

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Shoemakersville Borough**

**December 3, 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 7:00 p.m.

**In attendance:** Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright –Vice President, Tara Kennedy-Kline, John Leshar, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Dustin Remp – Mayor, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Bradley Smith – Engineer, Chad Zimmerman – Foreman, Michael Dietrich – Sewer & Water Plant Operator, and Melissa Wagner- Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: Steve Gilbert

**Public Comment**

**Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.):** Asks for the results of the water report, with Ms. Wagner stating that Suburban tested the water on November 6 at the water plant and New Era Logistics and that all results met the necessary requirements.

Mr. Geschwindt asks for an update of the proposed zoning ordinance, with Mr. Wertz stating that Council addressed the solicitor's comments regarding signs and wifi, but that there are a few more to review. He further notes that Mr. Geschwindt's concerns regarding the ordinance were also reviewed.

Mr. Geschwindt asks for the 2020 real estate millage, which is noted to be 6.5 mills.

**Mark Paine (25 Main St.):** Notes that the electronic speed limit sign near his home seems to have reduced speeding by 40%. He asks if data can be pulled from the sign. Mr. Paine, President Kline, and Mr. Zimmerman discuss the signs.

**Bill Geroni (101 Main St.):** Has pictures and a proposed plan for a new home at 17 Main St. that he will be reviewing with Mr. Zimmerman.

**Code Enforcement – Mr. Zimmerman**

- **Permits:** A permit was issued to UGI to retire a gas service.
- **Enforcement:** Three notices were sent last month. A zoning hearing application was received for a home based business. President Kline and Mr. Geroni discuss utility services for 17 Main St.

**Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney**

- **Shoemakersville Municipal Authority:** Solicitor Mooney will speak with Attorney Rauch for an update on the matter.

**Engineer's Report – Engineer Smith**

- **Growing Greener Grant:** A letter needs to be signed and a resolution passed for the grant application.

- **Route 61 Betterment Project:** The paving is complete. The water main relocation is finished. PennDOT has raised the hydrant.
- **VLR #2:** Shop drawings from DESCCO have been reviewed and approved by ARRO.
- **DCED Multimodal Transportation Grant:** The application for Apple Ln. is being reviewed by DCED.
- **H2O and Small Projects Grants:** Applications are being prepared and will be submitted by the December 13, 2019 deadline.
- **USDA Loan Application:** On hold until sewer plant ownership is addressed.
- **PCB Pollutant Minimization Plan:** Testing has been completed.
- **Miller Street:** The water line construction has been completed and the bridge is open. The fire company will be addressing concerns regarding the location of the dry hydrant. Mr. Zimmerman notes that the area the contractor used for staging on the north side of Miller St. will eventually be turned over to the borough. The land across the street will be turned over to the Steeles at 302 Main St.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adopt Resolution 130-2019 for the Growing Greener Plus Grant. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

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

The office will be opening at 11:00 a.m. on December 11 and will be closed all day on December 6 and 23-27.

### **Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp**

Review of the JCP applications, the Hometown Hero Banner applications, and the first crime watch meeting will all take place in January. Mayor Remp would like to have the August 2020 council meeting on the first Wednesday of the month, so that National Night Out can be celebrated on August 4. Mayor Remp and Ms. Wagner discuss potentially holding the event in Hamburg, as an individual submitted a park rental deposit for August 4. *Mayor Remp is unsure of the level of interest Mayor Holmes will have in next year's event, but will speak with him on a location for 2020.*

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

The 3" water meter was replaced at well #6. When Moyer's was at the site, they noted that holes had eroded in the pipe at several places. Before the work, the well output was 12 gpm. After all work was completed, the well output was 105 gpm and is now set at 90 gpm.

Rubber mats were purchased to cover the scum pit, to keep the pipes from freezing. USG flushed and televised the lines. Excelsior Blower performed a final alignment to blower 3, replaced the blower bearings, and the electric motor bearings. The belt press was productive and the sludge storage tanks are below 50% full. The Muffin Monster was delivered to the plant.

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

The park pavilion has been prepped for the new doors. In conjunction with the garage rehab, the roof of the garage was worked on, as well as the pole barn doors. Mr. Zimmerman will be receiving a quote from Folk Paving to repave the area in front of the garage.

Vice President Botwright notes of the large tree limbs down in the park, which staff will address this week. President Kline comments on the sidewalk near the hydrant at 233 E. Noble Ave. Mr. Zimmerman states that he is waiting on the excavator to repair that area, as well as the hydrant at the borough garage.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Property/Streets/Sanitation – Mr. Smith – no report**

### **Sewer – Mr. Wertz – no report**

### **Water – President Kline**

Suez no longer offers a well maintenance program. President Kline will contact the subcontractor who performs this work for Suez. Council, Mr. Dietrich, and Mr. Zimmerman discuss the pipes at well #6 and note that the water from that well has the highest iron level of all the borough wells. This could be in part to the pH level of 4 at the location.

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

Judging for the holiday decorating contest will take place sometime after December 15. ARRO will be donating \$100 towards the prize money.

### **Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz**

Mr. Wertz reviewed the information on the Joint Comprehensive Plan that was sent by President Kline. Mr. Wertz feels that the borough's cost to join should be less, as the municipality is small than the others involved, but that overall, the \$6,000 fee is fair. President Kline explains the process, noting that at least one council member will need to be appointed to attend the required meetings. President Kline and Solicitor Mooney discuss the joint committee, the plan, and how the MPC relates to zoning.

### **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 November 19, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

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

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adopt the 2020 budget. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adopt Resolution 129-2019 setting the 2020 real estate tax rate at 6.5 mills. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adopt Ordinance 454-2019 authorizing the borough to enter into an intergovernmental agreement to amend the Joint Comprehensive Plan for Northern Berks County. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to advertise the 2020 budget. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion was made by Vice President Botwright to adopt the 2020 meeting list as proposed. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Council and the Mayor discuss whether or not the August meeting should remain on Tuesday,

or if it should change to Wednesday, in order to promote National Night Out on Tuesday. Motion carried, with President Kline voting opposed.

**New Business**

Ms. Wagner notes that the residents at the property located at Yoder Dr. and Canal St. use the address of 27 Canal St., as does the USPS and the county tax office, while the borough and emergency services recognizes the address as 27 Yoder Dr. Solicitor Mooney suggests checking the GPS coordinates for an address determination. Council discusses the matter and decides the address should be noted as 27 Canal St.

**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 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner  
Secretary/Treasurer