

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2013**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A MEETING ON MONDAY, JUNE 17, 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.
- Attorney Steven Mills was in attendance on behalf of 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.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by Council President Amy Richard, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment

- Earl Kocher, of 300 Old Easton Road, stated that there was gravel still in the street in front of his house. He advised people were still making the switchback turn, spinning their tires, and kicking the gravel back into his property. He claimed to have photos and license plate numbers, but refuses to file complaints with the Stockertown Borough Police Department. He stated that the drivers in question all reside in Long's Development.
- Mr. Kocher stated that on Sunday afternoon, he observed the police cruiser in Forks Township. He stated that it turned onto Church Road towards Kessler'sville Road. He wanted to know why it wasn't remaining in the Borough.
- Mr. Kocher also complained that the cinders in front of the Schafer residence still hadn't been cleaned up.
- Eric Wenzelberger, of 111 Center Street, stated that the stop sign west of his residence has caused problems with some of the larger commercial traffic. He said trucks could not make the turn without backing up. He asked if the sign could be relocated further back.
- Mr. Wenzelberger also advised that he and his wife have petition forms for people interested in saving Braden Airpark, and keeping it open.
- Morgan Schafer, of 304 Old Easton Road, stated that he has been awakened by vehicles "burning rubber" and squealing tires at the intersection of Old Easton Road and Main Street in the early morning hours. He stated they are SUVs and pickups without pipes coming out of Long's Development.

Council Comments

- Mr. Zito asked for Council's permission to purchase new flags for the monument. He stated he needed 6 new flags, and also that the ropes should be replaced. Council voiced no objection.
- Mayor Davis requested that a barricade be placed next to the trail in the alley, as there is now a significant drop-off. He mentioned that schoolchildren who live over on Lincoln routinely cross through to catch the bus. PJ advised that school is out for summer. Mr. Zaboy stated that the banks along the new trail will be graded. Additional discussion ensued regarding if the cross through to Lincoln was an actual road.

Council Comments, cont'd.

- Mr. Zaboy discussed the idea of obtaining secure mailboxes for Council, as he was again missing documents and correspondence that had been placed into his mailbox in Council chambers. He stated he will not be held responsible for any correspondence that he has to take action on, that may be missing as a result. Ms. Richard mentioned that the Forks Township Supervisors have lockers, and no actual access to Council chambers.
- Ms. Richard stated publically that the police department has officially formed a union.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2013 meeting, with correction as noted below. Motion carried unopposed.
 - Remove the word "with" from between "last" and "week" on page 2, fifth line of New, Old or Unfinished Business.
- In addition to the list of payables provided by Borough Treasurer Rosalie Mondello, Mr. Burmood read the payees and amounts of a number of other payables that were due to be sent. **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to approve the payables through June 17, 2013. Motion carried unopposed.

Police Report

- Chief Soloe read the attached mid-monthly statistical report of police responses. He stated that the newer officers "are assertive". Officer Miro Djindjiev is over halfway through with his training hours requirement.

Zoning Report

- Mr. Soloe stated that the Joshua Tree Land Development plan currently pending Planning Commission approval, is for a building expansion basically for Mr. Malik to garage his existing vehicles on site. Mr. Soloe has received no feedback from the Planning Commission. He stated that the Planning Commission's only true concern should be the stormwater management.
- Mr. Soloe also advised that two large buildings have been proposed to be built next to the Chrin Interchange. Construction of the interchange is currently scheduled to begin in August. The State is bidding the actual bridge separate from the rest of the interchange project.
- Ms. Richard again raised the issue of the tables on the sidewalk at Widow's Tavern. Mr. Soloe advised that he will address that issue with Ms. Stahley.

