

CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough

March 2, 2021

President Kline called the monthly meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the St. Luke's Church Hall, 5th & Franklin Sts, Shoemakersville, PA at 7:01 p.m.

In attendance: Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright –Vice President, Tara Kennedy-Kline, Dana Randazzo, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Dustin Remp – Mayor, Bradley Smith – Engineer, Chip Haws – Solicitor, Chad Zimmerman – Foreman, Michael Dietrich – Sewer & Water Plant Operator, and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: John Leshner

Public Comment – none

Code Enforcement – Mr. Zimmerman

- **Enforcement:** Letters for not removing snow from sidewalks were sent last month. The owners of 372 Main St. were sent a notice regarding the junk on their property. It is to be resolved once the snow clears. Mr. Zimmerman and Ms. Kennedy-Kline discuss the notice sent to Sheetz, regarding the removal of snow from their sidewalk. Mr. Zimmerman was giving them some leeway, as the state and the borough both plowed some snow from the roadway onto the sidewalk. Ms. Kennedy-Kline feels that Sheetz should shovel the required 18” pathway. Mr. Zimmerman states that a follow-up letter reminding them of their responsibility could be sent to Sheetz.
- **Permits:** UGI received digging permits to install one gas line and to end service for another line.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Haws

- **Perry Plaza:** PTMA will be discussing the settlement agreement at their March 10 meeting. Solicitor Haws recommends that someone from Council be present to answer any questions on the agreement. Solicitor Haws reviews the agreement.
- **Inter-municipal Cooperative Agreement:** President Kline was approached by Perry Township to ask if Council would consider a shared services agreement, whereby the municipalities could share equipment, trucks, and/or drivers, etc. Solicitor Haws and President Kline discuss options and insurance liability.

Engineer's Report – Engineer Smith

- **DMR Reporting:** ARRO recommends adding Jason Coyle as a backup individual to Mr. Dietrich, as a second person to be able to submit the DMR data. Council and Mr. Dietrich discuss the matter, with President Kline signing the paperwork to authorize the addition of Mr. Coyle into the reporting system.
- **Headworks & Solids Handling Design:** The Water Quality Management Part 2 permit was issued by PADEP. Submission of the 106 Permit for construction of the headworks facilities is being completed. Comments were received from the Berks County Conservation District on the Erosion

and Sedimentation Control Plan. Comments are being addressed and the plans will be resubmitted when complete.

- **Growing Greener Grant:** ARRO submitted the required forms to PADEP for the \$42,200 grant. PADEP will be contacting President Kline and Ms. Wagner once the agreement is completed and ready for authorization.
- **WWTP Upgrades Financing:** As directed by Council, ARRO is completing an application for a Pennvest loan for the headworks & solids handling design, bidding, and construction for a total amount of \$1.6M. The application deadline is May 5, 2021. The Pennvest Board meets in July for consideration and loan approval.
- **H2O and Small Project Grants:** A grant was awarded for the pneumatic valve replacement at the water plant. The grant request was fully funded at \$103,062.00.
- **Parks & Recreation Planning Grant:** Engineer Smith and Vice President Botwright attended a remote meeting with DCNR. A copy of the contract from DCNR is needed to complete ARRO's proposal for the park study.
- **Chapter 94 Report:** Information to complete the annual report was received by staff. ARRO is completing the report and will deliver to the borough for signatures. Reports are being submitted electronically.
- **Pollution Minimization Plan:** A draft report was completed and sent to Mr. Dietrich for review. ARRO will finalize the report and send it to PADEP upon review.
- **2021 Road Project:** Information concerning slurry seals was sent to the streets committee.
- **Subdivision Plan Review:** Engineer Smith submits his comments for the final plan review of 326 & 328 Main St. The applicant has requested a waiver from showing contours on the plan. He further notes that the zoning district information and a reference to the variance granted is to be included on the plan. Vice President Botwright confirms that the recommendations are administrative in nature.
- **Route 61 & 662 Property:** Mr. Zimmerman received an inquiry regarding a potential water and sewer request of 4,000 gallons/day. As of now, the borough does not have the water available. The developer may need to contact PTMA regarding sewer. Council and Mr. Zimmerman discuss the property.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence

A list of records for disposition is submitted. Ms. Kennedy-Kline has questions regarding several of the documents, which she will discuss with Ms. Wagner at a later time. Council signatures are need for the Emergency Operations Plan. Council has no issue with Ms. Wagner closing the office at noon on March 8.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Remp

The latest Neighborhood Watch meeting took place on February 20. Mayor Remp submits a copy of the map that was printed for program members. The next meeting will be March 27 at noon at Cousin's. Mayor Remp and Vice President Botwright discuss the program, and the firearms training that were noted in the program's meeting minutes. Mayor Remp states that the training would not be geared towards members using firearms while engaged in a Neighborhood Watch capacity, but just firearm usage in general.

Mayor Remp reports that there will be a new PA State Police station commander in Hamburg.

The deadline for Hometown Heroes banner applications is April 1, with approximately 11 applications being submitted thus far.

National Night Out is currently still on for August 3.

Mayor Remp asks how many Council seats are up for election this year, with President Kline stating there will be 5 open seats.

Public Works Report – Mr. Zimmerman

Dustin Folk would like to upgrade the baseball area in the park by replacing the old bleachers, painting the outfield fence, and performing other repairs of a cosmetic nature. Ms. Kennedy-Kline and Vice President Botwright would like to see an exact list of the proposed updates, as some items could possibly be considered donations under the newly obtained park grant. **Mr. Zimmerman will ask Folk Paving to provide the requested list. He will also ask if they would consider filling in some of the holes in the skate park.**

Mr. Zimmerman would like to rent a hot box to fill potholes sometime in April, provided a new borough employee is able to begin work by that time.

Mr. Zimmerman spoke with Mike Quick from Tilden Twp. regarding their use of a road salt additive, which Mr. Quick highly recommends. Mr. Zimmerman and President Kline discuss the additive.

Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich

A water main break was repaired on Water St. in February. Axiom is fabricating pump seals for the backwash pumps at the filter plant. Mr. Dietrich and President Kline discuss pricing for gaskets.

In February, a power glitch during a snow event caused the flow meter at the sewer plant to stop working. WG Malden made the necessary repairs.

Axiom repaired and replaced the broken impeller shaft on raw pump #1, as well as replacing the failing nuts and bolts holding the influent pipes together. Mr. Dietrich submits a photo of the shaft and discusses the repair with Council.

President Kline and Mr. Dietrich discuss the resealing of the blower room roof to be completed by Steve Cryts.

Property/Streets/Sanitation – Mr. Smith

Solicitor Haws and President Kline further discuss the inter-municipal cooperative agreement with Lance Adam, who arrived at the meeting. Mr. Adam would like the municipalities to be able to share resources in the event of an emergency. Agreements could potentially be drafted between the borough and Perry Twp., as well as the borough and Tilden Township.

Settlement for 846 Main St. will take place on March 12.

Mr. Smith submitted a list of street repairs to Engineer Smith. **Mr. Zimmerman will forward specs for a new truck to Mr. Smith.**

Ms. Randazzo reports that Keystone Military Families is requesting no parking signs for March 13 & 27. Ms. Kennedy-Kline discusses the possibility of making 6th St., from Main St. to Franklin St. a part of the snow emergency route, noting of the recent issue with snow from the church at 6th & Main Sts.

being placed in the street, thereby blocking in a vehicle on the roadway. Council and Mr. Zimmerman discuss making the north side of 6th St., from Main St. to Apple Ln. part of the snow emergency route. The clearing of an 18” path of snow from the church sidewalk is discussed.

Sewer – Mr. Wertz

Mr. Wertz will be submitting a list of Shoemakersville Municipal Authority bills to be paid by the borough.

Water – President Kline

President Kline discusses tank access security, in light of the recent events in Auburn. A lock was added to the water tank. The water tower ladder was already locked.

President Kline notes of a December quote to install a gate across the opening to wells #4 and #5. Council further discusses the gate, and potential fencing around the wells. Engineer Smith is asked to look into possible grants for increased well security, as well as fencing standards for wells.

Parks & Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

The Rec. Board is moving forward with the Children’s Fair for June 5. Donations will be accepted to reach the goal of \$8,000.

Vice President Botwright created an online registration form for parents to sign their children up for the park program for specified days and times. Additional park leaders may need to be hired to oversee the groups.

*A motion is made by Ms. Kennedy-Kline to advertise for summer positions for the park and pool. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright discusses the difficulty in locating lifeguard recertification classes and suggests that the borough consider holding a class for potential staff. The matter is further discussed.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz

The subdivision plans for 326 & 328 Main St. will be discussed at the March 16 workshop.

Employee Relations – President Kline

The committee is reviewing the applications received for the public works position.

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for February 16, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for March 2, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the check amount for the purchase of 846 Main St. at an amount not to exceed \$190,000. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Safety – Mayor Remp – nothing to report

New Business – nothing to report

Old Business – nothing to report

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 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer