

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2020**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020 AT 7:40 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

**Attendance**

- Council Members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Vice President, Kathleen Zdonowski, Cindy Hower, Pamela Davis and Rosemarie Wenzelberger. Joe Gosnell and Carl Zito were absent.
- Borough Secretary/Treasurer Anita Caughy, Mayor Ken Zemencsik and Attorney Steve Mills were present.

**The Meeting was called to order by Council President, Amy Richard, at 7:40 PM**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment**

- Tom and Michelle Appleman of Crown View Dr. inquired as to why surveyors were on and around their property. Amy Richard stated that there are three land parcels in the Borough sited for development when the sewer moratorium is lifted. You are seeing the ground work for those projects. Ms. Richard stated that there are many steps to go through before they can submit a set of plans. Mr. Appleman stated he is concerned about the affects on his property value.
- Eric Wenzelberger was concerned that the Christmas tree on Center Street was not lit this year. Amy Richard stated that they are considering removing that tree and replacing it with one that is not falling over. She stated that the main reason the lights were not on the tree this year was because the ground was too wet for the backhoe to get close to the tree to put them on.

**Council Comment**

- No Council Comment

**Secretary / Treasurer Report**

- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Pam Davis, to approve Council Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2020 with one correction. Motion carried unopposed.
  - Under Oath of Office, Cindy Hower was also administered the oath of office prior to the meeting.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Cindy Hower to approve accounts payable for the General Fund and Sewer Fund through February 3, 2020. Motion carried unopposed.
- A Notice was distributed from Senator Lisa Boscola's Office advising of positions available in Northampton & Lehigh Counties with PennDot for a summer maintenance program job for college students. Candidates must apply online at

[www.governmentjobs.com/career/pabureau/](http://www.governmentjobs.com/career/pabureau/) , be at least 18 years of age and have a valid driver's license. The hourly rate is \$13.97. The Notice is posted on the Borough's Bulletin Board in the vestibule.

### **Guest Speaker**

- Ryan Hottenstein from Financial Solutions attended the meeting to discuss the annual audited financial statements as they pertain to the financing of the sewer connection project. He distributed two examples of audits to the Council members. He explained the difference between the DCED Audit which the Borough currently uses compared to a GAAP Compliant Audit which stands for a Generally Accepted Accounting Practices. Mr. Hottenstein stated that the GAAP audit gives a clearer picture of the financial state of a business or municipality when the entity has retirement plans, loans and bonds, health plans and multiple forms of accounts receivables. The Borough has none of the above except for a straight loan through a bank, and it was his hope that the banks he is seeking our bond issue from would be satisfied with the DCED form of audit in light of the small size of the Borough. The cost of the DCED Audit is \$6,000 whereas the GAAP Audit will cost the Borough \$10,000 each year as stated in a quote provided from Jane Bachman, the Borough's Independent Auditor. Mr. Hottenstein will advise the Borough, after speaking with the Bank, which audit will be needed to obtain the financing required for the sewer project.

### **Mayor Report**

- Mayor Zemencsik had nothing to report.

### **Police**

- Asst. Chief Schwab was absent, therefore, Amy Richard read out the calls for service report from January 1 to January 31, 2020. She stated that there were 4 Arrests; 4 Motor Vehicle Accidents; 58 Traffic Summonses; 23 Traffic Warnings; along with miscellaneous calls for a total of 130 Calls for the month of January.

### **Public Works**

- Amy Richard informed Council that Alex Hennings, Director of Public Works is in the process of obtaining quotes for jet cleaning and video scoping of the sewer lines.

### **Solicitor**

- Attorney Steven Mills stated that more information is needed on the Notice of proposed subdivision or land development received from Plainfield Township.

### **Agenda**

- Amy Richard addressed the issues Public Works had with Keystone Engineering during the Public Works garage project. She stated that there is the potential for multiple developments once the sewer connection is made with Easton and it would behoove Council to engage a more aggressive engineering firm to stay ahead of the curve. Council sought quotes from several Engineering firms. She and Kathleen Zdonowski met with Hanover Engineering last week. Kathleen Zdonowski stated that Hanover was very understanding of the Borough's needs going forward. She

feels that they have all the capabilities of handling the necessary changes in an expedient manor. Hanover serves many municipalities in the area and they are highly recommended. Ms. Richard asked for a Motion to hire Hanover Engineering as the Borough's new engineering firm.

- **Motion** by Pam Davis, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to appoint Hanover Engineering as the Borough's new engineering firm. Motion carried unopposed.

### **Adjournment**

- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Cindy Hower to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:22 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on February 17, 2020.

The foregoing was approved the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020.

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President of Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_