

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2014**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2014, 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 Police Chief/Zoning Officer, John Soloe.
- Attorney Steven Mills was present on behalf of Gary Asteak.

The Meeting was called to order by Council President, Amy Richard, at 7:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- Elizabeth Rossi of 100 Main Street wanted to thank the Council and Zoning Officer for resolving the issues at her apartment building. She also stated that people were not cleaning up after their dogs on the sidewalks. Ms. Rossi stated that she was interested in joining the Stockertown Youth Group and asked how to go about becoming a member. Amy Richard advised that she speak with Rosemarie Wenzelberger who is a member of the Youth Group. Ms. Wenzelberger suggested that she come to a meeting to join. She stated that a meeting was coming up soon. Ms. Rossi also asked whether there was a noise Ordinance in the Borough because she continually hears loud motorcycles. She was advised by Ms. Richard that there is a loud party Noise Ordinance which is 10:00 PM, but as for motorcycles there isn't much that can be done.
- Zoning Officer, John Soloe, advised that he met with Guy Kass at 100 Main Street and that he received a tour of the building. He stated that the unit was being used for a retail type store. He stated that there was a small kiln which was the size of a small microwave. An air compressor is used for sand blasting to etch glass and that there was no problem with his use of the unit. He found no fire hazards with his equipment. Mr. Soloe advised that he was not able to check out the wiring in the building because it was out of his jurisdiction.
- Eric Wenzelberger wanted to know if the building was being used for manufacturing or retail. John Soloe advised that it was more retail.

Council Comment

- Robin Davis requested that police should be on duty for next year's yard sale due to the amount of traffic.
- Carl Zito advised that Dave Derstine is no longer with PPG.

- Mr. Zito stated that the “Stop Ahead” signs which were on the Verizon poles were torn off. He was advised that they are electric poles and no signs should be on them.
- Mr. Zito also stated that the park needs new basketball nets. Charlie Davis advised that there should be new basketball nets in the white shed and that someone should check there first.
- Carl Zito stated that weeds were growing again under the sliding board at the playground.

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Robin Davis, seconded by Carl Zito to approve the Minutes of July 21, 2014 with the following corrections stated by Joe Gosnell.
Motion carried unopposed as amended.
 - Under Public Comment, 5th Bullet add “s” to “piece” and change “has” to “have”.
 - Under Old, New or Unfinished Business, 2nd Bullet, change “Tucker” to “Kocher”
 - Also under 2nd Bullet, change “it” to “it’s”.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, seconded by Robin Davis to approve Accounts Payable for the General Fund, Sewer Fund and Rails to Trails Fund through August 4, 2014 and through August 18, 2014.
- Robin Davis questioned what the \$1,220.50 charge from Northern Nurseries was for. She was advised that it was sand mix for the baseball field.
- Motion carried unopposed.
- Anita Caughy advised that the Nazareth-Bath Chamber of Commerce is planning an Anniversary Celebration in 2015. They are planning a trolley tour through the neighboring Boroughs and Towns. They have asked for one or two locations to visit and possibly tour at that time. The celebration will be sometime in August of 2015. Council and residents discussed several locations and will research some of the suggestions.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Davis advised that the Bushkill Stream Conservancy will now meet every other month. Not enough people are coming out to the meetings to warrant every month. People are interested but no one is volunteering to help.

Police Report

- The police call report from July 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014 was read. There were a total of 132 calls. There were 59 Traffic Enforcement Summonses and 50 Traffic Enforcement Warnings.
- Chief Soloe advised that there has been late night activity at the basketball Court in Sherman Park. It has been a gathering point for up to 20 to 24 people. He stated that the light switch timer needs to be reset so the lights cannot be turned on after 10:00 P.M.
- Council and Chief Sole discussed obtaining a bicycle for police officers to patrol the new trail.

- Chief Soloe stated that he applied for the County Gaming Grant to obtain a new police vehicle. He received a notice to attend a meeting on Monday at 5:30 PM concerning the Grant. The Ford Crown Vic will then be turned over to the Borough for its use.
- Chief Soloe advised that residents need to keep their houses and car doors locked due to the thefts in the area. Robin Davis suggested we put a notice up on the Borough sign.

Zoning Report

- John Soloe advised that there is a potential buyer for Mrs. Homoki's property.
- Kathleen Zdonowski asked when the Ferraro Trailer would be removed. John Soloe advised that it will take some time.

Public Works

- Alex Hennings, Public Works Supervisor, provided a work performed outline as of August 18, 2014.
- Amy Richard advised that most of the stone work for the trail was finished up to the trailhead. What needs to be finished is the fencing and planting of grass. The trail signs need to be looked into. Amy Richard advised she would speak to Len Policelli regarding the signs.
- Wade Robinson, a public works employee, had a baby girl last week.

Solicitor Report

- A Lehigh Valley Open Carry (LVOC) member brought to the Borough's attention that the Borough's Parks and Recreation Rules, Chapter 161 needs to be amended regarding carrying in parks. Attorney Mills advised that, he believes, this needs to be changed by Ordinance but that he would check into it further.

Agenda

- Jane Bachman's Tax Audit Report was given out to each Council member for their review. She found some inconsistencies and made some suggestions to help Mrs. Marakovits keep track of things. The Borough will keep a backup in the office to double check what is done on a monthly basis. All Council members were satisfied with the report.
- Amy Richard advised that she would like to purchase Borough Logo Cards from Jack Fatzinger in order to write thank you notes on behalf of the Borough. Council agreed to this purchase.
- It was discussed by Amy Richard to have a Spring and Fall yard sale next year. The yard sale will possibly be on a Saturday with Sunday as a rain date. It was agreed that there should be a police presence at the time of the sale. Council agreed with these suggestions.

Old, New or Unfinished Business

- Amy Richard advised that Attorney Miano received a favorable response from the DEP regarding the anti-back sliding for the Borough's Sewer Plant. The DEP did bring up another issue which Attorney Miano is addressing.

Motion by Robin Davis, Seconded by Carl Zito to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:30 P.M. concerning Police Salaries. Motion carried unopposed.

Motion by Robin Davis, Seconded by Carl Zito to exit Executive Session at 8:40 P.M. Motion carried unopposed.

Motion by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Robin Davis to enter into regular session as 8:40 P.M. Motion carried unopposed.

Motion by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to pay the police the budgeted amount for this year's raises. Motion carried unopposed.

Eric Wenzelberger questioned why the police didn't receive their raises prior to this. Amy Richard advised him that it was because of the Union negotiations.

Amy Richard advised that the Budget Meetings scheduled for August 27th and September 10th will be cancelled. The first Budget Meeting will be scheduled for September 24, 2014.

Council also agreed to tentatively cancel the Council Meeting for September 3, 2014 unless something which needs to be addressed comes up.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Carl Zito seconded by Robin Davis, to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, September 15, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

The foregoing was approved the 15th day of September, 2014.

President of Council

Attest: _____