

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Shoemakersville Borough**

**November 3, 2020**

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 Leshner, Dana Randazzo, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Dustin Remp – Mayor, Bradley Smith – Engineer, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Chad Zimmerman – Foreman, Michael Dietrich – Sewer & Water Plant Operator and Melissa Wagner- Secretary/Treasurer.

**Public Comment**

**Jamison Kauffman (728 Monument Rd. Hamburg):** Discusses the planned water line installation for the Noecker's property at 328 Apple Ln. The building is current being supplied water from a line at 326 Main St. The new line would run from Main St., down Fink Ln., and across Apple Ln., resulting in 750 sq. ft. of blacktop removal and patch. He requests a reduced permit fee cost, which he calculated at \$6,281. Council, Solicitor Mooney, and Mr. Kauffman discuss the project. President Kline notes that the deposit would be returned if it is not needed to restore the road to its original condition, if not properly completed by the contractor.

**Mark Koch (217 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Reading):** Discusses the Access Agreement and the Agreement of Sale for the pool property. Attorney Koch states that the wells are on the property as part of the wetlands mitigation for the project and asks that they be permitted to remain onsite. He also requests to extend the Access Agreement. Attorney Koch states that it could take up to one year to obtain the Chapter 105 permit for the wetlands mitigation. Subdivision approval is also needed, as well as the HOP for the traffic light, which would take about 120 days. The developer has no control over the timeline for those three administrative items.

Vice President Botwright notes that other entities have inquired about use of that land owned by the borough. Ms. Kennedy-Kline suggests a deposit on the land. Attorney Koch also requests that the borough issued letter to reject the original bid be rescinded. He has no record of any comments from the borough regarding his submission of comments to the agreement. He apologizes if anything was missed and states that they were not aware that they were delaying negotiations. Ms. Kennedy-Kline, President Kline, and Solicitor Mooney discuss the agreement and the borough's response to the comments, with President Kline noting that any request for water should be directed to PTMA. **Solicitor Mooney** discusses the subdivision process for the project. President Kline requests that **the most up to date version of the agreement be forwarded to the borough office**, so that it can be distributed to the property committee.

**Scott Homel (491 Old York Rd. Jenkintown):** Reviews the Chapter 105 requirements for the project, noting that additional soil tests are needed for infiltration purposes to move the wetlands. Ms. Kennedy-Kline, Vice President Botwright, and Mr. Homel discuss potential lost revenue to the borough, as the land is in poor condition and unable to be rented for use. Mr. Homel offers to release \$5,000 now, then the final \$70,000 when the land is officially purchased. **Solicitor Mooney is to add this offer into the Agreement of Sale.**

President Kline and Mr. Homel discuss well location. Solicitor Mooney references the damage that was done to the property by the developer's contractor, with Mr. Homel stating that their firm's landscaper will coordinate a time with Mr. Zimmerman to make the necessary repairs.

Vice President Botwright suggests that Attorney Koch verify the township/borough line that runs through the property in question. President Kline requests that an electronic copy of the subdivision plans be forwarded to Engineer Smith.

**Jim Heckman (806 Main St.):** Thanks Mayor Remp for starting the Hometown Heroes Banner Program, with everyone noting that the banners look nice. He also thanks Mr. Zimmerman, who was on the poles hanging the banners.

**Mark Paine (25 Main St.):** States that the racing motorcycle on Main St. seems to have stopped, once he forwarded information on the driver to Mayor Remp.

Plans for the building at 17 Main St. were submitted to the office, with the property owner currently reviewing the information with the borough's building inspector.

Mr. Paine thanks Council and the Recreation Board for the safe Trunk-or-Treat event and trick-or-treating in the borough. He and his family enjoyed the events.

**Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.):** Mr. Geschwindt asks for the results of the water tests, with Ms. Wagner stating that Suburban tested the water on October 14 at the Kwik Shoppe and the sewer plant, and that all results met the necessary requirements.

Mr. Geschwindt asks when the leaves in the street gutters will be cleaned, with Mr. Zimmerman stating that more streets will be addressed this week.

Mr. Geschwindt asks if the 300 block of Park St. is being considered for road repairs in 2021, as the roadway is in poor condition. He states that the trash trucks seem to be having difficulty traveling that street. Mr. Wertz states that a dollar amount for 2021 road repairs has been discussed, although specific roadways have not yet been determined.

#### **Code Enforcement – Mr. Zimmerman**

- **Enforcement:** Notices were sent last month for placing grass and leaves in the street.
- **Permits:** One permit was issued in October for a fence.

