

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Shoemakersville Borough**

**February 20, 2024**

President Kline called the workshop of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the Shoemakersville Borough Office, 846 Main St., Shoemakersville, PA at 7:03 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 & Codes and Brandon Nabar – Junior Council Person.

Absent from the meeting: Dustin Remp – Mayor

**Manager’s Report – Mr. Gruber**

Mr. Gruber is requesting to purchase a fire hydrant meter and adapter, for more accurate water usage recording when hydrants are flushed. While this purchase is not in the budget, a portion of the funds from selling scrap metal would cover the cost.

\*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to approve Exeter Supply Quote 01/713470 for a fire hydrant meter at a cost not to exceed \$881. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

In order to save \$1,000 in shipping costs, Mr. Gruber would like to purchase a year’s worth of testing chemicals and dissolved oxygen probes for the water plant at one time. Mr. Gruber and Vice President Botwright discuss the shelf-life of the products, which is 2 ½ to 3 years.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve USA Blue Book Quote 1054841-5 for \$5,742.42 for the reagents used for water testing. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber discusses the Hach renewal service agreement for inline monitoring equipment for the water plant.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve Hach Quote 1317315, dated February 7, for \$4,843. Seconded by Ms. Randazzo. President Kline and Mr. Gruber discuss the turbidimeters and the 2023 quote cost. Vice President Botwright states last year’s cost was \$4,411.96, although that same amount was paid twice to Hach. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber and Council discuss the Duane Moyer Well Drilling quote for well #6 and the 5-6 year expected life for a pump/motor for the borough. Replacing the pump entirely versus just checking the pump is discussed. **Mr. Gruber will contact Duane Moyer regarding the pump purchase and associated warranty.**

Mr. Gruber will be contacting Tri-State Carbonation for a CO2 quote for the pool. President Kline, Vice President Botwright and Mr. Wertz discuss the Roberts Oxygen quote.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the Roberts Oxygen agreement effective January 1, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Grim. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber discusses the snow emergency ordinance. He believes it should be updated and that an emergency should be called by either Council, the borough manager or the road foreman.

Vice President Botwright discusses the Borough Code, which may designate the Mayor as the individual to call a snow emergency. Mr. Wertz notes that per ordinance for Hamburg, the Police Chief is the designated party. **Mr. Gruber will provide a proposed update to the ordinance for the next meeting.**

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

Mr. Smith, Mr. Wertz and Mr. Gruber drove the borough streets and drafted a street maintenance list. **Mr. Gruber will be speaking with Mike Smith at Folk Paving to obtain recommendations and a quote.**

President Kline and Mr. Wertz discuss Lincoln St., with Mr. Wertz reporting that the depressions on the roadway are associated with sewer and water lines traversing. The repair of Lincoln St. could be extensive.

Mr. Wertz and Mr. Gruber discuss alternate bids for the road project.

Mr. Gruber reports that no trucks from Schneider Trucking have been turning onto Reber St. recently. Ms. Kennedy-Kline notes that a JRL truck sped through the intersection at E. Noble Ave. & Main St. earlier in the day.

Council discusses the Borough Hall ADA improvements drawing drafted by ARRO. ARRO will be completing a PFA for the project, to potentially be funded through an LSA Grant.

Mr. Smith reports that emails from the borough and Perry Elementary were sent to Berks County Elections Services requesting that the polling site be moved.

#### **Sewer – Mr. Wertz**

Mr. Wertz notes of the water meter at the sewer plant and feels that the plant should be billed for the usage. Perry Township should be contributing to the expense.

#### **Water – President Kline** – nothing to report

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

Ms. Kennedy-Kline reports that at the recent Rec Board meeting, a Scibble Tournament at Ollie's was scheduled for March 22. The Rec Board will be hosting an egg hunt at the park on March 23. The theme for this year's Children's Fair is "The Olympics – Past, Present and Future." The park program will run from June 10 – August 2. Volunteers are needed for all events.

The pool will be opening on May 25. Vice President Botwright has completed the CPO refresher and obtained her pesticide license for another 3 years and the CPO for 5 years. Mr. Gruber and Mr. Methax will be taking the CPO testing on March 7. Mr. Bachman will be taking the exam in May or June.

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

Mr. Wertz reports that ARRO has reviewed the land development for Tractor Supply Co. The developer has satisfied ARRO that the stormwater calculations are substantially the same. The developer is planning on planting trees on the west side of the property. The matter of the fire hydrant is still being resolved.

President Kline is waiting to hear back from Kraft Code.

Ms. Kennedy-Kline asks for an update on the TSC rear lot, with Mr. Gruber citing an email he forwarded, which notes that the owner plans to pave the back lot in April. Council discusses the condition and ownership of the lot.

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

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for February 6, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for February 20, 2024. Seconded by Ms. Randazzo. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright reports that the ACH process for bill payments is being finalized and will be tested this week.

**Community Outreach – Ms. Randazzo**

Vice President Botwright received positive feedback on the February newsletter.

**Employee Relations – President Kline**

Council and Mr. Gruber review job descriptions for road crew, foreman, plant operations and the SMA. Road crew will continue to pick up Christmas trees set out for yard waste recycling.

**New Business** - none

**Old Business** - none

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Grim to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer