

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 21, 2015**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 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 stated that the Stockertown Youth Association had their Christmas party on December 13th.

Council Comment

- Amy Richard wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. She stated that it has been a pleasure working with everyone on Council.

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Robin Davis to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of December 7, 2015 as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Robin Davis, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to approve Accounts Payable for the General Fund, Sewer Fund and Rails to Trails Fund through December 21, 2015. Motion carried unopposed.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Davis had nothing to report.

Police

- OIC Eric Schwab informed Council that residents have approached him and other officers and stated that they are very happy with the presence of police officers in the Borough.
- Joe Gosnell expressed his appreciation for the active presence of the police officers.

Zoning

- John Soloe stated all was quiet.

Public Works

- Amy Richard informed Council that the Borough is in need of new “No Parking” signs. The current signs are faded and unreadable. An estimate was obtained to replace these signs at a cost of \$27.75 per sign including hardware. Approximately 30 signs will need to be replaced. Council all agreed to order the signs needed.

Solicitor

- Solicitor Asteak wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He stated that it has been a pleasure serving the Borough.
- Mr. Asteak stated that the 2016 tax rate has been advertised and is now ready for the Ordinance to be signed. Mr. Asteak asked for a Motion to approve the Real Estate Tax Ordinance for 2016 at 13.5 mills which is the same rate as last year.
- Motion by Carl Zito, Seconded by Robin Davis to approve Ordinance No. 2015-2 Fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate for 2016. Motion carried unopposed.

Ordinance No. 2015-2
AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE
BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN FOR THE YEAR 2016

Tax rate for general Borough purposes, the sum of 13.50 mills
on each dollar of assessed valuation.

Agenda

- The new calendar of Borough Meetings was handed out to all Council Members.
- Newly elected Council members were reminded that they need to take their Oath of Office. Mayor Davis can swear them in at the next meeting, if needed.
- A letter was received on December 21, 2015 from the Northampton County Youth Field Day Foundation requesting a correction to the July 8, 2015 Borough Minutes in connection with a \$500.00 donation to the Borough Police Department. Amy Richard read the letter to all present. Ms. Richard stated that she will also adjust the information in her quarterly Newsletter.
- A copy of the original letter is included below.



Northampton County Youth Field Day Foundation Inc.



RECEIVED

DEC 21 2015

STOCKERTOWN
BOROUGH

Ms. Amy Richards, Council President
Borough of Stockertown
PO Box 128
Stockertown, PA 18083
Dec. 17, 2015

Dear Ms. Richards;

I am the treasurer of Northampton County Youth Field Day Foundation, Inc. and would like to make a correction to the borough council meeting minutes of July 8, 2015. I found the minutes on the borough's web site. (Very impressive web site – my complements.)

First, I am pleased that you attended the Youth Field Day which we held on the Stockertown Rod & Gun Club property on June 6. But this event is not "the Rod & Gun Club Youth Day". It is funded by our foundation which is a separate non-profit corporation. The volunteers that work the event come from many organizations; local sportsmen's clubs, PA Game Commission, Delaware River Water Rescue, and Jacobsburg Historical Society. We are not affiliated with Stockertown Rod & Gun Club other than they donate the use of their property for the event and some of the volunteers are members of the club.

Second, the \$500.00 donation to the borough for the assistance of the borough police department during the Northampton County Youth Field Day on June 6 came from the foundation, not Stockertown Rod & Gun Club. I am sure you saw the news report from WFMZ that made it sound like the gun club was paying off the police department. This needs to be corrected in the official council minutes. I have enclosed a copy of the canceled check for your records.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Carolyn R Brior, Treasurer

NCYFDF, Inc, PO Box 462, Stockertown, PA 18083

Web site www.NCYouthFieldDay.com - or Email - NCYouthDay@aol.com

Executive Session

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Robin Davis to enter into Executive Session at 7:46 PM for a brief personnel benefits issue. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Robin Davis, Seconded by Carl Zito to exit Executive Session at 7:48 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

- **Motion** by Robin Davis, Seconded by Carl Zito to increase the Wellness Benefit Program from \$300 to \$500 per year.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Robin Davis to adjourn the Council Meeting for the 2015 year at 8:51 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The Budget Meeting scheduled for December 30, 2015 has been cancelled.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7:30 PM.

The foregoing was approved the **4th day of January, 2016.**

President of Council

Attest:_____