#### **Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney**

- **Shoemakersville Municipal Authority:** Solicitor Mooney states Council should have received the agreement.
- **Perry Plaza:** Attorney Koch will not have a response back to the borough until after PTMA's meeting, scheduled for next week. The PTMA engineer should be reviewing ARRO's calculations. President Kline and Solicitor Mooney discuss the agreement, EDUs, and water usage for the location. President Kline would like to see PTMA's review process expedited.

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

- **WWTP Upgrades Financing:** As directed by Council, ARRO has completed and submitted the application for a Pennvest loan for the total amount of \$1.6M. The Pennvest board meets on January 20, 2021 for consideration and loan approval. **Engineer Smith will forward a copy of the application to Solicitor Mooney.** President Kline and Engineer Smith discuss whether or not support from state legislatures would aid the process.
- **MS4:** Vice President Botwright notes that watershed information was distributed at Trunk-or-Treat.

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

Council has no issue with Ms. Wagner's request to close the office at noon on Thursday, November 19.

### **Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp**

Mayor Remp notes of the lack of fire police at Trunk-or-Treat and during trick-or-treating.

Mayor Remp states that the Hometown Heroes Banner ceremony at the park went well. There was a mistake on one of the banners, which will be fixed free of charge by Raleigh's. Mayor Remp and Council discuss permitting neighboring township residents to apply for banners. The deadline for a second round of 15 banners will be set in Spring 2021.

### **JCP Report – Delani Remp – no report**

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

Later this month UGI will be repairing a small gas leak at 818 Main St. Mr. Zimmerman and President Kline discuss the repairs.

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

Axiom returned the newly rebuild effluent motor and pump to the water plant. Both air check valves were replaced on filter #1.

Duke's Root Control was in town in October to treat the sections of sewer lines that were due, primarily on Main St., Reber St., and Noble Ave.

Raw pump #1 was isolated and opened to check for a blockage, as the pump was running slow and the end pumping volume was not up to par. No blockage was found.

Excelsior should have the blower #4 bearing repair parts completed and returned to the borough by the second half of November. Currently, blower #4 will be used as an emergency backup. Blowers #3 and #4 provide air for the actual treatment process, while blowers #1 and #2 supply air for the holding tanks.

No sludge was hauled out during October. Mr. Dietrich, Mr. Wertz, and President Kline discuss the air motors and the slow pump. President Kline will look at the pump this week.

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

### **Sewer – Mr. Wertz**

Mr. Wertz discusses the videoing of the 5th & final section of lines. **Engineer Smith will verify the schedule.**

Mr. Wertz notes of the joint PTMA and SMA meeting scheduled for November 18 at 7:00 p.m., with the location still pending. Alex Morrison from ARRO is to be in attendance.

### **Water – President Kline**

President Kline and Mr. Zimmerman discuss the RAFA meeting with Exeter Supply scheduled for later this month. President Kline will be reviewing the quotes of \$78,000 and \$42,000 he received for the valves.

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

Trunk-or-Treat was held on October 30 and attended by approximately 300 children. President Kline thanks the Recreation Board and Vice President Botwright for the setup and planning of the event. The park will be winterized next week.

Mr. Zimmerman states that the Shoemakersville Baseball Association would like to install new bleachers on the 3<sup>rd</sup> base side of the little league field. Council discusses relocating the old bleachers to the skate park.

\*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to permit the bleachers to be replaced at the little league field. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Ms. Kennedy-Kline submits her comments on the proposed zoning ordinance to Mr. Wertz.

### **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 October 27, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for November 3, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright notes the next budget meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10.

### **Safety – Mayor Remp**

Council discusses the Keystone Military Families food distribution, with Ms. Randazzo stating that the November distribution days will be the 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The 21<sup>st</sup> is anticipated to draw a large crowd. The December days have not yet been scheduled. Council and Mr. Zimmerman discuss signage to encourage residents along the distribution route to move their vehicles for the event.

### **New Business**

As a workshop/budget meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, at 7:00 p.m., the November 17 meeting will be cancelled.

Mayor Remp and Council discuss the 2021 meeting schedule.

### **Old Business**

The Berks County Planning Commission has no issue with the proposed subdivision for 326 & 328 Main St., provided no new structural changes take place on the property, as the area is in the flood plan. Council, Engineer Smith, and Solicitor Mooney discuss the application. Both properties have separate water and sewer lines. **Mr. Zimmerman will verify the location of the sanitary line for 328 Apple Ln. Engineer Smith will review the plans.** A borough planning commission meeting will be scheduled for December 1 at 7:00 p.m., to take place before the monthly council meeting.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner  
Secretary/Treasurer