

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough**

August 3, 2022

President Kline called the monthly meeting 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, Michael Grim, Tara Kennedy-Kline, Dana Randazzo, Dana Smith, Dustin Remp – Mayor, Doug Kopp – Engineer – leaves at 7:23 p.m., Paul Gruber – Manager, Chad Zimmerman – Zoning/Public Works, and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: Amy Botwright – Vice President, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Keith Mooney - Solicitor

John Skeparnias is present on behalf of the Shoemakersville Shopping Center to discuss the Tractor Supply zoning consistency letter. Mr. Zimmerman reports that the requests are either permitted or allowable by special exception from Council. President Kline notes that the fenced in area would be an accessory use and would require a variance from the zoning hearing board. Mr. Zimmerman will complete and send the zoning letter.

President Kline and Mr. Skeparnias discuss Reber St. and how the proposed traffic flow from that street would run behind Tractor Supply, where the loading docks are to be located. Mr. Skeparnias will speak with Mr. Homel regarding logistics on the matter. CVS will move to a new building, with that current structure becoming vacant and available for use by any new tenant.

Mr. Grim and President Kline discuss the zoning consistency letter and the requested waiver letter.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Zimmerman

- **Permits:** Two permits were issued for sheds and one permit was issued for a fence and driveway.
- **Notices:** There were 14 notices sent last month for high grass or junk. All matters are being addressed.

Solicitor’s Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **Perry Commercial Center/Shoemakersville Shopping Center:** The matters regarding a stormwater waiver request letter and the zoning review will be discussed at the workshop.
- **Dogs in the Park:** Council briefly discusses the information Solicitor Mooney forwarded regarding borough liability if dogs were permitted in the park.
- **Property at 115 E. 9th St.:** The property sold at auction for \$89,000.

Engineer’s Report – Mr. Kopp

- **Headworks & Solids Handling, Bidding & Construction:** ARRO is receiving, logging, and reviewing shop drawings from Eastern Environmental. Provided that deliveries are on time, the anticipated start of actual construction is the beginning of August. ARRO recommends approval of the EEC payment application #1 for \$145,127.70.

*A motion is made by President Kline to approve payment application #1 for Eastern Environmental for \$145,127.70. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Berks County MS4 Meeting:** Mr. Kopp discusses Engineer Smith's attendance at the most recent meeting. The county will be updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan and will be requesting that all municipalities adopt the plan.
- **MS4 Renewal & Waiver:** The permit renewal and waiver process has been delayed. DEP is now processing permits out of the regional offices and no longer from the central office. The waiver request would take ARRO approximately 8 hours to complete. **President Kline asks if ARRO could provide a list of waiver criteria that should be met.**
- **MS4 Program Stormwater Ordinance:** ARRO is preparing a draft ordinance to update the stormwater management ordinance to comply with the MS4 Program. A draft ordinance will be provided for discussion at the workshop meeting.
- **PCB Pollutant Management Plan:** The annual report for the Pollutant Management Plan is due in August.
- **H2O & Small Project Grant:** ARRO met with Mr. Gruber at the plant on July 12 to assist with the pneumatic valve replacement project.
- **Water Plant Instrumentation Update:** The permit for the instrumentation update was issued.
- **Park Grant:** ARRO will assist Mr. Gruber as needed.
- **Wellhead Protection Ordinance:** The ordinance is being considered for inclusion into the zoning ordinance.
- **NPDES Permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant:** The permit will expire on December 31, 2022. ARRO has received verification of the submission to PADEP.
- **PTMA Meeting:** Engineer Smith was present at the July PTMA meeting with Mr. Gruber and Mr. Wertz.
- **Capital Improvements Plan:** The borough manager has requested ARRO assist in planning, designing, and permitting the replacement of the air piping from the blowers to the digesters.

Mr. Gruber recommends not excavating, but going above ground with the air pipes.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence – Ms. Wagner

The borough office will be closed on August 24-26 & 29 and September 2.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp

Mayor Remp reports that the Hometown Heroes banner ceremony went well, with Mr. Zimmerman stating that the banners will be hung by the end of summer. Mr. Zimmerman asks Mayor Remp to include an indemnity clause on the form that is being drafted for banners to be relocated.

Mayor Remp has completed the process to register Shoemakersville's Neighbor Watch Program. The next NWP meeting will take place on September 10.

