

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Shoemakersville Borough**

**September 17, 2019**

Vice President Botwright called the workshop meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the Shoemakersville Borough Office, 115 E. 9<sup>th</sup> St., Shoemakersville, PA at 7:09 p.m.

**In attendance:** Chris Kline – President – arrived during public comment, Amy Botwright – Vice President, Tara Kennedy-Kline, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., and Bradley Smith – Engineer – leaves after the park committee report.

Absent from the meeting: Steve Gilbert, John Leshner, Dustin Remp

**Public Comment**

**Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.):** Voices his concern over provision #19 on page 113 of the proposed zoning ordinance, which states that all home occupations are subject to inspections, to monitor compliance with the ordinance. He is unaware of this type of provision in any other municipality's zoning ordinance. As the borough is a small municipality, he does not see the need to have this stipulation included. The borough would still have power under other ordinances to determine any violations of the code. Any zoning violations would fall under the duties of the zoning officer. **Mr. Wertz will review the matter.** Mr. Geschwindt would like to request a copy of the county planning commission's comments on the proposed ordinance. Council has no objections.

**Engineer's Report**

Engineer Smith states that ARRO is working on the MS4 report.

An estimate for capital projects for the sewer and water plants was forwarded to President Kline earlier in the day.

Engineer Smith provides the bid sheet that was received for the 2019 cleaning and televising on Main St. President Kline and Mr. Dietrich recently discussed the televising of the lines, with Mr. Dietrich requesting that the quote received be revisited by Council. Engineer Smith notes that the price is through Costars, and that the borough should be able to change the scope of work if needed. Council discusses the budget and the project cost of \$117,442.50, which includes the liner cost of \$85,195.00. Mr. Wertz and Engineer Smith discuss bidding the project, with Engineer Smith noting that USG was the only Costars company that provided pricing.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Mr. Dietrich to contact USG for the sewer televising of items #1 - #7 for a lump sum not to exceed \$34,000.00. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

President Kline has requested that Ms. Brenner draft an estimate to build new well houses, so that there is better access to the wellheads. Council and Engineer Smith discuss wells #4 and #5 sharing a house.

**Mayor's Report**

Vice President Botwright notes of St. Luke's Church's request to close the alley to Franklin St., on the 5<sup>th</sup> St. side of the church, for their event on September 21.

\*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to permit St. Luke's Church to close the designated streets on September 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Works Report – Mr. Zimmerman**

Mr. Zimmerman notes that the ac/heating unit in the lab at the water plant is leaking. Mr. Smith will look at the unit on Wednesday.

President Kline discusses employee access to emails on the borough issued phones, noting that Mr. Dietrich now has access to his emails, while Mr. Zimmerman still does not. The technical support staff noted of a potential firewall matter, as too many failed attempts to log in will trigger the firewall.

### **Property/Streets/Sanitation – Mr. Smith**

The paving of Second St. is still scheduled for this week.

Vice President Botwright notes of the tractor trailers that had difficulty turning around on the 900 block of Main St., due to the placement of UGI's road closure signs. UGI was contacted to relocate the signs, to permit for better traffic flow. Council and Mr. Zimmerman discuss the time frame for the project.

### **Sewer – Mr. Wertz**

A second bid has been received for the dumpster roll-off repair. Mr. Wertz and President Kline discuss the necessary repairs.

### **Water – President Kline**

President Kline and Mr. Dietrich met with Nick Rapagnani from Suez, regarding a well maintenance program. Mr. Rapagnani has requested the construction logs for the wells, but noted that if they cannot be located, that their company would perform a full inspection and video of each well. There will be rehabilitation and maintenance phases through the course of the program, similar to the tank maintenance schedule.

President Kline discusses the procedure for past due water bills. Residents currently have 45 days to pay the bill. If a resident is in arrears and has not made a payment, this is noted when the next quarterly bill is processed. From the date of the bill to the date water is shut off is 105 days. President Kline has asked Ms. Wagner to shorten this time period, and to send a form letter to residents once the initial due date has been passed.

### **Parks & Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline**

The committee will be reviewing the rules to be posted on the park signs. Ms. Kennedy-Kline discusses permitting leashed pets at the park. After further discussion, it is noted that the current ordinance would need to be amended.

Council and Mr. Zimmerman discuss the replacement of the doors on the park pavilion.

Vice President Botwright discusses the water level at the pool this past season, noting that some days required more water to be added than others. The level was not always consistent. When lifeguards sweep the pool, all of the valves in the skimmer buckets are to be closed, so that all of the suction is properly channeled. During the end of the season, she noted that staff was not reopening all of the valves. She would then open a valve and a rush of water was sucked into the pipe. Depending on how long the valve was closed, the entire pipe may need to be filled with water.

Mr. Zimmerman contacted David Bonkovich, who noted that if there were a leak in the supply lines, the pressure in the pool would push back and the water would leak out. Mr. Zimmerman has periodically

monitored the pool's water level since the end of the season, and notes that each day there has been a ¼" to a ½" loss of water each day, which is the average evaporation loss. The only way there could be leak would be under pressure, however the pressure in the lines is only 50 – 60 psi. President Kline discusses conducting a bucket test when the pool is in operation and the pumps are running.

Vice President Botwright and Mr. Zimmerman are looking at a new meter for the pool, with Mr. Zimmerman noting that he is obtaining information for a meter with updated housing, which would not be affected by the manganese in the water.

Mr. Zimmerman notes that with regards to the low flow issue at well #6, 5 of the 6 valves have been located. In the next few days, they will close the valve at the water plant and charge the line, to determine if it holds pressure. If pressure is lost, then they will work backwards toward the plant, until the appropriate section of pipe is located. President Kline notes that it is not known how much pressure the pump can generate dead head, so a baseline would not be obtained. He recommends closing the valve at the plant, turning the pump on, and taking a pressure. Then work to the next valve, shut that one off, and see if the pressure changes. However, elevation will have an effect on the readings. The matter is further discussed.

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

#### **Employee Relations – President Kline**

Vice President Botwright requests an executive session.

#### **Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright**

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for September 3, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for September 17, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright emailed the budget input sheets, requesting that feedback be sent to her by October 11.

#### **New Business - none**

#### **Old Business - none**

#### **Executive Session**

The Board recessed into executive session at 8:16 p.m. to discuss employee relations. Regular session reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. President Kline asks if authorization for delivery of the letter is needed, with Vice President Botwright stating that the consequences will be included in the letter. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer