

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2012**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A MEETING ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2012, AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Council members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Council Vice President Paul Zaboy, Sr., Mr. Carl Zito, Mr. Joe Gosnell, Ms. Cindy Hower, Mrs. Rosemarie Wenzelberger, and Ms. Kathleen Zdonowski.
- Mayor Metzgar and Borough Solicitor Gary Asteak were present.
- Police Chief/Zoning Officer John Soloe and Secretary Chris Burmood were in attendance.
- Patrolman Vrael was present to preserve the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 7:31 PM by Council President Amy Richard, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment

- Eric Wenzelberger, of 111 Center Street, asked about commenting on the budget. He was advised there would be an appropriate time later to do so.

Council Comments

- None

Secretary/Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2012 meeting, as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski, to approve the payables as of December 14, 2012. Motion carried unopposed.

Police Report

- Chief Soloe provided the mid-monthly narrative of police responses. Eric Wenzelberger inquired about the number of man-hours worked. Chief Soloe advised he would have that calculated for the next report.

Zoning Report

- Zoning Officer Soloe advised that there is renewed interest in the Homoki property, including the west side of Route 33.

Solicitor Report

- Mr. Asteak advised that the Borough had received a Notice of Tax Assessment Appeal filed by Hercules. The County will be conducting an appraisal. Hercules files such an appeal every few years.
- The Borough also received from the PA Labor Board, a Request for Certification by the Police Department Employees to form a collective bargaining unit. The Borough, through Mr. Asteak, has certified the number of employees, excluding the Chief. The officers may form a union, by vote.
- Ms. Richard asked Mr. Asteak to confirm the new Borough bidding limit amounts, with respect to the interest in Fry's Four Season in bidding for the 2013 mowing contract. Mr. Asteak verified that an amount over \$10,500.00 requires three telephonic or otherwise submitted quotes.
- In examining the Waste Management contract, it appears that recycling should have been included and not billed separately. Mr. Asteak confirmed that the wording of the contract supported this. Mr. Burmood was tasked with contacting Waste Management to resolve the recyclables billing for the past three years.

Solicitor Report cont'd.

- Mr. Asteak advised that the 2013 General Fund and Sewer Fund Budgets had been appropriately advertised for inspection. Council provided no comments. Mr. Wenzelberger advised he had asked for a copy of the budget, but was advised that as it was not an approved budget, it was not available for distribution, only in-house inspection. He questioned the total amount spent on the police department versus the amount taken in. He stated the monies could be better spent on things like repairing roads. Ms. Richard stated that the bulk of the police expenditures were wages for man-hours of police coverage. With respect to the Sewer Budget, Mr. Wenzelberger asked if money was being set aside for connection with Nazareth. Ms. Richard advised no money was being set aside for that purpose. **Motion**, by Joe Gosnell, seconded by Carl Zito, to approve the 2013 General Fund Budget set at \$501,780.95. Motion carried unopposed. **Motion** by Carl Zito, seconded by Cindy Hower, to approve the 2013 Sewer Fund Budget set at \$233,550.00. Motion carried unopposed.
- Mr. Asteak also advised that Ordinance 2012-3 Fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate for 2013 had been advertised and was ready for adoption. **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to adopt **Ordinance 2012-3** Fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate for 2013 at 11.5 mills. Motion carried unopposed.

Agenda Items

- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to approve the 2013 Meeting Calendar, as presented. Motion carried unopposed.

New, Old, or Unfinished Business

- Mr. Zaboy stated construction for the manhole project had not started as scheduled. An outside firm came in and located cleanout F13 approximately 75 feet further North than expected. All stakes for construction are in place.
- Mr. Zaboy stated he did not have much to report with respect to the recreational trail project. We are trying to locate maps to resolve the property boundary dispute at the North end of the trail.
- Ms. Richard advised that the final draft of the Personnel Handbook is due in Friday, as well as the final drafts of the Job Descriptions.
- Mr. Wenzelberger asked when the Aflac representative would be in for open enrollment. Ms. Richard responded that Mr. Barbieri would likely be here in January.
- Earl Kocher, of 300 Old Easton Road, inquired about garbage collection on Monday December 24th. He was advised that it should be collected as usual. He also asked about the last scheduled meeting of the year, on December 28th. Ms. Richard advised that the scheduled budget meeting had been cancelled as the new budgets have been adopted.
- Ryan Fry, of 202 Lincoln Avenue, asked if he could take the wood that was piled up behind the wastewater treatment plant. He intended to cut it up himself and use for firewood. Council had no objections.
- Mr. Wenzelberger wished everyone a happy holiday.

Executive Session – Personnel

- **Motion** at 8:13 pm by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski, to adjourn to executive Session for Personnel matters. Motion Carried unopposed.
- **Motion** at 8:35 pm by Carl Zito, seconded by Paul Zaboy, Sr., to exit Executive Session and return to regular session. Motion Carried unopposed.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, seconded by Cindy Hower, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, January 7, 2013 at 7:30 pm. The foregoing were approved the 7th day of January, 2013.

President of Council

Attest: _____