

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2014**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2014, AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Council Members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Vice President, Kathleen Zdonowski, Robin Davis, Joe Gosnell, Cindy Hower, Rosemarie Wenzelberger and Carl Zito.
- Mayor Charlie Davis and Borough Secretary/Treasurer, Anita Caughy were in attendance.
- Chief John Soloe along with Officer Eric Schwab, Officer Alex Soloe and Officer Amal Brown were also present.
- Steven Mills from Asteak Law Office was present.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- No Comments

Council Comment

- Amy Richard stated that she had a conference call with Attorney Steve Miano and Jeff Morgan, Sewer Plant Engineer, where she was advised that the DEP has rejected the Borough's request for relaxation of the ammonia limits at the WWTP. The DEP gave the Borough 5 years to design a new sewer plant and make it operational. The only option the Borough has is to file an Appeal which Attorney Miano is preparing to do. This will cost the Borough a substantial amount of money to appeal this decision but there are no other options left.

Special Guest

- District Attorney John Morganelli attended the Council Meeting to recognize the Borough's police officers for the good work in connection with the large drug bust. DA Morganelli presented Chief Soloe with a check in the amount of \$3,000 as a small donation from the County Drug Task Force to be used for some much needed police equipment for the Borough.

Council Comment

- Kathleen Zdonowski asked if there was some way to get a light at Old Easton Road and Faith Avenue so the children getting the bus are not in the dark.
- Joe Gosnell stated that he sees 2 children walking across Rt. 191 to get to a bus stop. Amy Richard stated that the Department of Transportation handles the bus stops.

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Carl Zito to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2014. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Cindy Hower to approve Accounts Payable for the General, Sewer and Rails to Trails Funds through November 3, 2014. Motion carried unopposed.

Solicitor Report

- Steve Mills read the letter from Gary Asteak regarding the tax appeal filed by Lonestar, Inc. lowering their assessment value. The new assessment will lower the taxes paid to the Borough to less than half its current charge. The Borough will also have to pay back Lonestar/Hercules \$80,708.36 for 2013 and 2014 taxes.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Davis stated that Brian Cope of Northampton County Open Space Initiative attended the last COG Meeting. He stated that the County wanted to try and connect Stockertown's trail to Tatamy and Jacobsburg. Amy Richard stated that the County would have to provide a grant which is 100% funded in order for the Borough to consider extending the trail.
- Mayor Davis advised that a trail is being considered to extend from the World Trade Center to the Pentagon in Washington DC to Pittsburg, PA and back to New York City. They would like to get private businesses to fund this trail.

Police Report

- Chief Soloe stated that the Dodge Intrepid is out of commission. All of the police equipment is off of the car for the Borough's use. The new police car should be ready by the end of next week.

Zoning Report

- Mr. Mike Ferraro asked council to give him more time to remove the trailer at 119 Main Street. He stated that he has completed several improvements to the property and does not have enough funds to remove the trailer at this time. Council stated that the trailer has been an issue for many years. Council did not agree to an extension of time to remove the trailer. It was stated that many residents have come to Council complaining about the trailer over the years and nothing was ever done. Council gave Mr. Ferraro several suggestions on how to dispose of the trailer without substantial expense.

Public Works

- Alex Hennings supplied a work performed outline as of November 3, 2014
- The Rails to Trails fence was completed by the Public Works employees. Estimates have been obtained for the privacy fence along M T Performance.
- The new truck for public works should be ready within the next 2 weeks.
- Amy Richard stated she has a buyer for the Borough's green truck for \$999.00. She obtained an appraisal for scraping the truck and the Borough would only receive \$400.00 as scrap. She requested approval from Council to sell the green truck.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Carl Zito to sell the Borough's green truck to Kevin Franks for \$999.00. Motion carried unopposed.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Cindy Hower to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:25 PM.

The next Budget Meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2014.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, November 17, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

The foregoing was approved the 12th day of November, 2014.

President of Council

Attest: _____