

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Shoemakersville Borough**

**April 19, 2022**

President Kline called the workshop of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the Shoemakersville Borough Office, 846 Main St., Shoemakersville, PA at 7:01 p.m.

**In attendance:** Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright – Vice President, Michael Grim, Tara Kennedy-Kline, Dana Randazzo, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., and Paul Gruber – Manager.

Absent from the meeting: Dustin Remp - Mayor

**Mayor's Report**

Vice President Botwright discusses Mayor Remp's thought to have a community bulletin board out front of the borough office. She feels the board already in place is publicly accessible and could be used. She further discusses the possibility of a lockable community board to use for additional community events, and references the board in place at the pool. **Mr. Gruber will look into pricing for a lockable bulletin board.**

**Manager's Report – Mr. Gruber**

Mr. Gruber discusses the camera quotes for the sewer plant, garage and borough office that were received from BK Computers, and requests Council's approval to proceed.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve BK Computer Quote #2528 for \$5,109.16 to install cameras at the borough office, garage, and wastewater treatment plant. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber reviews the Axiom quote for a rebuild kit for the filter effluent pump that was taken out.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve Axiom Quote #193657 for \$985.53 for the pump rebuild kit. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. President Kline priced all three items, verifying that the quote is reasonable. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber reports that today the hydrant at Main St. & Noble Ave. was replaced, as well as locating the water shut-off valve for 453 Main St. Mr. Gruber notes that as overtime was incurred, staff may leave early on Friday, pending the workload.

Mr. Gruber is working on the Industrial Discharge Permit for Wolfe Dye & Bleach.

Ms. Kennedy-Kline and Mr. Gruber discuss a resident's concern regarding the condition of Park St. and how it may affect the wall at the rear of her property that borders Park St. She would like to repair the wall, but feels that the poor condition of the roadway will continue to damage the wall. Mr. Gruber feels that the wall is the resident's responsibility and recommends that she repair small portions of the wall at a time, as opposed to repairing/replacing the entire wall at once. President Kline agrees that the wall is the responsibility of the property owner.

Mr. Gruber will forward the March 28 I&I Inspection Report to Council upon completion. There were 12 locations, with the worst manhole being directly in front of the wastewater plant.

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

Mr. Smith and Council discuss Mr. Zimmerman’s quotes for tool boxes on the new truck.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to purchase two Brute TopSlider toolboxes. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Council discusses freight costs. Mr. Wertz amends the motion to include a cost not to exceed \$1,600. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Smith, Mr. Gruber and Council review Mr. Zimmerman’s quote for a utility trailer. Council feels a larger trailer may be needed. **Mr. Gruber will speak with Mr. Zimmerman regarding size and uses for the trailer.**

### **Sewer – Mr. Wertz**

Mr. Wertz discusses last week’s meeting with PTMA. The next SMA meeting will be held on April 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the borough office.

### **Water – President Kline**

President Kline reports that he is compiling an estimate to move the electric at well #1.

President Kline discusses the Letter of Consent received from T-Mobile, regarding planned modifications to their antenna on the water tower. T-Mobile would be responsible for all necessary permits.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize Council President to sign the Letter of Consent for T-Mobile, dated April 14. Seconded by Mr. Grim. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Children’s Fair is June 4.

Ms. Kennedy-Kline and Vice President Botwright discuss the possibility of offering swim lessons this season, with Vice President Botwright stating that staff and work schedules will be a determining factor. If lessons are to be offered, Vice President Botwright will distribute information in June.

Vice President Botwright spoke with the Shoey Baseball Assoc. and other groups, regarding placement of an AED in the park. She is researching grants for the equipment. Josh Krick is present and offers to reach out to St. Joseph’s Hospital or St. Luke’s Hospital regarding a possible donation. Mr. Grim and Vice President Botwright discuss placement of an AED at the pool as well.

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

Mr. Wertz reviewed the regulations for signs. The proposed ordinance identifies types of signs that are not technically signs; official flags with state insignias, decorative/seasonal garden flags, and restaurant “sandwich board” signs. He also reviewed the types of signs what would be permitted or obtained through special exception.