Public Works Report

- PJ advised that we are still experiencing binding at the wastewater treatment plant in the sand filter, causing high water levels in pond 2/3. He indicated his hope that the MICROCAT biological material, which is designed to pull out dissolved solids, will work. He further stated that tilling is occurring daily, and that without tilling, there would be no flow at all. Mr. Zaboy recommended the purchase of a trolling motor for our boat, which would aid in the distribution of the biological material to the ponds, with minimal surface disturbance. It would also have helped with the turtle /intake problem. Costs range approximately \$150-200. Council voiced no objection.
- PJ stated that the trail base at Christmas Tree Park had been completed and was awaiting compaction. Also, the construction entrance on Center Street had been completed.
- PJ advised that on Wednesday, June 19, they would be patching Commerce Way to take care of several extensive new potholes. He was also scheduling with UFP to repair a section right outside of their gate.
- Mr. Zito asked if any movement had been done with respect to replacing the curbing and sidewalk at the corner of Winona, Center and Main Streets. Since that has to be ADA compliant, we will have to contract with an outside company to do the repair.

Public Works Report, cont'd.

- Mr. Zito also asked about the crack sealing. PJ advised that it was decided to perform that in the fall, when the ambient temperatures were optimal for creating a good seal that would expand and contract year-round.
- Ms. Richard indicated that Public Works should go ahead and install the Engine Brake signs at the locations designated by the engineer and approved by PennDOT.
- Ms. Richard advised she had purchased Public Works shirts (\$12), jackets (\$41), and hats (\$12.50) at Quick Stitch. She suggested that the employees be issued a few shirts and a hat, and that if they wanted more, they could purchase them. If they remained employed by the Borough for a significant time, those purchases would be refunded. Any damaged uniforms could be exchanged immediately for new ones at no charge. Council to consider the idea.

Solicitor Report

- Mr. Astek Mills had nothing to report.

Agenda Items

- Council discussed the traffic study prepared by Keystone Consulting Engineers with respect to the proposed 4-way stop at the intersection of Faith and Jubilee. Council expressed displeasure at the extent and recommendations of the traffic study, especially as Mr. Kortze had indicated to Ms. Richard that there shouldn't be a problem. Ms. Richard will discuss the matter with Mr. Kortze upon his return from vacation.
- Ms. Richard advised that we are not receiving the volume discount with the new universal Sunoco card as we had been getting previously. We only receive the discount after the first 500 gallons, each month. PJ said that while it's nice to have a card for each vehicle, the process is a nightmare. Mr. Soloe indicated he was concerned about receiving rebates and whether the tax credits are being applied. Ms. Richard asked Council's pleasure, whether to continue or to scrap it, stating it may be possible to reopen the original credit line. Ms. Richard to investigate further.

New, Old, or Unfinished Business

- Mr. Zaboy attended the COG meeting on May 28. There were discussions of the Gaming Grants. They are focused on contiguous municipalities. Bethlehem City receives money "off the top". Surrounding municipalities share a separate pool of awards. County also obtained numerous awards. County had requested over \$500,000.00 for various projects. They received north of \$300,000.00. In all, over \$800,000.00 was awarded.
- With respect to the trail north end property issue, Mr. Zaboy indicated that Mr. Tichy was to meet with his attorney on Thursday.
- Paikes Enterprises appears amenable to redirecting their stormwater from their vast roof, and run new piping to drain into the new stormwater collector. Additionally, Paikes appears to be using parts of Borough property adjacent to the trail in various capacities, including storage and parking. Mr. Zaboy suggested that we issue a letter to Paikes allowing continued use of that property as long as the business remains in its current state. Given that they are storing propane containers and other items, the question of liability arose. Additionally, Ms. Zdonowski indicated that use of the property has value, and that we should be charging for that use. Others indicated that that might alter the current good relationship with we have with that company.
- Mr. Burmood discussed a request by Bobbi Conover to use the ball field on September 28 for a charity walk fundraiser for her ailing son. Council voiced no objection and indicated that there would be no charge.
- Ms. Richard stated that both the 2011 and 2012 audits have been completed.
- Council to get paid Thursday, June 20.

- Mr. Zito asked if the Borough owns a canoe stored or kept near the wastewater treatment plant. The answer was negative.

Motion at 9:02 pm by Carl Zito, seconded by Paul Zaboy, Sr., to enter into Executive Session for Personnel and Sewer Account issues, following a 5 minute break. Motion carried unopposed.

Motion at 9:17 pm by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to exit Executive Session and return to regular session. Motion carried unopposed.

Adjournment

- **Motion** at 9:17 pm by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, July 1, 2013 at 7:30 pm. The foregoing were approved the 1st day of July, 2013.

President of Council

Attest: _____