

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2012**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2012, AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Councilors present were: Council President Amy J. Richard, Council Vice-President Paul Zaboy, Sr., Mr. Carl Zito, Mr. Jack Fatzinger, Mr. Joe Gosnell, Ms. Cindy Hower, and Mrs. Rosemarie Wenzelberger.
- Mayor Sherman Metzgar was also in attendance.
- Borough Solicitor Gary N. Asteak arrived late.
- Additionally present were Acting Public Works Supervisor Paul Zaboy, Jr. and , and Secretary Chris Burmood. Police Chief/Zoning Officer John Soloe arrived at 7:50 pm.

Meeting called to order at 7:32 PM by Council President Amy J. Richard, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment

- Nick Henshue, of 701 Main Street, inquired if there were any plans to increase the number or size of recycling dumpsters, citing they are always full. He also asked if the Borough had considered switching to curbside pick up. Ms. Richard advised that the Borough is charged per container, but we will investigate the availability and cost to have a third dumpster brought in. Mayor Metzgar advised that he had been awarded a grant for curbside pick up, but the overall expense was too high, so he never claimed the grant funds. Paul Zaboy, Jr. stated that cardboard boxes not being broken down first is part of the problem, and that weekly, Public Works tries to break down the boxes using the backhoe. Eric Wenzelberger suggested posting a sign about breaking down boxes first. John Kocher advised that there are dumpsters with only slot openings, requiring boxes be broken down. Ms. Richard stated that people would likely just leave the boxes outside the dumpster.
- John Earl Kocher, of 300 Old Easton Road, stated he wanted to “rehash” the switchback turn issue. He complained that headlights from cars making the turn shine into his living room, which he finds annoying when watching television. Additionally, the cars kick stones into his yard. One of his windows is cracked from a stone kicked up from the roadway. He questioned why the Public Works staff, when driving through the Borough, can’t stop and clean up the stones when they see them. He stated he has brought this up a dozen times. He also asked about installing signs prohibiting the switchback turns. Per Mr. Zito, PennDOT won’t allow such signs.
- Mr. Kocher also wanted to know why the Borough dump truck drives into and out of Long’s Development, sometimes twice a day, but doesn’t “stay there long enough to do anything”. Paul Zaboy, Jr. advised that his staff has been directed to drive each road in the Borough at least once per week. He advised that he would investigate Mr. Kocher’s claim.

Public Comment , con't.

- Eric Wenzelberger, of 111 Center Street, advised that he happened to see a sweeper truck on his street the other day. Apparently, the truck had been contracted by PPC to clean up around the plant and neighboring streets. The driver advised that his employer, Elegant Lawn Care, handles municipal contracts as well. The driver also advised that they use a different type of truck for cleaning up stones from the roadway. Elegant Lawn Care (610) 759-0000.

Council Comments

- Mr. Fatzinger thanked Borough Council and staff for helping him through this stressful time.
- Mr. Gosnell read a letter dated December 6, 2011 from David Danner of the Planning Commission, to A&H Sportswear regarding the Lincoln Street Emergency Bypass. So far, A&H has not responded to Mr. Danner. Members of the Planning Commission inquired about having Council intervene. Ultimately the Planning Commission agreed to attempt to obtain voluntary cooperation from A&H.

Secretary/Treasurer report

- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Jack Fatzinger, to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2012 Council and Reorganization meeting with several corrections. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to pay the payable from both the General Fund and Sewer Fund. Motion carried unopposed.

Mayoral Report

- Mayor Metzgar advised that he attended the Bushkill Stream Conservancy meeting regarding sinkholes with 20 other attendees. There are now seven sinkholes opening west of Route 33. Hercules is willing to do repairs. The sinkholes are on the Homolke property. All interested parties are ready to remedy this issue, but are awaiting PennDOT approval for permits. Additionally, there is a large sinkhole behind the Equipto plant, near the location where all water sampling is done.

Public Works Report

- Paul Zaboy, Jr. (PJ) stated that he directed his staff to clean up at the Wastewater Treatment Facility, and they have done a “phenomenal job.” Everything is neatly put away in the Quonset hut.
- PJ also mentioned that PA American Water has had a water main break at a dump down pressure release under route 33. It will take at least a month, if not two, to begin repair work. It is leaking 10 gallons per minute of chlorinated drinking water. Water has been rerouted from Center Street. There is now some torn up asphalt on Center Street, surrounded by barricades.
- PJ also stated that the road repairs on Commerce Way are holding up, but the asphalt around the patch sites is now breaking down.
- Paul Zaboy, Sr. suggested that the Borough research grants for road repair, and asked if the Community Development Grants could be used for such a purpose.

Public Works Report, con't.

- Ms. Richard asked about filling in the torn up roadway on LeFevre next to the pond with stone. PJ advised that he will get quotes for an overlay, which should last up to three years.
- PJ also wanted to thank Officer Nate Correll, who, in his off time and with his own personal bucket truck, assisted Public Works staff with removing the Christmas lights and repairing the parking lot light behind Borough Hall.

Police Report

- Chief Soloe had nothing to report. He later requested an executive session to discuss a police matter.

Zoning Report

- Mr. Soloe had no Zoning issues to report.
- Ms. Richard inquired about the boat and trailer currently parked in a no parking area in the Memorial Hall lot. She asked if the boat could be moved into the offset perpendicular to the roadway. Mr. Soloe stated that snow plowing and removal would be easier without the boat in that particular spot. PJ advised that he can paint more lines for spaces.

Agenda Items

- Ms. Richard nominated David Danner to refill the vacancy on the Planning Commission created by the end of his prior term, for a new four year term.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, seconded by Paul Zaboy, Sr., to reappoint David Danner to the Planning Commission for a four year term. Motion carried unopposed.
- Ms. Richard attended a Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting on January 17, 2012. The Borough did not participate in the 2006 Plan. Ms. Richard would like for the Borough to participate this time. Participants work together to identify potential hazards in their community, and enter into agreements for resource sharing/borrowing to address hazards. Participants are also eligible for FEMA and PEMA mitigation grants funding. Ms. Richard advised that Council would discuss further at the next meeting.
- Council agreed to allow the Police Department to use as many of the old Council chairs as necessary. The rest would be stored until their donation could be arranged. Per Solicitor Asteak, the chairs have residual asset value, thus requiring either a donation or a public sale. Ms. Richard suggested donating them to Forks Church or the Rod & Gun Club.

New, Old, or Unfinished Business

- Mr. Zito asked if PJ had removed the hazard fencing around the sinkhole by the school. PJ advised that the property owner had addressed the sinkhole, and the hazard no longer existed, so the fencing was removed.

New, Old, or Unfinished Business, cont'd

- Paul Zaboy, Sr. advised that PennDOT had denied the initial request to decrease the speed limit on Industrial Boulevard to 35 mph. Mr. Zaboy has maintained email contact between himself, URDC, and a different division of PennDOT. The intent is to resubmit the request once the Chrin signalization project has been completed.
- The Rails-to-Trails survey information was submitted to URDC. Further surveying may be necessary, but not until after URDC reviews it.
- Ms. Hower asked about the new markers that were placed recently. She was advised those were done for the Chrin signalization project.
- Ms. Richard and Mr. Zaboy had a brief meeting with SC Engineers earlier in the day. SC Engineers has still not received any response to the letter to DEP regarding the wastewater treatment facility.
- On Tuesday, Ms. Richard spoke with Ed Behrens of Vondercrone & Behrens regarding the letter sent by Solicitor Asteak. Mr. Behrens had indicated he was confused by the letter and intended to contact Mr. Asteak directly. Mr. Asteak has received no contact from Mr. Behrens.
- Chief Soloe requested an executive session to discuss a police matter.
- Ms. Richard wished Mr. Zito a happy birthday, and advised Mr. Fatzinger would be celebrating one on Sunday.
- Earl Kocher requested a copy of the approved minutes.
- **Motion** by Jack Fatzinger, seconded by Paul Zaboy, Sr., to adjourn to executive session. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to return to regular session. Motion carried unopposed.
- Chief Soloe advised that while trying to upgrade his Alert II system software for the new computers, he had been advised that the system is changing, which would require a \$5,000.00 per year per department service agreement, which he is adamantly opposed to. He has left messages with the vendor, and plans to follow up.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Cindy Hower, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unopposed at 9:12 pm.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, February 6, 2012 at 7:30 PM.

The foregoing were approved the 6th day of February, 2012.

President of Council

Attest: _____