

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Shoemakersville Borough**

**June 20, 2023**

President Kline called the workshop of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the Shoemakersville Borough Office, 846 Main St., Shoemakersville, PA at 7:04 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

**Manager’s Report – Mr. Gruber**

There were no violations/citations for the DEP’s inspection of the wastewater plant. They recommended the borough be more aggressive with conveyance line inspections.

Mr. Gruber would like to purchase a leaf blower from Kuzan’s for \$649.99.

Mr. Gruber will look into President Kline’s note that the doggie disposal bag containers at the park are empty.

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

Mr. Smith presents the RFP as prepared by Solicitor Mooney and reviewed by Jane Meeks from the county recycling office. Ms. Meeks also provided comments on the RFP.

Mr. Smith spoke with Andrew Casey from Eagle Disposal regarding the missed trash pick-ups on the south end of town. Staffing issues was the cited response for the misses, as drivers from NY and FL had to be called to fill in for PA locations. The driver last week was unfamiliar with the borough’s boundaries. Mr. Gruber compiled a list of missed locations to Eagle Disposal. Council discusses the current contract and the potential breach of contract with the recently missed stops.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Smith to add to the agenda discussion/taking possible action regarding the purchase of a leaf blower. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Smith to purchase a leaf blower at a cost not to exceed \$649.99. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright asks if the UGI work on 7<sup>th</sup> St. includes the portion of roadway that was recently paved by the borough. President Kline and Ms. Kennedy-Kline state that UGI’s work is not taking place in the newly paved area.

**Sewer – Mr. Wertz**

The plant upgrades are nearly complete.

**Water – President Kline**

President Kline met with Mr. Gruber to review an issue with the flowmeter. Mr. Gruber placed a service call as the issue continues.

There has been no update with the status of the valve project permit.

President Kline discusses the motor failure at well #5. Duane Moyer Well Drilling was out and replaced the pump and motor.

Vice President Botwright reports that approximately 20 residents responded with their water meter photos. The responses are automatically logged into a Google spreadsheet.

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

\*A motion is made to hire the following summer pool staff: Brooklyn Tucker and Alex Rodriguez as lifeguards for \$11/hr, Abigail Chaundy as a fill-in experienced lifeguard for \$15/hr and Angel Ortiz and Amiliano Ortiz for snack bar/gate coverage for \$9/hr. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright reports that the 2 pool cameras facing the skate park have not been working properly. The DVR had also been recording continuously and was not motion activated. A quote of \$457.98 to clean up the DVR and for 2 new cameras has been received from BK Computers.

\*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to approve BK Computers to replace the cameras at the pool at a cost not to exceed \$460. Seconded by Mr. Grim. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright reports that the RFP for the Park Master Plan has been advertised.

Vice President Botwright notes that the pool passed the triennial electrical inspection as well as the annual snack bar inspection.

Ms. Kennedy-Kline has received several notifications of people permitting their dogs to run unleashed on the park fields. Vice President Botwright notes of the recently posted no dogs signage at the Little League field. Potential signage for the Babe Ruth field is discussed. **Mr. Gruber will see if any signs are still in stock at the garage.**

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

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to add the appointment of a zoning officer to the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to appoint Paul Gruber as the borough's zoning & code enforcement officer and Melissa Wagner as the assist zoning & code enforcement officer. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Mr. Grim asks if the positions are temporary or permanent and asks if there is any conflict with Mr. Gruber already being the borough manager. President Kline will reach out to Kraft Code Services to request a proposal for code enforcement, zoning and building inspection services. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wertz reports that building and electrical permits were issued for Tractor Supply. President Kline notes that August 23 is the projected opening date.

### **Employee Relations – President Kline**

Applications are being received through Indeed for the open public works position.

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

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for June 6, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for June 20, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Vice President Botwright amends the motion to include a deduction of \$2,300 from the Eagle Disposal payment. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Mr. Grim asks if explanation of the deduction will be provided to Eagle Disposal with the payment, with President Kline stating that justification will be provided. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wertz would like to contact ARRO regarding any available funding opportunities that would correspond with Council's grant/project wish list. He notes of a substantial blower project that may be occurring at the sewer plant, as well as ADA ramps throughout the borough. Mr. Grim discusses road projects. Council discusses electronic recycling. President Kline asks that traffic calming options be added to the wish list.

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

The fall community yard sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 16. Ms. Randazzo will ask participants to include the sale date on their signs and to remove that signage following the sale.

Ms. Randazzo has received cost and contract options from the ARL. Once the ARL's grant funds are depleted, the free TNR options are no longer available. Continuing with the No Nonsense voucher system may be more cost efficient than contracting for animal control services, if TNR is a priority. Ms. Randazzo provides copies of the ARL options, which Council discusses.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to add contracting with the ARL to the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize the borough manager to enter into an agreement with the Animal Rescue League for their limited-service animal control for an amount not to exceed \$1.25/per capita x 1,360 residents. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Ms. Kennedy-Kline would like the contract period to be for 12 months and not just the last 6 months of 2023. Mr. Wertz amends the motion to be for the \$1.25/per capita for a 12-month period, or to pro-rate the amount for July – December 2023. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Ms. Randazzo will forward the ARL contact information to Mr. Gruber. Mr. Wertz amends the motion for the Animal Rescue League contract for \$850 for the remainder of 2023. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

### **New Business**

#### **Public Comment**

**Vernie Noecker (1043 Water St.):** She and her tenants have not received any newsletters in over a year. Vice President Botwright notes that the newsletters are distributed by the Boy Scouts. The Scouts will be contacted regarding the missed locations.

She and Council discuss missed trash pick-up and the process for residents to notify the borough of any misses. In the future, Ms. Noecker will contact any residents she knows that have had their trash missed and will ask that they contact the borough office rather than calling the hauler directly.

Mrs. Noecker was previously informed that repairs would be made to the 300 block of Apple Ln. once the bridge was completed and opened. There are numerous potholes that should be addressed on Apple & Fink Lens.

\*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to purchase a new laptop at a cost not to exceed \$500. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

Council reviews the employee medical insurance quotes.

\*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to renew the employee health benefit PPO Blue \$1500 100/80 Gold plan. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright reports that the deadline for the no parking letter that was sent to the resident at 925 Apple Ln. expires today. Mr. Gruber spoke with the resident, who stated that she is waiting for a resolution from her landlord and the neighboring property owner. While the grass area is planned to be turned into a parking area, she has not heard back from her landlord on a timeframe for the change. Council discusses the issue. Mr. Gruber will issue a notice of violation that the matter be resolved within 30 days.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer