

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Shoemakersville Borough**

**October 1, 2019**

President Kline called the monthly meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the St. Luke's Church Hall, 5<sup>th</sup> & Franklin Sts., Shoemakersville, PA at 7:01 p.m.

**In attendance:** Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright –Vice President, Steve Gilbert, John Leshner, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Charles Haws – Solicitor, Bradley Smith – Engineer, Michael Dietrich – Sewer & Water Plant Operator, and Melissa Wagner- Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: Tara Kennedy-Kline, Dustin Remp – Mayor, Chad Zimmerman – Foreman

**Public Comment**

**Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.):** Asks for the status of the proposed zoning ordinance, with Solicitor Haws noting that Solicitor Mooney should have the county's comments included in time for the workshop meeting.

Mr. Geschwindt asks if Sheetz has supplied their improvements agreement, with Engineer Smith stating that they have not supplied the necessary maintenance bond. Mr. Geschwindt further notes that Sheetz was to plant 36 pine trees, and not arborvitaes, on the original approved plan. He also notes that the side driveway should not have been permitted, as this creates confusion if a driver puts their right turn signal on before reaching the driveway; other drivers are unaware if they are turning into the parking lot or heading south on Route 61.

Mr. Geschwindt asks for the results of the water report, with Ms. Wagner stating that Suburban tested the water on September 4 at New Era Logistics and the water plant and that all results met the necessary requirements.

**Michael Grim (813 Chestnut St):** Notes the potholes on Church Ave. are bad and asks if any roads are scheduled for repairs, with President Kline noting that the committee is drafting a list of repairs for the 2020 budget. Cracking sealing was completed and more potholes are slated to be filled this year.

Mr. Grim asks if any of the new developments in Perry Township have tapped into the borough's water or sewer systems, as this added income could potentially lower costs for borough residents. President Kline notes that several years ago the warehouses tied into the system. PTMA allocated some of their capacity to the developers, with no notable increase. ARRO completed a feasibility study to determine there would be enough capacity. PTMA is working on drilling wells, so that eventually they will not have to solely rely on the borough.

Mr. Grim is concerned with the conditions of 17 Main St. and the vacant grocery store. President Kline states that the borough has been working on 17 Main St., noting that it was recently sold. Mr. Paine states that the buyer is working with borough code enforcement on renovations. One wall of the building must be kept standing in order to be grandfathered for setbacks. President Kline notes that the proposed development near the borough pool could spark a renter for the grocery store site. He further discusses the proposed zoning ordinance, which notes of regulations and inspections for commercial locations. Mr. Wertz states that the water leak issues were repaired at that location several years ago.

**Mark Paine (25 Main St.):** The new owner of 17 Main St. is waiting to receive building plans from his developer and will forward the information to Mr. Zimmerman.

Mr. Paine asks when the remaining 3 electronic speed signs will be utilized. President Kline states that the signs are in the borough garage. The signs themselves are PennDOT approved, but the state has separate requirements for how the signs are to be installed, which are being reviewed. He and Mr. Paine discuss the batteries for the signs, with President Kline noting that the sign goes into a sleep mode when no traffic is passing, and have been averaging 1 week, due to the increase in traffic, from the PennDOT roadwork.

Mr. Paine notes of the continued speeding on Main St. Council discusses the speed limit in the area. Mr. Paine would like information on the amount of time the state police spend in the borough. Ms. Wagner is to contact the police barracks to request a monthly report.

#### **Code Enforcement – Mr. Zimmerman – not present**

- **Permits:** Two permits were issued in September.

#### **Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Haws**

- **Proposed Zoning Ordinance:** Solicitor Mooney will have the county's comments incorporated in time for the workshop meeting.
- **Shoemakersville Municipal Authority:** Solicitor Mooney should have the agreement ready for the workshop meeting.

#### **Engineer's Report – Engineer Smith**

- **Route 61 Betterment Project:** A PennDOT progress meeting was held on September 18. The paving is projected to be finished on November 12, with final completion by the end of the year. The water main relocation is finished. Mr. Wertz and Engineer Smith discuss the traffic light timing, as traffic and school buses are backing up while the light is under the temporary controls. Engineer Smith will forward the PennDOT traffic unit contact to the borough office.
- **MS 4:** The first annual report was sent to PADEP by the September 30 deadline. Engineer Smith discusses the Good Housekeeping O&M Program and Public Education and Outreach Plan draft plans that can meet the MS4 MCM requirement #6.
- **DCED Multimodal Transportation Grant:** The application for Apple Lane was submitted.
- **Skate Park Grant:** The application was not accepted for funding. If Council wishes to apply again, letters of support from residents outside of the borough should be included.
- **Grant Opportunities:** The DCED has published guidelines for three grants; PA Small Water & Sewer (15% match), H2O PA Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water (50% match), and the H2O PA Flood Control (no match), with all applications being due by December 13, 2019.
- **PCB Pollutant Minimization Plan:** Testing is scheduled to be completed in October.
- **Sheetz Land Development:** Sheetz needs to return a signed maintenance agreement and bond to the borough and solicitor.