Mayor Remp reviews the July State Police report, which notes of 69 incidents in the borough.

Trunk-or-Treat nights have been set for October 30 and 31.

Mayor Remp reports on motorcycle activity in the community, noting of a confrontation at Cousin's Pub involving the Pagans, as well as an incident by JAM Automotive in the borough. He was also notified by the PA State Police Task Force of Malicious MC and Bros MC activity in the area.

Operator/Manager's Report - Mr. Gruber

Mr. Gruber has thoroughly reviewed the PTMA 3rd amendment to the Industrial Wastewater Agreement and the PTMA Water Agreement and would like to discuss the documents at the workshop.

Mr. Gruber has received quotes from Manmiller Electric and Wiring by Wall for the LED lights in the press house. The quote from Manmiller is lower.

*A motion is made by President Kline to approve the Manmiller Electric quote of \$2,593 for LED lights in the press house. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber recommends payment of the Wagner Auction Service invoice for sale of the 115 E. 9th St. property.

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to authorize payment of the Wagner Auction Service invoice of \$3,118.31. Seconded by Mr. Grim. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber has worked with Solicitor Mooney to complete the Industrial Discharge Permit for Wolfe Dye & Bleach and recommends that Council approve the permit, IDP-002.

*A motion is made by President Kline to approve IDP-002 for Wolfe Dye & Bleach, pending the required signatures and notary seal. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber reports that the Hach equipment was installed, with the water plant now having SCADA capability.

Mr. Gruber states that the new email platform is working well.

Council has no issue with Mr. Gruber's request to institute a monthly 1-2 hour Meet the Manager event, where residents can discuss their concerns in a forum where Council is not present.

Mr. Grim thanks Mr. Gruber for the informative visit and tour he had at the wastewater plant.

Mr. Gruber reports that the tree trimming work in the park has been completed.

Mr. Gruber received notice from Dan Hershey that PTMA has found a company to perform the PCB testing, but is still attempting to locate a composite sampler.

President Kline and Mr. Gruber discuss the polymer pump drives, with Mr. Gruber stating that one was installed and the second was found to be faulty. The old motor stopped working and is being repaired by Reading Electric.

Mr. Gruber is waiting for a revised and detailed quote with specs, for the valves, from Yeager Supply.

Property/Streets/Sanitation – Mr. Smith:

Mr. Smith discusses Council’s previous approval to install air conditioning in the wastewater plant lab and office. He has updated quotes for a low heat outdoor unit & installation for \$9,195 and an outdoor unit without low heat for \$8,225.

*A motion is made by Mr. Smith to add bids to install air conditioning and a heat pump at the wastewater plant lab and office to the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Grim. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Smith to install the low heat, heat pump and air conditioning in the wastewater plant lab and office at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. Seconded by Mr. Grim. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer – Mr. Wertz

President Kline reports that PTMA is responsible for 40% of the cost of the project at the plant. He notes that there has been no word from them if they will be using financing for their portion.

*A motion is made by President Kline to authorize the sending of an invoice to PTMA for \$662,440 which is 40% of the original amount of the contract sum. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Water – President Kline

The Hach equipment has been installed.

Parks & Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline – nothing to report

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz:

Ms. Kennedy-Kline reports that the committee is still reviewing the zoning ordinance.

Employee Relations – President Kline – nothing to report

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to approve the minutes for July 19, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Grim. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to approve the bills payable for August 3, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Grim. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Outreach – Ms. Randazzo

The community yard sale will be on September 10 from 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

New Business

Public Comment

Chief Wagner (300 Church Ave.):

The fire company received a federal grant for \$100,000 which will be used for hydraulic tools. The fire company received a state grant for \$14,000 which was used to purchase an industrial dryer, with the fire gear scheduled to be cleaned every 6 months.

If rentals for the storage lot stay on track, the fire company is scheduled to break even on the project by this time next year.

Chief Wagner reports that the fire company will review any plans submitted for the Perry Commercial Center and the Shoemakersville Shopping Center. He notes that the last set of plans for a warehouse project in the township did not include a fire lane around the building or any hydrants in the overflow parking lot.

Old Business

Doggie Dip Day will take place at the pool on September 10 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., for \$10/dog.

A motion is made by Mr. Smith to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer