

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 5, 2015**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 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.
- Solicitor Gary Asteak, 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

Public Comment

- Eric Wenzelberger of Center Street inquired whether the Borough would have a 2nd yard sale. Amy Richard informed him that residents could schedule and advertise their individual sales if they choose.

Council Comment

- Amy Richard inquired whether anyone has had the opportunity to drive up LeFevre Road since the tar and chip has been completed. She stated that she felt that Cook Contracting did a very nice job. Ms. Richard would like to have Cook Contracting come back next year to put a base on some of the other roads in the Borough.

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Robin Davis to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2015 as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to approve Accounts Payable for the General Fund, Sewer Fund and Highway Aid Fund through October 5, 2015. Motion carried unopposed.
- Notice has been received of the estimated Liquid Fuels allocation for 2016 in the amount of \$27,039.05.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Davis had nothing to report.

Police

- Chief Soloe read the call service report for the month of September. He stated that there were 4 false alarms, 78 traffic summons, 55 traffic warnings along with miscellaneous calls for a total of 162 calls for the month.
- Officer Eric Schwab stated that he found a box of Halloween bags at the police station and he inquired if Council would be willing to donate candy to be put into the bags for the police to hand out to the neighborhood children on Halloween. He also asked Eric Wenzelberger if the Stockertown Youth Association would match the Borough's contribution for the children. Council agreed to donate \$50 to \$75 worth of candy depending on what the Stockertown Youth Association would match. Eric Wenzelberger stated that he has to ask the Board of the SYA whether they would match the Borough's contribution or donate any candy for the children.
- Chief Soloe informed Council that the lights on the old light bar on the Crown Vic has been changed out to LED lights at a cost of \$600.00.

Zoning

- John Soloe stated that the new owner of the Shell Station would like Commerce Way paved. Amy Richard informed him that Public Works has been filling pot holes on Commerce two and three times a week to keep on top of the road.
- Mr. Soloe informed Council that the owner of the property on Old Easton Road has been cited for the high grass and he will continue to be cited until he is in compliance with the Borough Code.

Public Works

- Amy Richard informed Council that the Borough's back hoe is in need of new tires. An estimate was obtained for 2 new front and 2 new rear tires in the amount of \$2,100.00 from Alex Tires. Ms. Richard asked for approval to purchase the tires.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Carl Zito to purchase 2 new front and 2 new rear tires for the Borough's back hoe in the amount of \$2,100.00.

Solicitor

- Solicitor Asteak informed Council that the garbage contract with Waste Management expires December 31, 2015. It does contain a provision that at the end of the contract the Borough may extend the contract at its discretion. Council has a decision to make as to whether to send the contract out for bids or to extend the current contract at the current rate.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Carl Zito to extend the current garbage contract option with Waste Management for one year at the current rate. Motion carried unopposed.
- Solicitor Asteak will prepare the new contract.
- Solicitor Asteak addressed the contract with Fry's Lawn Service which expires December 31, 2015. Mr. Asteak stated that this agreement does not have an option for an extension. He stated that since the amount does not exceed \$10,500 that no bids are required. He advised that the Borough obtain at least three new proposals at which time they could then make a decision for a new agreement.
- Mr. Asteak stated that the Right to Know request from WFMZ was referred to the District Attorney's Office which stated that the issue was part of an ongoing investigation and their request was denied.

Agenda

- Amy Richard addressed the tree removal proposal of \$1,740.00 from Joshua Tree for the dead tree on LeFevre Road. She stated that the tree is a hazard and if it falls would take down electrical and cable wires. The tree is on Borough property and, therefore, Borough responsibility and needs to come down. Ms. Richard asked for a Motion to accept Joshua Tree’s proposal.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to accept Joshua Tree’s proposal to remove the dead tree on LeFevre Road at a cost of \$1,740.00. Motion carried unopposed.
- Amy Richard addressed the two proposals submitted for the removal of the dead trees along the ball field by the Stockertown Rod and Gun Club. The trees will be cut down and left in the wooded area for the Gun Club to donate to families for fire wood. There is a proposal by Joshua Tree for \$1,740.00 and a proposal from Cuttery Tree Service for \$2,800.00. Council agreed to accept Joshua Tree’s proposal.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to accept Joshua Tree’s proposal to remove the dead trees along the ball field by the Rod and Gun Club in the amount of \$1,740.00. Vote went as follows: Motion carried.

	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Amy Richard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Robin Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rosemarie Wenzelberger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cindy Hower	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joe Gosnell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kathleen Zdonowski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Zito	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Amy Richard addressed the letter received from the Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”) regarding the Feasibility Study prepared by Hazen and Sawyer with regard to the Waste Water Treatment Plant (“WWTP”). Council was all provided with a copy of the letter. The letter stated that the feasibility study was inadequate and went on to reiterate the same issues which were discussed in length several times with the DEP. Amy Richard had several discussions with Steve Miano, the Borough’s attorney for the DEP Appeal and with the engineers, Hazen and Sawyer, to determine what the next steps would be. Hazen and Sawyer are reviewing other options and will inform the Borough if they come up with anything new. If no other options are feasible then the next step would be to argue the case in Court.
- Amy Richard informed Council that the Borough’s Liability Insurance comparison has been received and everyone was provided with a copy. The Comparison shows that the total insurance premium for 2015 was \$15,123 and new premium for 2016 will be \$15,157. This is an increase of \$34.00 for the year.

- Amy Richard stated that the Borough has received an Exercise of Renewal from the U.S. Post Office to renew their lease of the building with the Borough.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to enter into Execution Session for Personal issues at 8:06 PM. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to exit Executive Session at 8:26 PM.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to amend the verbiage of Page 4, Paragraphs 3 and 4 in the employee Hand Book to read as follows:
 “To allow employees to carry over a maximum of 5 PTO days per year or be paid all remaining PTO days in the first pay check of the following year.”

Vote went as follows: Motion Carried

	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Amy Richard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Robin Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rosemarie Wenzelberger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cindy Hower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joe Gosnell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kathleen Zdonowski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Zito	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:29 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

Budget Meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2015

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, October 19, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

Council Meeting for October 19, 2015 was cancelled.

The foregoing was approved the **28th** day of **October, 2015**.

 President of Council

Attest:_____