## **Secretary's Report/Correspondence**

The County Commissioners breakfast meeting from September 27 will be held on October 25 at 8:00 a.m. at the Mt. Pleasant Fire Co. The borough office will be opening at 11:00 a.m. on October 9. The borough has a new point of contact at Beirne Wealth, as Chris Englebert has left the firm. The crossing guard at Franklin & 4<sup>th</sup> Sts. will be leaving the end of the week. However, the position will be filled by the back-up guard. The final draw for the Customer's Bank financing needs to be taken by November 30.

## **Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich**

Lead and copper sampling was completed at 10 sites throughout the water distribution system in September. The motor controls to well #4 were replaced. Wexcon lowered a 12' section of the 2" water line along Miller St. The service line to Route 61 Auto Sales was pulled and repaired. The water line running from well #6 to the water plant, and 5 of the 6 valves, were located. Two connections were made to the new 1 ½" line running from the Kwik Shoppe south.

KNG Electric installed a new LED light on the side of the VLR. The main drum/dewatering roller broke. This was taken to Edenburg Welding to copy and provide a spare. The generator service contract with Penn Power was renewed. Folk completed the paving of 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Mr. Dietrich requests fill along the parking area outside of the fence, which has a drop off. He and Council discuss a remedy for the issue, as the area can hold standing water and cause freezing issues in the winter.

The monitor for the video cameras was replaced. The lab collected PCB effluent samples for the DRBC, with PCB sampling also being completed at 4 points in the collection system.

Mr. Dietrich confirms the televising project and will contact USG for scheduling. Mr. Dietrich notes of the power failure at the sewer plant on Monday. He states that the hose used in conjunction with the Godwin pump was in poor condition and provides a quote for new hose.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to purchase 100' of 6" handling hose at a cost not to exceed \$2,000. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dietrich discusses the Hach service contract up for renewal in November. President Kline would like to review the contract. Mr. Dietrich and Council discuss the Duke's Root Control contract. Mr. Dietrich is obtaining information on a maintenance program to service the Godwin pump.

## **Committee Reports**

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

UGI has completed their rough work and will begin their final paving soon. President Kline notes of Council's decision to contact UGI, requesting that instead of repairing their portions of Park & Franklin Sts., UGI contribute toward the borough's planned repair of the those streets.

### **Sewer – Mr. Wertz**

Mr. Dietrich discusses the power failure at the plant, stating that a fuse blew on Saturday night, which cut power to the plant. The generator kicked on and ended up running until Monday morning, at which time it began smoking and struggling. He then turned off the generator and waited for power to restore, but it did not. Due to a fault, he was unable to restart the generator. The Godwin pump was finally able to be started. Staff heard the generator on Sunday, but assumed it was running a test.

President Kline notes that Justin Wall was able to contact Met-Ed dispatch directly, to send a truck quickly. Higher voltage cutouts, 35 kV, were installed. Whenever a phase is lost, the automatic transfer switch will

not allow the plant to go back to main power until all 3 phases are on. President Kline and Mr. Dietrich discuss the RACO auto-dialer. President Kline spoke with RACO on changing the dial out call. In the future, it will be increased up to 16, so that the call will specify the issue at the plant. The diagnostics will be wired in as well. When Verizon was out to service the line, the splitter had never been plugged back in. The splitter will be removed and the line will be hardwired directly to the tie in point in the building.

**Water – President Kline**

USG will be forwarding the quote for a well maintenance program. He notes of the water loss on the well #6 line.

**Parks/Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline**

Trick-or-Treat has been scheduled for October 30 & 31. Trunk-or-Treat will be held on October 31 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz**

Mr. Wertz will follow up with Solicitor Mooney regarding the proposed zoning ordinance.

**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 17, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for October 1, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Council discusses the electricity bids received, with President Kline stating that IGS has the lowest prices, with Nextera being second. He discusses IGS's rate calculations and the proposed savings.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to accept the IGS quote for the 48 month term. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business**

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to exonerate the list of 2019 per capita exonerations. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business - none**

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 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner  
Secretary/Treasurer