

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough**

June 7, 2022

Vice President Botwright called the monthly meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the Shoemakersville Borough Office, 846 Main St. Shoemakersville, PA at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Amy Botwright –Vice President, Michael Grim, Tara Kennedy-Kline, Dana Randazzo, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Dustin Remp – Mayor, Ed Overberger – Engineer – leaves at 7:39 p.m., Keith Mooney – Solicitor – leaves at 7:39 p.m., Paul Gruber – Manager, Chad Zimmerman – Zoning/Public Works, and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: Chris Kline - President

Code Enforcement – Mr. Zimmerman

- **Permits:** One permit was issued in May to reconfigure and add a paver on a property, and a second for an above ground pool and fence.
- **Notices:** Several notices were sent for high grass and weeds, and a vehicle parked on the street that was out of inspection, with all matters being resolved.

Solicitor’s Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **Advertisement for the sale of 115 E. 9th St.:** Solicitor Mooney met with Wagner Auctioneers at the property. Solicitor Mooney and Council discuss auction dates, deciding upon July 14, with an open house at 5:00 p.m. and the auction to follow at 6:00 p.m. The auctioneer fee is 3% plus the cost of advertising on their website and various other sites. The cost for a no sale would be \$200, plus the cost of advertising. Solicitor Mooney will advertise in the newspaper on behalf of the borough. Settlement will take place within 30 days of the auction date. Solicitor Mooney and Council discuss a minimum bid for the property.

*A motion is made by Mr. Smith to authorize Wagner Auctioneering to auction 115 E. 9th St. on July 14, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Parking Ordinance:** Solicitor Mooney and Mr. Zimmerman have finalized the ordinance restricting parking on E. Noble Ave. Solicitor Mooney will advertise the ordinance for adoption at the workshop meeting.

Engineer’s Report – Mr. Overberger

- **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.
- **WWTP Upgrades Financing:** ARRO will prepare all requests to Pennvest for payment.

- **PCB Pollutant Management Plan:** A meeting was held with PTMA on July 29, 2021 regarding the PCB pollutant potential sources. In the annual report, the borough had committed to completing the following tasks by August 9, 2022:
 1. Continue the discussion with PTMA representatives to share the data collected and discuss the next steps for identifying potential sources outside of the borough's jurisdiction.
 2. Create and issue public outreach documents via newsletter(s) and municipal websites.
 3. Conduct site visits and additional sampling at specific properties based on public outreach response.
 4. If specific sources of PCBs are identified, work with the site owner to establish a plan to reduce or eliminate that source of PCBs.

If the borough fails to show progress on reducing the overall PCB concentration in the effluent, DEP may impose a limit on this parameter in the next NPDES permit cycle.

- **MS4 Program Update Stormwater Ordinance:** The ordinance is required to be updated by the stormwater NPDES. ARRO has prepared this for other municipalities, and requests permission to work on the update for the borough. ARRO's budget to prepare the ordinance is \$4,200.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize ARRO to update the MS4 Program stormwater ordinance at a cost not to exceed \$4,200. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

- **H2O and Small Project Grant:** The \$103,062 grant for the pneumatic valve replacement at the water plant expires on June 30, 2023.
- **Water Plant Instrumentation Update:** ARRO is completing an application and report for submission to PADEP to replace the Hach instruments. A \$50 application fee is required.
- **Retaining Wall on Park Ave.:** ARRO has examined the wall along Park St., located on the property at 335 Pennsylvania Ave. Borough staff will move stones away from the front of the wall. This was not deemed to be a water run-off issue.
- **Wellhead Protection Ordinance:** The ordinance is being considered for inclusion into the zoning ordinance.
- **NPDES Permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant:** The renewal application was submitted to PADEP on May 31, for the permit that expires on December 31, 2022. ARRO has received verification of the submission to PADEP.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence

The deadline to submit content for the summer newsletter is June 13. The borough office will be closed June 20-24.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp

Mayor Remp reports that the Neighborhood Watch Group is not nationally registered. He has completed the paperwork and notes that each member will pay their own \$17 registration fee. Kantner's Tire paid for 36 Watch Group polo shirts to be made, which were worn by some members at Children's Fair.

The Hometown Heroes banner ceremony will be at the borough park on July 17 at 1:00 p.m. Mayor Remp will post notice of the event on social media and Vice President Botwright will include this information in the summer newsletter.

Mr. Grim discusses a community program for Ring doorbells, whereby Neighborhood Watch Group members could pay a subscription fee to interact with residents' cameras that also have the subscription. They may be able to receive a discount on pricing.

Mayor Remp reviews the May State Police report, which noted of 76 incidents in the borough.

Operator/Manager's Report - Mr. Gruber

Mr. Gruber and Mr. Zimmerman have reviewed the applications for borough staff and will forward their thoughts to Council.

Progress is being made at the sewer plant, with the plan to have room in all 3 digesters when the project begins in August, as to not incur the expense of having to haul out water. Staff have all been trained on plant operations and are on a rotating work schedule for the site.

Mr. Zimmerman will be obtaining another quote for the tree work.

Mr. Grim and Mr. Gruber discuss the camera replacement at the sewer plant. Bill Kerper will purchase the equipment once he receives payment.

Mr. Gruber and Council discuss the new park signage and how potential changes would require an amended ordinance. Council discusses any borough liability in permitting dogs in the park, **with Solicitor Mooney noting that he will review the exemptions.**

Mr. Gruber met with Mark Wolfe to discuss the Industrial Discharge Permit.

Mr. Gruber discusses his call with PTMA regarding the reconciliation agreement.

Mr. Gruber reports on items from President Kline: Wiring by Wall and Met-Ed have tickets entered for the electrical rework with the well 1 power feeds. T-Mobile will need to be told that they do not have permission to weld onto the water tank. A quote for re-lamping the filter press room will be received.

For the updated zoning ordinance, President Kline suggests utilizing the current zoning ordinance provisions covering property boundary intensity limits, for limits on lighted signs. A chain should be installed across the bollards at the north end of the gravel lot at the park, so that it may be used as an exit during events. The Klines donated a plastic post and chain to be utilized by the borough.

Mr. Gruber discusses ARRO's yearly PTMA sewer reconciliation. ARRO believes that there should be an adjusted amendment or agreement to include the Pennvest payment financing. Mr. Gruber forwards the reconciliation calculations email to Solicitor Mooney for his review. Mr. Wertz and Mr. Overberger discuss the line items on the financial reconciliation, noting that the sewer project appears to be noted twice under expenses, as it appears under equipment replacement and debt principal. **The spreadsheet will be forwarded to Vice President Botwright for her review.**

Council, Mr. Overberger, and Solicitor Mooney discuss the agreement, which notes that PTMA is not to be billed for their portion of any plant projects or expenses until after the yearly reconciliation is completed.

Property/Streets/Sanitation – Mr. Smith

Mr. Smith reports that there is a refrigerant leak in the air conditioning system for the borough office. He has received a quote of \$4,000 from Tri-County Heating & Cooling for a new system.

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to approve the quote from Tri-County Heating & Cooling to install the Tempstar air conditioning system at a cost not to exceed \$4,000. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grim asks if the ARP funds could be utilized for the unbudgeted air conditioning expense, with Vice President Botwright stating that Ms. Wagner will review the list of permitted expenses.

Sewer – Mr. Wertz

Vice President Botwright will review the PTMA reconciliation spreadsheet.

Mr. Wertz recognizes the recent work and efforts completed by Mr. Gruber and staff at the plant.

Water – President Kline

Mr. Wertz discusses the process involved in moving the electric lines when a well pump is pulled.

Parks & Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

Ms. Kennedy-Kline reports that Children’s Fair went well and notes that Perry Township may play a larger role in the fair in the future.

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to hire the following pool staff for 2022: Lifeguards: Megan Good at \$15/hr, Javion Heckman and Amilliono Oriz at \$11/hr. upon successful completion of their certification, and Erika Zimmerman at \$12/hr. Gate Coverage: Kady Ells and Alex Ripple at \$8/hr. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Kennedy-Kline reports that the committee will be updating the park rules for the new signs to be made. She would like the committee to look at a designated area at the park for pets.

Vice President Botwright and Mr. Zimmerman discuss adding additional caulk around metal areas at the park pavilion, with Mr. Zimmerman stating that the work was added to the repair list.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz

Vice President Botwright will forward her comments on fences for the zoning ordinance to Mr. Wertz.

Mr. Wertz will be reviewing “other structures” in the zoning ordinance draft. Council discusses fences and screening. Mr. Wertz has almost completed his review of signs as well.

Employee Relations – President Kline

The committee will be reviewing the applications received for borough staff.

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the minutes for May 17, 2022. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the bills payable for June 7, 2022. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Outreach – Ms. Randazzo – nothing to report

New Business

Public Comment

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.):

Mr. Geschwindt asks for the water report, with Ms. Wagner stating that Suburban tested the water on May 4 at the water plant and New Era Logistics and that all results met the necessary requirements.

Mr. Geschwindt and Mayor Remp discuss the process for changing locations of Hometown Heroes banners.

Mr. Geschwindt requests an update on the strip mall, with Lance Adam stating that there has been no movement on the project. Vice President Botwright reports that the developer did not pay the borough the remaining balance for the land near the pool and would need to bid again if they wish to purchase the land. There has been no update of which business may move into the vacant grocery store.

Old Business

Vice President Botwright reviews the upcoming borough events listed on the agenda.

A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer