

STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2011

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A MEETING ON MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2011, AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Councilors present were: Council President Ms. Amy Richard, Vice President Mr. Paul Zaboy, Mr. Jack Fatzinger, Mr. Carl Zito, Mr. Joe Gosnell, Ms. Cindy Hower, and Mrs. Rosemarie Wenzelberger.
- Also present was Mayor Sherman Metzger, Zoning Officer John Soloe, Paul Zaboy, Jr. from Public Works, and Secretary Chris Burmood.
- Solicitor Gary Asteak, Esq. left prior to convening the meeting, due to illness.
- Patrolman Vrabel was on duty to preserve the meeting.
- Of note, Paul Zaboy, Jr. left the meeting prior to the Public Works report.

Meeting called to order at 7:33 PM by President Amy Richard followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment

- Earl Kocher, 300 Old Easton Road, expressed his concern over stones being dropped along the northbound lane of Route 115 by the dump trucks operating in the town during the overnight hours. He advised of his attempt to obtain police response, local and PASP, and indicated he was advised that PASP would respond and investigate. Chief Soloe received no notification from PASP. Ms. Richard advised that without knowing exactly which trucks were dropping the stones, she was unsure of how the borough could respond. Mr. Kocher stated that the loader is responsible, as the truck rails should be clean and loads covered before transport. Chief Soloe to follow up.
- Eric Wenzelberger, 111 Center Street, repeated his concern from the June 6 meeting regarding the dump trucks operating loudly and at high rates of speed during the early morning hours.

Council Comments

- Joe Gosnell suggested rental or purchase of electronic "Your Speed is" signs. Chief Soloe advised that the borough had previously borrowed a speed indicator trailer. He also said that a new one would cost approximately \$15,000.00 - \$20,000.00. Mr. Gosnell then inquired about hardwiring pole-mounted versions into streetlight poles. Chief Soloe indicated he will check on prices for permanently mounted signs, and suggested one for each end of town. He further indicated that this might be something to apply for through the Gaming Grant program.

Secretary/Treasurer report

- Approval of Minutes of June 6, 2011
- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, seconded by Carl Zito, to approve the minutes of June 6, 2011 as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayoral Report

- None

Public Works Report

- During the week of June 20, the yellow dump truck is scheduled to be taken to SMF Fabricators for refurbishing, and should be out-of-service for 4-6 weeks.
- The cleaning and video-recording of specified sections of the sewer lines has been scheduled by National Water Main Cleaning. The cost will remain under the \$5,000.00 cap set by Council.

Police Report

- Chief Soloe was requested to present a half-year briefing narrative at the next meeting.
- He addressed the use of explosive devices at the park, indicating that police responded, but no suspects were apprehended.

Zoning Report

- Mr. Soloe spoke with the owner of Joshua Tree, and was advised that within the week, someone was coming in to clean up the debris piles. Discussion followed regarding his violation of using the property differently than presented to and agreed upon by council.

Solicitor's Report

- Former Fire Chief Catino's sentencing was rescheduled for July 1, 2011.
- Ms. Richard advised that eight water shut off notices were sent to delinquent sewer account holders. Additionally, two more accounts have been designated to have liens put on them. No payments have been received from the accounts that presently have liens.

Agenda Items

- Planning Commission request for projects:
 1. Resolving the use of engine brakes (Jake brakes) in town. The recommendation was made to draft an ordinance to present to PennDOT.
 2. Ms. Richard also suggested that the Lincoln Street extension be planned and completed.
 3. Mr. Dooley indicated his desire to preserve Main Street, citing that current zoning laws regarding setbacks are reflected in Long's Development. He wanted to adjust the zoning along Main Street to maintain it's appearance and integrity.
- Vondercrone and Behrens has charged us \$3,500.00 for the 2009 audit, and haven't provided anything to date. The previous accountant charged \$6,000.00. Riley & Co. quoted a price of \$8,000.00, and advised Ms. Richard that DCED only needed one report, which any auditor could provide quickly. Ms. Richard requested permission to terminate Vondercrone & Behrens as borough auditor. Mr. Zito asked for several days in which to speak to auditing firm first, prior to termination. Council conducted verbal vote about termination. Ms. Richard, Mr. Zaboy, Ms. Hower, Mr. Gosnell, Mrs. Wenzelberger, and Mr. Fatzinger voted to terminate Vondercrone & Behrens. Mr. Zito voted against.
- The Northampton County Gaming Grant is open for submissions until August 1st. Ideas for grant applications including financing speed signs, Improved electronic equipment and computers for the Borough Hall, security cameras in conjunction with recreation trail and other facilities, expansion and improvement of the pavilion at Newhart Park, or even a new chipper for Public Works. Mr. Zaboy agreed to gather information with respect to the computers and security cameras. Chief Soloe agreed to research the cost and availability of speed signs.
- The Emergency Operations Plan was tabled, pending a review by council.

Old Business

- Mr. Gosnell presented three website printouts for electronic sign companies, for an emergency sign in front of Borough Hall. He was awaiting pricing information.
- The CD was reinvested at Merchants Bank for 5 years at 2.52%.
- Mr. Fatzinger advised that the traffic light project was to begin in July, currently they are finishing up in Tatamy and Nazareth.
- Mr. Zito mentioned ongoing issues with garbage dumping by Lock on Sundays. He agreed to photograph. He also mentioned continued parking on Bushkill Street by Lock's tenants, despite the recent posting of signs.
- Chief Soloe asked for confirmation of July meeting dates. He was advised that meetings would be held Wednesday, July 6th and Monday, July 18th.
- Ms. Richard presented council with a Budget to Actual for the 2001 year to date. She briefly discussed a few areas that require further investigation and possible correction. Copies were provided to council for evaluation.
- Eric Wenzelberger, 111 Center Street, inquired about crosswalks for the Borough, suggesting that it might be another opportunity to obtain and use gaming grant funds. Morgan Schafer stated that one crosswalk had already been approved for the Borough, at the intersection of Sullivan Trail and Werkheiser Street, within the past 2 years. It was suggested that potential grant funding could be used to install the appropriate handicap access curbing in the sidewalk on the West side of Sullivan Trail.
- Mr. Wenzelberger also inquired about obtaining the trophies in the case.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Jack Fatzinger to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Paul Zaboy. Motion carried unanimously at 8:59.

The next meeting of Borough Council will be held on Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at 7:30 PM.

The foregoing were approved the 6th day of July, 2011.

President of Council

Attest:_____