

STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 2013

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A MEETING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2013, AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Council members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Mr. Carl Zito, Mr. Joe Gosnell, Ms. Cindy Hower, Mrs. Rosemarie Wenzelberger, and Ms. Kathleen Zdonowski.
- Borough Solicitor Gary Asteak was present.
- Police Chief/Zoning Officer John Soloe arrived at 8:00 pm.
- Patrolman Brown arrived at 7:35 pm to preserve the meeting.
- Mayor Metzgar, Council Vice President Paul Zaboy, Sr., and Secretary Chris Burmood were absent.
- Councilwoman Cindy Hower recorded the minutes.

Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Council President Amy Richard, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment

- Eric Wenzelberger, of 111 Center Street, expressed his concern about the amount of gravel/cinders being used in conjunction with salt during snow clearing, and requested that Public Works utilize salt only. Ms. Richard stated she would inquire if it was possible.
- Ms. Richard advised the Wenzelbergers that they had an appointment with the Aflac representative at 5:30 pm.

Council Comments

- Mr. Gosnell discussed the icy/slippery conditions of Main Street on the evening of Saturday, February 2nd, citing that once he crossed into Forks Township, the roads had been treated. Ms. Richard advised that we had received permission to plow and treat Main Street if it was necessary in their absence. She advised that the PennDOT plow route is from Plainfield down and across 191 to Nazareth before returning to finish the Borough.
- Mrs. Wenzelberger read another prepared letter regarding her Aflac coverage, including the cancelled Dental coverage.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, seconded by Joe Gosnell, to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2013 meeting, with correction as noted below. Motion carried unopposed. Note* Agenda had January 21, 2012 – to be corrected.
 - Page 2, under Agenda Items, 6th line; remove “the” between “about” and “whether”.
- Significant discussion occurred regarding the General Code bill and annual maintenance fee. It was agreed to keep an eye on General Code analysis. **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski, to approve the payables. Motion carried unopposed. Note* The Payables report had several duplicated entries.
- Acceptance of Real Estate Tax Collector Report for 2012.

Police Report

- Chief Soloe introduced Keith Snyder, a full-time officer with Tatamy Borough, with the recommendation that the Borough hire Mr. Snyder as a part-time officer. Mr. Snyder's résumé was distributed to Council for review. Mr. Snyder stated he was available 10-15 hours per week. Ms. Richard suggested that this would be reviewed during Executive Session.

Zoning Report

- Ms. Richard asked Zoning Officer Soloe about the complaint from the Unangst family on Birch Street regarding the cul-de-sac. Mr. Soloe confirmed that it is not on Borough property. He addressed issues of snow removal and water drainage. Ms. Richard advised that installation of barricades would limit Borough liability. Borough to investigate installation of a “No Outlet “ sign at the beginning of Birch Street, and the erection of barricades at the end of the asphalt adjacent to the cul-de-sac.

Public Works Report

- None.

Solicitor Report

- Mr. Asteak advised that the Borough needs to appoint a “watcher” to oversee the PLRB police labor vote on February 13, 2013, between 3:00 and 4:00 pm. **Motion** by Amy Richard, seconded by Joe Gosnell, to appoint Secretary Chris Burmood as the Borough’s “watcher”. Motion carried unopposed.
- Mr. Asteak also advised that he had reviewed the CodeRED agreement and made a few minor changes, and that it is ready for adoption, at Council’s pleasure. Mr. Gosnell asked about concerns raised during a prior meeting. Ms. Richard addressed each concern. Ms. Richard also indicated she had spoken to Mr. Zaboy, and he had indicated that he was in favor of it. **Motion** by Amy Richard, seconded by Joe Gosnell, to adopt CodeRED as our emergency dialer system. Motion carried unopposed.
- Mr. Asteak, after reviewing the map, indicated that the Unangst driveway is on the far side of the cul-de-sac, so that barricading the cul-de-sac would effectively block their driveway. He suggested that all Borough vehicles stop shy of leaving the pavement, and that the Unangst’s are able to barricade or block off at their own discretion. He also stated we would have to plow to the end of the pavement. Mr. Asteak and Mr. Gosnell both suggested partial blockade of the right hand side of the cul-de-sac. Zoning Officer Soloe to follow up with the property owners.

Agenda Items

- The marquee sign has received several donations, in large part to Jack Fatzinger and his tireless efforts to raise awareness and money.
- Aflac representative will be available on Tuesday afternoon at Borough Hall.
- The 2010 Audit has been completed.
- Ms. Richard attended the Bucci-Unicem open house for the new digging. They will not be tearing apart the road, but will be utilizing a large tube mechanism above the road to convey the mined materials. The water that is pumped has no effect on the sinkholes.
- Ms. Richard attended the Chrin Interchange groundbreaking on January 31st. Construction is expected to begin in spring. No word on when the traffic lights will become operational. Mr. Soloe advised that the Tatamy bridge is expected to open soon, perhaps April. June is when the penalty phase would kick in.

New, Old, or Unfinished Business

- Engine Brake Retarder signs. Mr. Zito indicated that he believed the signs had been ordered. Ms. Richard asked why that had been down without Council approval. Chief Soloe asked about the verbiage on the signs. Per Ms. Richard, we have the whole criteria from PennDOT. Additionally, Mr. Dooley, of the Planning Commission, has sought quotes for signs as well.
- Ms. Richard mentioned the idea of installing rumble strips and/or reflectors down the center double-yellow of Main Street, especially in the area of the curve at Winona and Center. They are very noisy, according to Chief Soloe. Chief Soloe suggested reflectors on the stone walls would perhaps be better.
- Ms. Richard mentioned Mr. Burmood’s concern regarding liability for Borough personnel using their own vehicles for Borough business. Mr. Burmood had reached out to the insurance company, but Ms. Richard had not received the response yet.
- Mr. Wenzelberger lodged a complaint about Bushkill Street, specifically the “Detour” sign on the Southwest corner of Bushkill and Main, due to decreased visibility. Ms. Richard stated that contact was initiated with the contractor who placed that sign, with a request to move it further from the intersection. We had expected that done by now. Mr. Burmood to follow up.

Executive Session – Personnel matters

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, seconded by Joe Gosnell, to go into Executive Session at 8:58 pm. Motion Carried unopposed.
- **Motion** at 9:53 pm Carl Zito, seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski, to exit Executive Session and return to regular session. Motion Carried unopposed.

New, Old, or Unfinished Business, cont'd.

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski, to accept the Borough Time Clock Procedures for Admin and Public Works, effective February 10, 2013. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski, to accept the Borough Police Time Clock Procedures, effective February 10, 2013. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, seconded by Carl Zito, to hire Keith Snyder as a part time police officer for the Borough, starting February 5, 2013. Motion carried unopposed.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, seconded by Joe Gosnell, to adjourn the meeting at 10:09 pm. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2013 at 7:30 pm. The foregoing were approved the 20th day of February, 2013.

President of Council

Attest: _____