

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH
VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING ON
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020

Attendance

- Council Member in attendance on line were: Amy Richard, Council President, Kathleen Zdonowski, Vice President, Cindy Hower, Joe Gosnell, Pam Davis, Rosemarie Wenzelberger, Carl Zito
- Mayor Ken Zemencsik, Alex Hennings, Public Works Director, John Soloe, Zoning Officer, and Eric Schwab, Asst. Chief of Police were in attendance
- Solicitor Gary Asteak and Borough Secretary/Treasurer, Anita Caughy were in attendance.

Role was taken and meeting was called to order by Council President, Amy Richard at 7:30 PM

Amy Richard announced that meeting was being recorded.

Public Comment

- No one from the public announced themselves.

Agenda

- Amy Richard stated that Sewer Engineer, Jeff Morgan has been conducting research on the current sewer tap in fee. He has determined that the fee will be increased but there is still additional research to be completed.
- Solicitor Gary Asteak spoke regarding the Norfolk Southern Railway Company Agreement with regard to the Sewer connection to Easton Sewer Authority. He stated that the original License Agreement required the Borough to pay \$50,000 for the License Agreement. Jeff Morgan of SC Engineers has been in negotiations with the railroad for several months, and has been successful in having Norfolk Railway reduce their fee to \$26,000. Solicitor Asteak has prepared a Resolution to authorize the Borough to sign the License Agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway in the amount of \$26,000.00.
- **Motion** by Pam Davis, Seconded by Carl Zito to approve Resolution 2020-1 which states as follows:

RESOLUTION 2020-1

Approving Execution of a License Agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company for Right-of-Way for Installation, Construction, Maintenance, Operation and Removal of Facilities.

Motion carried unopposed.

- Hanover Engineers have been working on revisions to the current Borough Zoning Ordinance and SALDO Ordinance. Amy Richard advised Council that a copy of the Zoning Changes prepared by Hanover Engineering was included in their packet which was distributed to each member. The proposed changes were previously reviewed by the Borough's Planning Commission and the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission. A comment letter was received by both which was taken into consideration when preparing the changes incorporated in the proposed Zoning Ordinance. Several Council members spoke up stating that they do not have any objections to these changes. Amy Richard asked for a Motion to advertise the proposed Zoning Ordinance with suggested changes.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Carl Zito to approve the advertising of the Zoning Ordinance with proposed changes as prepared by Hanover Engineering stated in their letter of March 26, 2020. Motion carried unopposed.
- Amy Richard addressed the proposed Ordinance with regard to the SALDO Changes which were also distributed to council in the packets they received. Ms. Richard stated that these changes referenced the future streets and sidewalks within the Borough. These changes were also distributed to the Borough's Planning Commission and the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission for their review and comments. Their comments have been taken into consideration with the preparation by Hanover Engineers and incorporated in the proposed Ordinance.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Carl Zito to approve the advertising of the revised SALDO Ordinance as written. Motion carried unopposed.

Police

- Amy Richard and Asst. Chief Eric Schwab thanked the Northampton County Youth Association for their donation of \$500 towards the Borough's Police Department. This donation was received from them even though the Youth Field Day was cancelled due to the Coronavirus mandates.
- Asst. Chief Eric Schwab read out the Call for Service Report for the month of February. There were 80 Traffic Enforcements Summonses; 26 Traffic Warnings; 3 Assist other Agencies; 1 Arrest along with miscellaneous other calls for a total of 152 calls from 2-1-20 to 2-29-20.

- Asst. Chief Schwab provided Council with a resume for a proposed Stockertown Police Officer who is under consideration. Sgt. Christopher Ritter has recently retired from Palmerton Police Department. Asst. Chief Schwab stated that Officer Ritter would like to continue part time municipal work. He highly recommends Officer Ritter and stated that he is ready to work as soon as Council approves his employment.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to approve the hiring of Officer Christopher Ritter to the Stockertown Police Department. Motion carried unopposed.

Public Works

- Alex Hennings advised Council that the cleaning and jetting of the Borough’s sewer lines have shown some partially blocked lines due to improper grading. These issues will have to be addressed at a later time. There are also continuing issues with grease and garbage found in the sewer lines.
- Mr. Hennings stated that the speed bumps will be installed shortly as well as the fence along the ball field on Lefevre Road.
- Asst. Chief Eric Schwab suggested that Council member pass along to their neighbors to possibly leave their outside lights on all night for extra security throughout the Borough.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Carl Zito to adjourn the Council Meeting at 7:58 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on May 4, 2020

The foregoing was approved the **4th** day of **May**, 2020.

President of Council

Attest: _____