**Employee Relations – President Kline** - nothing to report

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

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for April 5, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for April 19, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright discusses the proposed resolution for sewer rates, which would specifically and separately mention the consumer and bulk customer rates, noting that the bulk customer would be responsible for a portion of the system maintenance costs, as Pennvest had not included this information in their calculations for the loan.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adopt Resolution 150-2022, setting the rates for the treatment of wastewater, sanitary sewage and industrial discharges within the borough and to certain bulk customers. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Community Outreach – Ms. Randazzo**

The Community Yard Sale will be held on May 14. Two individuals have inquired about spaces in front of the borough garage. Ms. Randazzo will re-advertise for the availability of spaces, possibly reaching out to local vendors as well. Council discusses several social media outlets where the event may be advertised.

Mr. Grim suggests using a pocket folder to disseminate information to new residents, as opposed to a printed brochure, as a way to reduce costs. Ms. Randazzo and Mr. Grim discuss the printing of the information.

### **New Business**

President Kline discusses an e-mail sent by Engineer Smith, regarding approval of the contract documents for the road project.

\*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to amend the meeting agenda to include approval of the AMS paving bid. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the signing of the AMS bid documents, pending review and approval by the borough engineer and solicitor. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Comment**

**Dustin Folk (260 Hunter Liggett Dr.):** Owns Folk Paving and quotes the recent Facebook post made by Mr. Grim, noting that he (Mr. Grim) stated he would be going on a bloody killing spree if any more of his neighbors have their driveways worked on in the middle of the week. He also reads the online interaction between Mr. Grim and someone that commented on the original post. Mr. Folk states that this has created a big issue with his company, as several of his employees have refused to complete work in the borough, since they feel unsafe, due to the social media post. Mr. Folk wishes to maintain his good relationship with the borough, but feels this situation should be addressed.

Mr. Grim denies the post, stating it was not put out in a public forum and is not on his Facebook page. He states the post was publicly displayed by someone else. Josh Krick (did not sign in) notes of his concern with this matter and states that the PA State Police was contacted. The State Police then contacted Mr. Folk, who notes that the State Police IT department linked the original post to Mr. Grim.

President Kline and Mr. Folk discuss what the borough could do to help with Mr. Folk's staffing concern. Mr. Folk will further reach out to Council if need be. On a different topic, Mr. Krick states that he is now the Shoey Baseball Vice President and that Mr. Folk is the President.

Mr. Grim states that he created a non-public post, that was made public by a troublemaker that he spoke out against a few weeks ago. He discusses a secret group where two sitting Council members make fake allegations about himself and Mayor Remp. Mr. Grim feels a council online code of conduct should be created. Vice President Botwright discusses the social media posts and how they may be perceived and sometimes misinterpreted. Mr. Grim apologizes if someone publicly posted something, in an effort to cause trouble, that he privately posted. He was just venting his frustration. Council further discusses the post and its intent, as well as social media in general.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz that Borough Council permit Mr. Wertz to draft a Letter of Censure to Councilman Grim for his comments on Facebook. Seconded by Ms. Randazzo. President Kline states that if a State Police investigation is underway, he would like to see the outcome first, before a censure is made. Mr. Grim spoke with the State Police, who stated that the matter was resolved. Motion carried by a vote of 4-3, with Ms. Randazzo, Mr. Smith, Mr. Wertz, and Ms. Kennedy voting yes, Mr. Grim abstaining, and President Kline and Vice President Botwright voting no.

### **Old Business**

Council discusses the outstanding Sheetz bond and Sheetz's request for the return of their Letter of Credit. Vice President Botwright recommends discussing the matter with Solicitor Mooney before returning the Letter of Credit. Further discussion will take place at the May 3 meeting.

Mr. Smith asks if a final decision has been made to allow the borough office to become the borough's new polling location. Council discusses the matter, with Ms. Kennedy-Kline discussing the outcome of the election results for the borough's judge of elections. President Kline notes that the county may be able to inspect the building this summer, to potentially be used in time for the November election.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer