

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2013**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A MEETING ON MONDAY, MAY 20, 2013, AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

**Attendance**

- Council members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Council Vice President Paul Zaboy, Sr., Mr. Carl Zito, Mr. Joe Gosnell, Ms. Cindy Hower, Mrs. Rosemarie Wenzelberger, and Ms. Kathleen Zdonowski.
- Mayor Charlie Davis was present.
- Borough Solicitor Gary N. Asteak, Police Chief/Zoning Officer John Soloe, Acting Public Works Supervisor Paul Zaboy, Jr. (PJ), and Secretary Chris Burmood were in attendance.
- Officer Brown was present to preserve the meeting.

**Meeting called to order at 7:32 PM by Council President Amy Richard, followed by the pledge of allegiance.**

Ms. Richard welcomed Mayor Davis to his first meeting as Mayor.

**Public Comment**

- Eric Wenzelberger, of 111 Center Street, stated he attended the Plainfield Township meeting, where he received a copy of the map of the proposed Plainfield Township portion of the Stockertown recreational trail. He advised he had questions. Ms. Richard asked him to hold the questions until Rails-to-Trails was discussed later in the meeting.
- Mr. Wenzelberger also advised that he sent a letter to Northampton County Voter Registration regarding the late Mayor Metzgar's name being on the ballot. He was advised that an official needs to notify Voter Registration. He also inquired about the rules regarding campaign signs at a polling facility. Mr. Asteak stated that Mayor Metzgar's name cannot be removed from the ballot for the primary election. After the election, the Borough would notify Voter Registration if Mr. Metzgar received the highest number of votes, whereupon the County Republican Committee would then select a candidate for the general election in November. Mr. Asteak also stated that the signs should be at least 15-20 feet away from the door of the polling location, and that no electioneering should occur within 10 feet of the door.
- Earl Kocher, of 300 Old Easton Road, advised that vehicles making switchback turns from Old Easton Road onto northbound Main Street are getting too close to the sign, spinning their tires and kicking gravel and cinders onto his property. He stated he has taken pictures of the offending parties and knows the vehicles. He threatened a lawsuit against the Borough if anyone was injured as a result.

**Council Comments**

- Mr. Zito stated that new flowers had been planted at the Memorial.
- Mr. Zito advised that he's heard rumors going around the Borough to the effect he hates Charlie (Mayor Davis). He wanted to set the record straight and stated that is not the case.
- Mayor Davis advised he received a call from Mrs. Ebert, who lives at the corner of Birch and Hillside, complaining about tractor trailers turning onto Birch and using the cul-de-sac. He stated there should be a "No Outlet" sign posted. Discussion ensued on whether this was an isolated incident due to a traffic accident or a more common occurrence.
- Mayor Davis also advised that two plaques on the Memorial are badly weathered. If someone from Public Works removes them, Mayor Davis offered to repair/refurbish them at no cost.
- Ms. Richard read a card from the Metzgar family thanking the Borough for the spray of flowers sent for Mayor Metzgar's funeral.

### Secretary/Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Joe Gosnell, to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2013 meeting, as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- Mr. Zito questioned expenses under the Rails-to-Trails fund. Mr. Zaboy and Mr. Asteak advised that the project required extraordinary and extensive engineering and design. **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to approve the payables through May 10, 2013. Motion carried unopposed.

### Police Report

- Chief Soloe read the mid-monthly statistical report of police responses. He advised that newly hired officer, Eric Schwab, is on duty and picking up hours. The chief also advised that officer candidate Miro Djindjiev received his MPOETC certification and was starting with in-house training.

### Zoning

- Mr. Soloe advised that Buzzi Unicem had made application for PennDOT approval for an overhead conveyor system across Route 191 in Plainfield Township, just west of the Borough. Additionally, there are new high voltage lines going in for the new quarry.
- Ms. Zdonowski advised that Katie Santiago is still dealing with harassment by kids in the middle of the night in Long's Development.
- Ms. Richard advised that Keystone is still working on the traffic study for the requested 4-way stop at Faith and Jubilee.
- Ms. Hower advised that Widow's Tavern has put out flower pots which block the sidewalks.
- Mr. Soloe advised that Joshua Tree has been in the process of removing the mulch material from his property.

### Public Works Report

- PJ stated that we've had a large algae bloom at the wastewater treatment plant, which has caused binding in the sand filter. We have to till it nearly daily. Our operator is aware of it and said we basically have to "ride it out." Otherwise, the WWTP is running well.
- The new employees, Karl and Todd, are hard workers and performing well.
- PJ advised that the full depth reclamation (FDR) he recommended for LeFevre Road a couple months back are fairly costly. He stated that we could cut costs nearly in half by cutting out each bad section and using compacted hot patch. This would solve most issues, except for drainage. An overlay would then solve most of the water issues. We would still have to shut down parts of the road and perform traffic control. Jeff Roback, of PennDOT Liquid Fuels, contacted a couple paving companies on our behalf, and there's a possibility of piggybacking off of the Bangor Boro/Washington Township project. Additionally, Jeff Roback agreed to prepare the contracts for free. Also according to Mr. Roback, for bidding purposes, the auditors would see the FDR and the overlay as two separate projects, not as part of a single project. After discussion, Council agreed that the FDR would be a more permanent solution, and worth the extra cost.
- We need to seal the existing cracks in the roads as well as the gap between the curb and the road surface throughout the Borough. SealMaster can provide an all-in-one rental unit, including training for \$1,800.00 per week, with an additional material cost of \$3,300.00 for 2 pallets of sealant material. There would be 2-3 hours of onsite training and the seals would last 3-5 years. PJ has put a tentative hold on the unit for the week of May 27<sup>th</sup>. **Motion** by Carl Zito, seconded by Paul Zaboy, Sr., to approve rental of the crack sealing unit and proceed with the project at a cost of approximately \$5,200.00, with a cap of \$5,500.00. Motion carried unopposed.
- Jack Fatzinger, former councilman, inquired about repairs to Commerce Way. Mr. Zaboy and PJ both responded that we would do the full depth reclamation and overlay process there as well, with the FDR going 8-12 inches deep.
- Mrs. Wenzelberger asked if parking lines can be painted along Center Street. Mr. Soloe recommended against it, stating that the size requirements might negatively impact the available space, decreasing the numbers of vehicles that could be parked there. The existing parking spots delineated there are handicapped spaces.

## Solicitor Report

- Mr. Asteak stated “all is well”.

## Agenda Items

- Mr. Gosnell stated he is “enthralled” by the new marquee sign. Ms. Richard advised she had heard negative comments being spread throughout the community regarding the use of tax dollars for the sign as opposed to having more police on patrol. Ms. Zdonowski stated that a number of residents have given compliments. Mr. Zaboy thanked Public Works for doing an excellent job installing the sign.
- The ducts in the Borough Hall and Post Office have been cleaned thoroughly. Apparently they had not been done in a long time, if ever. The cost was just over \$900.00. There are brand new reusable filters on the two attic units and in the council chambers ceiling return.
- Ms. Richard advised that the primary elections are scheduled for tomorrow (May 21, 2013), and as such, the Borough Office will be closed.

## New, Old, or Unfinished Business

- The audits for 2011 and 2012 are nearly completed, per Ms. Richard.
- Mr. Zaboy stated that we will start trail construction in June. Currently we are doing preliminary work by installing a new stormwater collector and piping under the trail bed on the south side of Industrial Boulevard. Property owners have been notified. Mr. Zaboy met with one owner and sent copies of survey maps. A preconstruction meeting is scheduled for Wednesday.
- Mr. Wenzelberger advised that he obtained a map of the north trailhead with proposed parking area. He asked if there was going to be another parking area. Mr. Zaboy advised there will be one adjacent to Sherman Metzgar Park off of Center Street.
- Mr. Wenzelberger asked about the offset at the north end and why a trailhead. Mr. Zaboy advised that no crossing is allowed by PennDOT; therefore we must have a trailhead. As for the offset, Plainfield Township may consider extending their trail along the west side of Route 191, to connect with our trail south of our trailhead parking area, but that is Plainfield Township’s concern, not Stockertown’s. As for Phase 2, we will be coordinating with Tatamy and Palmer about where best to cross the Bushkill. Perhaps the old railroad trestle, as there was no adverse effects on them by sinkhole issues.
- Mr. Gosnell, in reference to the “safe haven” crossing at Industrial Boulevard, asked about traffic stacking due to the traffic pattern, and if signals would be installed. Mr. Zaboy advised that there is not enough distance between the crossing and the traffic signals to warrant another set of signals. He advised there will be signs posted advising motorists of the crossing. He also indicated that we may reapply to have the Industrial Boulevard speed limit lowered to 35, once the new traffic signals become operational and affect traffic flow.
- Ms. Richard thanked Mr. Zaboy for providing a zoom-capable property and boundary zoning map for use on the website. She also advised that the cost-to-date for the website is under \$900.00.

## Adjournment

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, seconded by Joe Gosnell, to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 pm. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, June 3, 2013 at 7:30 pm. The foregoing were approved the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2013.

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President of Council

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