

**CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough**

March 16, 2021

President Kline called the teleconference of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright –Vice President, Tara Kennedy-Kline, Dana Randazzo, Dana Smith, Joseph Wertz, Jr., Bradley Smith – Engineer – leaves after the planning report, and Chad Zimmerman –Foreman – leaves at 7:30 p.m.

Absent from the meeting: John Leshner, Dustin Remp - Mayor

Engineer’s Report

Engineer Smith researched security requirements for the borough’s water system. While DEP does not have any specific requirements, they do recommend measures such as locks, fences, and gates. There are two possible grants for this work: the PA Small Water & Sewer Grant and the H2O Water Supply Grant. The PA Small Water & Sewer Grant requires a 15% match and would best suit the borough’s needs.

Mr. Zimmerman is to contact Pro Max Fence Systems to provide an estimate for fencing around wells #4 and #5. President Kline and Mr. Wertz discuss appropriate fencing standards.

Engineer Smith discusses the paving project estimates he forwarded to Council earlier in the day. The largest project cost is Plum Ln. and Canal St. at \$279,000. Engineer Smith and Council discuss the projects and pricing, with Engineer Smith stating he obtained costs from Penndot’s website. Ms. Kennedy-Kline notes that estimates from Folk Paving for the work were much less. Council would prefer starting with the Folk Paving prices and then apply the cost for just tar & chip and/or the slurry, versus adding in a new rebuild of some of the roads. Mr. Wertz asks for pricing on single and double layers of tar & chip and slurry. Engineer Smith will rework the quotes and submit them to Council. He will also research funding for handicap ramp work.

Engineer Smith reports that minor changes were made to the subdivision plans for 326 & 328 Main St. and that the plans can now be approved.

*A motion is made by Mr. Wertz to approve the 326 & 328 Main St. subdivision plans. Seconded by Ms. Randazzo. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Remp – nothing to report

Public Works Report – Mr. Zimmerman

Mr. Zimmerman would like to send Mr. Mohn and Mr. Dietrich to flagger training on May 19, being held in Pine Grove by PA Rural Water.

Mr. Zimmerman will be receiving a quote for a new borough truck by the end of the week.

Mr. Zimmerman is working with Perry Township to obtain pricing and share the cost to rent a street sweeper.

Property/Streets/Sanitation – Mr. Smith

The sale for 846 Main St. is final, with President Kline noting that settlement took place on March 12. Mr. Wertz will be completing an insurance valuation on the building. **Council and Foreman Zimmerman will forward any suggestions for the new building to the property committee.**

Sewer – Mr. Wertz

Mr. Wertz and President Kline attended the most recent PTMA meeting. President Kline notes of PTMA's concern that the borough should have used the surcharge revenue from Wolfe Dye & Bleach to pay for any necessary plant repairs. President Kline reports that approximately \$75,000 has been received from Wolfe surcharges over the last 27 years. President Kline notes that the agreement with Wolfe Dye & Bleach expired in 2013 and will need to be addressed.

Water – President Kline

PTMA's wells are up and running. President Kline reports that PTMA's water usage is currently what it was prior to the warehouses. Anything north of Charles Estates is on the PTMA system. Drafting a new water agreement with PTMA is discussed.

Parks & Recreation – Ms. Kennedy-Kline

For the Rec. Board, Vice President Botwright placed the Irish gnomes around town for the contest.

Vice President Botwright reports that this year's Children's Fair theme is "We Are Family." Celebrating the 70's as this is the 70th year of the fair.

Several lifeguards have expressed interest in returning to the pool this season, with Vice President Botwright noting that Schuylkill Valley and Body Zone are running classes.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Mr. Wertz

Vice President Botwright reports that "future use of lands" was the latest topic of discussion at the Northern Berks Joint Planning Commission meeting. The commission would like Council to consider developing the borough land not located in the flood zone, near the river, into housing in the future. They will be submitting revised plans for the area in the next few months.

Employee Relations – President Kline

The committee is reviewing the applications received for the public works position. An executive session is requested.

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 16, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Wertz. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright notes that the deadline for the spring newsletter is April 5.

Safety – Mayor Remp

Ms. Randazzo reports that the crossing guard at 4th & Franklin Sts. is working with the State Police to address the speeding dark-colored Charger that drives through the intersection between 3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Mr. Wertz asks what would prevent the borough from installing a 4-way stop at the intersection, with President Kline stating that PennDOT has regulations and approvals that need to be adhered to if a traffic calming device were to be installed. The borough would need to conduct a traffic study on anything that would affect traffic patterns.

Council discusses operation of the Neighborhood Watch Program. Vice President Botwright notes that Solicitor Mooney was not certain if the current borough resolution for operation of the Crime Watch under the PA State Police can be amended to the new program. Vice President Botwright states that the current resolution acknowledged the creation of the program, which at the time was under the supervision of the State Police, which would perform background checks and provide support & training. The new program is under the National Sheriff's Association. She has spoken with other municipalities that have a Neighborhood Watch Program and no police force, with those programs all being run separately from the borough. They are either operated under local law enforcement, or operate as a separate 501 (c)(3) organization from the borough. Ms. Wagner has reached out to PSAB to determine how programs in other municipalities are run.

Executive Session

The Board recessed into executive session at 7:59 p.m. to discuss employee relations. Regular session reconvened at 8:21 p.m.

New Business – nothing to report

Old Business

President Kline notes that the State Police responded to an incident in the park, whereby Folk Paving employees noticed a borough resident wandering the baseball field and urinating in the dugout. Troopers did not arrest the individual, but did escort him from the property.

Council discusses a recent dog attack at the north end of Main St., with President Botwright stating that this is the second incident with the same dog. A borough resident did contact the dog warden.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Mr. Wertz to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice President Botwright. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer