

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2015**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015, 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 along with Officer Eric Schwab. Chief John Soloe arrived late.
- Solicitor Gary Asteak was 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 complained that other residents were not moving their cars off the streets for snow plowing. He was advised that during a snow emergency, if vehicles remain on the streets they will be ticketed. He also stated that public works has been doing a good job with the plowing of the streets.
- Attorney Sam Murray, a guest speaker, stated that he is seeking the office of Northampton County Common Pleas Judge. Mr. Murray stated that he has been an attorney for 30 years and that he has presided for over 10 years as the Judicial Hearing Officer in Juvenile Court. He apprised every one of his involvement in the Northampton County Community.

Council Comment

- Carl Zito submitted two disability parking cards for Council's consideration. Mr. Zito stated that Mrs. Todora of Center Street is in need of a handicap sign in front of her house for unloading her groceries. He stated that he was willing to give up his sign for Mrs. Todora.
- Robin Davis advised that the "No Outlet Sign" on State Street is turned the wrong way and needs to be corrected
- Mrs. Davis also stated that Widow's Tavern needs to clear their sidewalk of snow. They are not complying with the Ordinance regarding clearing of sidewalks

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2015 as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Robin Davis, Seconded by Carl Zito to approve Accounts Payable for the General Fund and Sewer Fund through March 2, 2015. Motion carried unopposed.

- Council was informed that the PA Department of Transportation's allocation towards the Borough's Liquid Fuels Fund will be in the amount of \$23,771.06.
- Amy Richard stated that she has spoken with Representative Joe Emrick and a representative from Senator Boscola's office regarding obtaining a Grant to repair Commerce Way and LeFevre Road. They seem confident that the Borough will be able to receive something towards this project.
- Anita Caughy advised that she has spoken with Luther Casner of the Nazareth Soccer Club who asked if council would agree to rent them Metzgar Park for \$25.00 per week instead of the \$25.00 per day regular charge. They advised that they will need the field for 2 or 3 days each week. Nazareth Soccer club will also provide their own porta john, garbage cans and will reseed the grass, if needed, when they are finished. After council discussion, it was agreed to accept \$30.00 for their 2-3 day rental fee with the stated provisions. The Borough also requires a Certificate of Insurance.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Davis stated that at a meeting with Hercules last month, he was advised that the Quarry plans have changed. There will not be a separate quarry. The quarry will extend to Rt. 191. Permits have been started. This is expected to be a 5 year plan which will begin in 2018 or 2019.
- Mayor Davis also advised that Bushkill Stream Conservancy is working with other conservation groups to redo Bushkill Creek beginning in Tatamy. They will dig out the banks and place boulders in the creek to change the course of the water flow.
- Amy Richard stated that in regard to the Hercules Meeting, she was able to bring up the tax issue with the new CEO for Hercules. He has agreed to help with the negotiations. Gary Asteak stated that he is not signing off on anything until the tax issues are resolved.

Public Works

- The public works crew has been working more night hours than day hours because of the snow. Carl Zito asked when Alex Hennings would be back. He was advised that hopefully in a few weeks.
- Mayor Davis stated that the storm drains are covered with ice and need to be cleared. Amy Richard advised that public works went through and cleared them after the last storm and will need to clear them again.

Solicitor Report

- Gary Asteak presented Ordinance No. 2015-1 which has been advertised and is ready for adoption.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-1

REPEALING THE PROVISIONS OF BOROUGH ORDINANCES REGULATING THE POSSESSION OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION OR AMMUNITION COMPONENTS; COMPLYING WITH THE LIMITATION ON MUNICIPAL POWERS PROVIDED FOR IN 53 Pa. C.S.A. 2962(g) AND 18 Pa. C.S.A. 6120(a).

- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Carl Zito to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-1 repealing the previous Ordinance regulating the possession of firearms by a Municipality. Motion carried unopposed.

Agenda

- Amy Richard stated that she sat with the Auditor today and that the audit will be completed within the next two weeks and her price will be the same. She also has been hired to do the audit for the Legacy Grant for the Rails to Trails project. She has agreed to do the audit for \$800.00.

Police Report

- Chief John Soloe arrived late, therefore, Amy Richard read out the Call Service Report from February 1, 2015 through February 28, 2015. There were a total of 93 calls which included 45 Traffic Summonses; 14 Traffic Warnings. John Soloe arrived while the report was being read.
- Carl Zito stated that the police officers are doing a good job and he wanted to thank them.
- Joe Gosnell asked what the summonses were issued for. Chief Soloe advised that they were mainly for going through red lights and speeding violations.
- Amy Richard advised Chief Soloe that Widow Brown's sidewalks are an issue again.
- Chief John Soloe advised Council that he was considering adding a minor supervisory position with no salary change to assist him with certain duties. The new position will be entitled Officer in Charge (OIC). This will be a trial position for six months at which time it will be reviewed. Solicitor Asteak suggested that the personal policy be revised as to the new job description. Chief Soloe stated that he would prepare the job description for the next meeting at which time Council can approve the job description and the appointment.

Old, New or Unfinished Business

- Amy Richard advised that Mr. Tichy of M&T Automotive has been plowing his snow into the Borough's fence along the new trail on both sides of his driveway. She is concerned that the fence will be broken when the snow thaws. Gary Asteak will send Mr. Tichy a letter on this matter.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Robin Davis to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:28 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

The foregoing was approved the 16th day of **March, 2015**.

President of Council

Attest: _____