back-up issue that occurred last month.

Water – no report

Parks/Recreation – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to hire Owen Zimmerman as a park leader for 2019, at a rate of \$9/hr. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

A Scibble tournament will be held at Ollie's on March 8.

Law/Planning/Zoning – no report

Employee Relations – no report

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the minutes for February 19, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the bills payable for March 5, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

The committee will review the three quotes received for a new pension financial advisor.

New Business - none

Old Business - none

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer