

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough**

May 7, 2024

President Kline called the monthly meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the Shoemakersville Borough Office, 846 Main St. Shoemakersville, PA at 7:03 p.m.

In attendance: Chris Kline - President, Amy Botwright – Vice President, Michael Grim, Tara Kennedy-Kline, Dana Randazzo, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Dustin Remp – Mayor, David Kee – Engineer – leaves at 7:23 p.m., Keith Mooney – Solicitor – leaves at 7:23 p.m., Brandon Nabar – Junior Council Person, and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: Paul Gruber – Borough Manager & Codes

Code Enforcement – Mr. Gruber

- **Permits & Notices:** No questions on the submitted report.

Solicitor’s Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **Snow Emergency Ordinance:** The draft ordinance is ready to be advertised for adoption at the June meeting. Solicitor Mooney and President Kline discuss the designee.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize the solicitor to advertise Ordinance 466-2024 for adoption at the June meeting. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Police Pension:** The preliminary hearing for the former borough police chief has been continued several times, being currently scheduled for June 24, 2024.

Engineer’s Report – Mr. Kee

- **Growing Greener Grant:** Mr. Kee reports that the contractor has submitted their final pay application in the amount of \$3,980. There is a maintenance period for 1 year, beginning at the end of the last period.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to authorize payment of payment application #2 to Construction Master Services in the amount of \$3,980. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Bell Warehouse Land Development:** Mr. Kee reports that the applicant may require a time extension, with he and Solicitor Mooney discussing the timeframe for borough review. If action is not taken by the required date, the plan will be automatically approved. Solicitor Mooney recommends the borough contingently deny the plan at the May workshop meeting, unless a time extension letter is received by the 90-day deadline date. He suggests inviting the developer to a planning commission meeting to go through the review letter. Mr. Wertz confirms that per the MPC, the project would be deemed approved if Council does not take any action.

- **LSA Grant:** Mr. Kee reports that a decision on the grant will be made at their September meeting.

Fire Chief’s Report – Chief Wagner

There are no questions to the Incident Type Report for April. President Kline and Chief Wagner discuss what constitutes a medical assist call for the fire company.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence – Ms. Wagner

The borough office will be closed from May 22-24 & May 31.

Ms. Wagner received a request to update the draft April 16 workshop minutes to change the upcoming team meeting date from April 5 to April 19.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp

Mayor Remp reviews the April PA State Police Report noting of 70 calls.

Round 5 for the Hometown Heroes banner applications is open. Mayor Remp and Ms. Wagner discuss 2 applications that were received for residents in Perry Twp. Mayor Remp and President Kline discuss evaluating any fading banners and reaching out to those applicants to see if they wish to apply for a new banner.

Six members were present at the April 20 Neighborhood Watch meeting. While 3 members have or will be leaving the group, Mayor Remp has received inquiries from 3 individuals who wish to join the program. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the borough office. While a trooper was previously scheduled to attend the May meeting, one will not be available that evening.

Operator/Manager's Report - Mr. Gruber - No questions on the submitted report.

Junior Council Person's Report – Mr. Nabar

Mr. Nabar reports that the first installment for the Know Your Local project has been posted on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and will soon be available on You Tube. Links will be posted on the social media accounts. More information on the program can be found at www.knowyourlocal.org.

Property/Streets/Sanitation – Mr. Smith

*A motion is made by Mr. Smith to accept the Folk Paving quote #3 for 6th & Franklin Sts. at a cost of \$12,400. Seconded by Ms. Kennedy-Kline. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Smith to approve Sloan quote # 5-5157 for Chestnut St., between 8th & 9th Sts. at a cost of \$15,245. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Smith to approve Sloan quote #5-5156 for 9th & Reber Sts. at a cost of \$7,410. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wertz, Ms. Randazzo and borough staff met at the borough garage to review the condition of the roof. In between 3 sloped areas on the roof, running front to back, there is a large area which has several places where the black rubber under the shingles is shrinking and tearing away. There are holes toward the edges along the parapet walls and under the shingles. Mr. Wertz further discusses the condition of the roof and feels the majority of the water infiltration could be resolved if the larger holes are patched. The slope facing the north side of the building could be repaired inhouse. There are structural defects of a few timbers being eroded and having been rotted by water, that could be repairable. Mr. Mohn was knowledgeable on the last round of roof repairs and could assist in future repairs inhouse.

Mr. Wertz notes of staff's desire to have more options to park and feels it may be prudent to reconfigure the building. He asked ARRO to look back over the last 5 years for pricing on pole buildings they were involved in constructing and notes that a year ago a 6,000 sq. ft. building was \$540,000. Approximately 5 years ago a structure just under 3,000 sq. ft. was \$270,000. President Kline asks **Mr. Wertz to obtain quotes for repair and pricing for replacement, for budgetary purposes.**

Sewer – Mr. Wertz – nothing to report

Water – President Kline

President Kline reports that Suburban tested the water at the Kwik Shoppe and the sewer plant on April 2 and that all requirements were met.

President Kline states that a new curb stop shutoff was installed at 614 Main St. and that 3-water shut-offs took place due to non-payment.

Mr. Wertz reached out to retired Ed Overberger to discuss the Lead and Copper Rule. Mr. Overberger notes that the majority of smaller municipalities will be unable to fully comply by the deadline and suggests that the borough report on what programs have been instituted to comply by October. Mr. Wertz spoke with Mr. Santilli and Mr. Hepner regarding the water lines, with Mr. Hepner noting that he had been in numerous borough basements throughout his plumbing career and feels it would be rare to have any lead service lines. Ms. Kennedy-Kline notes that Mr. Gruber's report states that 359 water service connections have been inventoried and that he plans to have the list completed by the end of July.

Parks & Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to approve the list of Shoemakersville Pool employees as presented. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Vice President Botwright amends the motion to note only hourly pool employees. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to approve the Shoemakersville Park leaders as presented. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright thanks the Neighborhood Watch members for their participation in the Earth Day event at the borough park.

Vice President Botwright reports on vandalism at the skate park, with borough staff having made repairs. While the individuals on camera could not be identified, visitors who frequent the skate park have suspicions on who the perpetrators may be.

Vice President Botwright notes that borough staff added "No parking on the grass" signs at the park, in an effort to remedy the issue.

Vice President Botwright and President Kline discuss the ADA swing, with Vice President Botwright reporting that a replacement swing cannot be acquired.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz – nothing to report

Employee Relations – President Kline

Vice President Botwright discusses the tracking of staff time and recommends eliminating several budget items in order to streamline the accounting and payroll process. President Kline has submitted comments to Vice President Botwright and asks Council to review the list and forward any comments.

Vice President Botwright is finalizing the job descriptions list and should be completed by the end of the week.

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for April 16, 2024, including the change in the team meeting date from April 5 to April 19. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for May 7, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to authorize the borough manager to sign the endorsement increasing the deductible on the flood insurance. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Mr. Grim asks what changes were made, with Mr. Wertz noting that the deductible was increased, which will reduce the payment. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Outreach – Ms. Randazzo

The May newsletter was mailed. Ms. Randazzo has begun posting the Community Yard Sale details on social media.

New Business

Public Comment

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.): Asks what plan Solicitor Mooney was referring to earlier in the meeting, with President Kline noting of plans for warehouses on the Bell owned property, where Mr. Bell previously had plans for homes. Well #3 will not be touched.

Mr. Geschwindt asks for an update on the strip mall with President Kline not being aware of any action.

Mark Paine (25 Main St.): Has spoken to Mr. Gruber regarding a vehicle being parked on the sidewalk at 135 Main St. He references Vice President Botwright's comment of the required 36" ADA sidewalk clearance from a previous meeting and notes that there is less sidewalk available when the vehicle is parked on the sidewalk. Someone riding a scooter recently had to go out into the street as the sidewalk was blocked. Ms. Kennedy-Kline discusses parking on the driveway apron. Ms. Wagner reports that a second notice was recently sent to the vehicle owner and that the borough may have limited enforcement on the matter, as there is not a current stop, standing, parking ordinance in place. **President Kline will look into enforcement**, as the parking may be a violation of the MPC. Vice President Botwright feels the matter may be an ADA violation.

Mr. Paine missed a few meetings and asks for an update on the replacement of the stop sign at the southwest corner of 9th & Main Sts. by the borough office. Ms. Kennedy-Kline references requirements that may be in place regarding sign placement at an intersection. **President Kline reports that the sign was discussed at a previous meeting and that he will look into the matter.**

President Kline asks Mr. Paine if speeding has reduced since the electronic speed sign was moved back to the south end of Main St., with Mr. Paine noting that the speeding as decreased. President Kline is looking into downloading data from the signs.

Old Business

President Kline notes of upcoming borough events: Children's Fair on June 1 and the Community Yard Sale on June 8.

A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer