

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough**

October 3, 2023

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 7:01 p.m.

In attendance: Amy Botwright – Vice President, Michael Grim, Dana Randazzo, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Dustin Remp – Mayor, David Kee – Engineer – leaves at 7:24 p.m., Keith Mooney – Solicitor – leaves at 7:24 p.m., Paul Gruber – Borough Manager & Codes, Gary Methax – Public Works Supervisor, Brandan Nabar – Junior Council Person, and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: Chris Kline - President, Tara Kennedy-Kline

Code Enforcement – Mr. Gruber

- **Permits & Notices:** Twelve notices were sent in September, with all planning to be resolved. A demolition permit was issued to Billy Blankenbiller for the 146 Main St. property.

Solicitor’s Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **Garbage/Recycling Contracts:** The signed contracts should be returned to Republic Services. Solicitor Mooney will draft the Notices to Proceed.
- **PTMA Sewer & Water Agreements:** Solicitor Mooney is waiting to hear back from Mark Koch.
- **License / Indemnification Agreement:** Solicitor Mooney will be reviewing the agreement, focusing on Paragraph 5, which appears broad and should have some limits noted. He states that a map of the property should be attached to the agreement and would help in setting some of the limits. Mr. Wertz and Vice President Botwright discuss the property survey. According to the agreement, the borough would be responsible for anything on the neighboring property. Council and Solicitor Mooney discuss insurance liability and what parties, including the baseball association, should be a part of the agreement. Solicitor Mooney recommends forwarding the agreement, when finalized, to the insurance company for coverage.

Engineer’s Report – Mr. Kee

- **Tractor Supply:** Mr. Kee will review the new plans that were submitted earlier in the day.
- **PADEP Drinking Water Permit:** The second set of valves for the second filter were replaced. The operations permit was received.

Secretary’s Report/Correspondence – Ms. Wagner

The current electric contract expires December 31, 2023. IGS continues to offer the lowest rates.

The office will be closed on October 9.

The November monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 8.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp

Mayor Remp reviews the September PA State Police Report, noting 108 incidents.

The Hometown Heroes banners were delivered. The ceremony will be held in the park at noon on Saturday, October 21. Mayor Remp will forward a copy of the banner relocation form to Mr. Geschwindt.

The next Neighborhood Watch Program meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 4.

Operator/Manager's Report - Mr. Gruber

Mr. Gruber and Mr. Kee met with Sheetz regarding the close out inspections to release the letters of credit. Sheetz has not responded to Mr. Gruber's recent communications.

Mr. Gruber discusses his request to decrease the Industrial Discharge Permit TDS monthly limit from 5000 mg/L to 4000 mg/L.

There will be an interruption of electric service for 4 hours on October 19. Areas affected will include parts of the 900 & 800 blocks of Main St. and Apple Ln.

Mr. Gruber has received a quote from Main Stream Industries of \$3,780 for two push button solar pedestrian crossing signs at Noble Ave. & Chestnut St.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve Exeter Supply quote 01/709819 of \$9,460 for two fire hydrants with mega-lug assemblies. Seconded by Ms. Randazzo. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the purchase of a HACH DR300 chlorine pocket colorimeter from USA Bluebook at a cost not to exceed \$700. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gruber reports that staff installed the swing gate from the sewer plant to the northwest corner of the pool, to allow for easier delivery of chlorine and CO2 when filling the tanks. Winterization of the pool has begun.

Property/Streets/Sanitation – Mr. Smith

Trash pickup will change to Tuesday, beginning October 31. Recycling pickup will remain every other Tuesday.

Sewer – Mr. Wertz – nothing to report

Water – President Kline

Mr. Wertz reports that Suburban Labs tested the water on September 5 at the water plant and New Era Logistics and that all requirements were met.

Parks & Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

Trunk-or-Treat will be held in the park on October 27. Trick-or-Treat will be October 30 & 31. Vice President Botwright notes of the Perry Fall Festival on October 14.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz

Council can act on the Tractor Supply plans following Mr. Kee's review.

Employee Relations – President Kline – nothing to report

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the minutes for September 19, 2023. Seconded by Ms. Randazzo. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the bills payable for October 3, 2023. Seconded by Ms. Randazzo. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright requests that 2024 budget input be forwarded to her by October 13. She will forward the budget draft to Council prior to the October 17 workshop.

Community Outreach – Ms. Randazzo – nothing to report

New Business

Public Comment

Brian Elliott (Tractor Supply): Requests feedback on proceeding with the following exterior improvements: fencing in the outdoor display area, as night-time security is currently hired to patrol, continuing with the concrete pad and consumer propane tank area, building the garden center, installing the trash enclosure and bollards across the front of the store, and installing a temporary steel dock plate for deliveries behind the building. He spoke with Chief Wagner last week, who did not have an issue with accessing the front of the building from around the rear.

Mr. Wertz has not heard back from ARRO regarding his request for a fire review. Mr. Gruber has not received any feedback on his email regarding project concerns. The stormwater calculations may be a part of the information received with the plans today.

Mr. Gruber and Mr. Wertz have no issue with granting permission to proceed with the fence and to erect the portable steel dock ramp. Mr. Wertz will review the additional information and provide feedback by the end of the week.

Aaron Blue (Onyx Creative, Inc.): Represents the architect for Tractor Supply. He located the ramp, bollards and dumpster enclosure, which should appear on Mr. Homel's plans.

Dean Adams (305 5th St.): Asks if the county approved the moving of the polling site from the elementary school to the borough building, with Vice President Botwright reporting that Council will reach out to the county again in the new year.

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.): Asks why the road was closed on Franklin St. that day, with Mr. Methax stating work was being completed by UGI.

Mr. Geschwindt asks why no parking signs were placed in several areas in the borough, with Mr. Methax reporting that crack sealing is taking place.

Mr. Geschwindt asks when the leaves will be cleaned from the streets, with Mr. Gruber stating that the task will be added to the fall work schedule.

Mr. Geschwindt asks for clarification on the license agreement that was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Wertz reports that the baseball association has been utilizing a portion of the land on which Tractor Supply is located, for storage, a score board, bleachers and parking, for the past 30 years, with permission being granted

by the previous owner. The land affected is the area along the first baseline. Mr. Geschwindt asks if the property has been surveyed and suggests adding the survey to the license agreement. Mr. Wertz agrees and will do so once the survey is located. Mr. Geschwindt also suggests that the indemnification agreement contain hold harmless language. Mr. Wertz will review the document draft that was received earlier that day.

Old Business

Vice President Botwright introduces Mr. Nabar as the borough's Junior Council Person. He will have a report prepared for the November meeting.

A motion is made by Mr. Smith to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer