

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
BUDGET MINUTES OF OCTOBER 28, 2015**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A BUDGET MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015, AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Council Members present were: Council President, Amy Richard, Vice President, Kathleen Zdonowski, Robin Davis, Cindy Hower, Joe Gosnell, Rosemarie Wenzelberger and Carl Zito.
- Mayor Charlie Davis and Borough Secretary/Treasurer Anita Caughy were present.
- Chief John Soloe and OIC Eric Schwab were present.

The Meeting was called to order by Council President, Amy Richard, at 7:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Comment

- There were no council comments

Secretary/Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Carl Zito to approve Council Meeting Minutes of October 5, 2015 as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Carl Zito to approve the Budget Meeting Minutes of October 14, 2015 as written. Motion carried unopposed.

Police

- Chief John Soloe introduced Randy Pompei as a candidate for a new Stockertown Police Officer in light of Officer Emily Bostick leaving to take a position with the Allentown Police Department. Chief Soloe stated that he has left the option open temporarily for Officer Bostick to return if she chooses. Council members asked Officer Pompei several questions concerning his experience. Officer Pompei stated that he was a CDL Driver for 15 years and also on Emergency Management Services for Nazareth prior to becoming a police officer. Chief Soloe has emphasized the priority of public relations with the community. Chief Soloe asked for Council's approval to hire Officer Pompei.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to hire Randy Pompei as a Stockertown police officer. Motion carried unopposed. Amy Richard asked Mayor Davis if he approved of the new officer. Mayor Davis approved.
- Chief Soloe wanted to follow-up by stating that the atmosphere and attitude in the police department shows the continuity between the officers and the respect within the department. He wanted council to recognize the change in a positive direction and reiterated the outstanding job the officers have been performing.

- OIC Eric Schwab wanted to speak on behalf of the entire department and stated that they now have an outstanding relationship with Council, the Chief and residents of the Borough. The officers are happy and motivated to be doing their jobs. Officer Schwab stated that the drug activity in the Borough is slowing down because of all the recent arrests. He stated that the Boy Scouts of Troop 44 came to the police station to help load the trick or treat bags with candy which shows an involvement between the police and the community.
These bags will be distributed by the police officers on Halloween to the Borough children.

Agenda

- Amy Richard reviewed the wording on several pages of the Borough Employee Handbook and wanted to clarify several sections and asked Council for approval.

SECTION 1

Page 11, Paragraph 1

INTRODUCTORY PERIOD: Full-time and part-time employees are on a probationary period for up to their first 180 days of employment.

SECTION 3

Page 2, Paragraph 3

Change introductory period to "probationary period".

Page 3, Paragraph 2

PTO is calculated according to the calendar year of January through December.

Page 3, Paragraph 6

Submit PTO requests at least two weeks in advance to Secretary/Treasurer.

PTO requests are granted, taking into account operating requirements. Length of employment may determine priority in scheduling PTO times.

Page 4, Paragraph 3

Employees may carry a maximum of 5 PTO days over from one year to the next or opt to be paid for all remaining PTO days which will be paid in the first pay period of the following year.

Page 4, Paragraph 4

No more than five consecutive days of PTO can be taken at one time without special circumstances and approval from the Council President or Vice President.

Page 4, Paragraph 5

PTO may be taken in blocks of at least one-half (1/2) day at a time.

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Robin Davis to accept the specified changes to the Borough Handbook as stated. Motion carried unopposed.

- Amy Richard and Anita Caughy went over the proposed changes to the General Fund Budget with Council members. Ms. Richard stated that the amount of taxes which has come in through October 28, 2015 is \$373,413.89 and the amount which was budgeted was \$358,311.60. Each item was reviewed. The proposed changes were listed in either red or blue on the schedule. The actual tax assessment has not yet been received by the County; therefore, we do not know at this time what the exact amount we will be working with. The budget will be finalized after the amount is received from County.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to enter into Executive Session at 8:20 PM for personnel issue. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to exit Executive Session at 8:23PM. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to adjourn the budget meeting at 8:27 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, November 2, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

The foregoing was approved the 2nd day of **November, 2015**.

President of Council

Attest:_____