

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF AUGUST 19, 2013**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A MEETING ON MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2013, AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Council members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Council Vice President Paul Zaboy, Sr., Mr. Joe Gosnell, Ms. Cindy Hower, Mrs. Rosemarie Wenzelberger, Ms. Kathleen Zdonowski, and Mr. Carl Zito.
- Mayor Charlie Davis, Acting Public Works Supervisor Paul Zaboy, Jr. (PJ) and Secretary Chris Burmood were in attendance.
- Attorney Steven Mills was present on behalf of Borough Solicitor Gary N. Asteak.
- Police Chief/Zoning Officer John Soloe arrived at 8:30 pm.

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

Public Comment

- Eric Wenzelberger, of 111 Center Street, stated that the (freshly sealcoated) parking lot looks very nice. Ms. Richard stated that new lines will be painted on soon.

Council Comments

- None.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2013 budget meeting, with the correction as noted below. Motion carried unopposed.
 - Page 2, 2nd bullet point of New Old or Unfinished Business cont'd., last line: add "at Borough Hall" after "units".
- **Motion** by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to approve the General Fund payables, Sewer Fund payables, and Rails-to-Trails Fund payables through August 2, 2013, as amended. Motion carried unopposed. * U-channel base and post should be removed from Rails-to-Trails and added to General Fund.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Davis and Council President Amy Richard attended a meeting at Hercules last week. They are proceeding with the new quarry. Their engineer has been conducting groundwater studies, with no noted impact so far. Hercules is still in the process of applying for all the required state permits. They expect a 5-6 month wait for state response. A new dust collector, which meets EPA standards, was installed. The new power lines are being installed. Power to the plant will shut down the week of October 15-20, to connect the new power lines. There was concern expressed about the operation of the pumps and the expected impact on the stream.

Police Report

- Ms. Richard read the mid-monthly police response stats as prepared by Chief Soloe.

Public Works Report

- Mr. Zaboy advised that the crew is currently working behind the 400-500 blocks of Main Street on the trail. Currently they are cleaning up the soggy ground left by the recent heavy rains. Stone is installed as far north as the rear of 422 Main Street. Construction will stop at Ariel Court, pending the new grant for the remainder of the trail. Ms. Richard asked PJ to prepare an estimate of the stone required to complete the trail and the timeframe.

- Ms. Richard asked if the WWTP sand filter is still bound up. PJ advised it is.

Solicitor Report

- Mr. Mills advised of the receipt of correspondence from Attorney Martino, on behalf of MT Automotive. Mr. Tichy is agreeable to certain conditions, which Mr. Asteak believes to be reasonable and likely to be granted by a judge anyway. Mr. Zaboy advised that the plans approved by PennDOT and included in the HOP indicate delineators at the property line, which would preclude access by Mr. Tichy. We will have to discuss the issue with the trail designer and PennDOT to determine if any alterations can be made to the existing permit.
- Mr. Burmood explained the background of the PennDOT permit requirements for the radar speed signed signs and the necessary changes to be made. Additionally, he advised that the Borough will require a traffic signal easement from the property owner. Mr. Burmood has discussed the matter with the property owner and provided Mr. Mills a draft of a proposed easement. Mr. Mills and Mr. Asteak are to review the draft easement for legal standards. Mr. Burmood is to follow up with the property owner.

New, Old, or Unfinished Business

- Ms. Richard stated that the maintenance agreement with we have with Ricoh for the copier has increased annually and is nearly \$1,600.00. She asked Council's pleasure whether to continue or cancel, and whether to seek out purchasing a new copier. Mr. Zaboy recommended that we research a network-capable printer/copier/scanner that is rated for the slightly more than the current volume we are experiencing. Mr. Gosnell suggested we research other copier companies as well. Council verbally agreed to cancel the current contract with Ricoh and research a networked multifunction machine.

Agenda Items

- Katie Santiago, of 213 Hope Street, stated that the vandalism issues in Long's development have continued and escalated. Just the night before they egged houses, including her own, and used a smoke bomb in a garbage container. Hers was not the only house egged. She stated that several months ago, Officer Brown had advised her of expected scheduling changes that would put a greater police presence into the development. Mrs. Santiago also advised that she is upset that the Chief has not returned any of her calls, and that she would appreciate a return call from the chief. She also stated that other residents in the development have tried to contact the police, with no success. There was discussion about which number to call. All calls should go through dispatch. She inquired about the existence of a "police board", and whether any non-council residents are included. Ms. Richard advised that there is a board comprised of the Mayor and a couple Council members. Mrs. Santiago asked about the statement in the newsletter that the Borough will experience increased costs due to the police union activity. Ms. Richard advised that the police budget has already been severely impacted by the costs incurred by the Borough, due to union activity and the need to hire a labor specialist attorney. She also stated that the cost of negotiating a contract with the union, as well as any benefits the union will be seeking will have to come out of the police budget as well. This will impact the amount of police coverage the Borough can afford in terms of man-hours. Ms. Richard stated that Council does not want to raise taxes to cover the extended costs. Earl Kocher, of 302 Old Easton Road, agreed with Mrs. Santiago's assertion that the Police Department does not respond to resident's calls, and added that the police pick on residents "with a vengeance".

New, Old, or Unfinished Business cont'd.

- Morgan Schafer asked why Council hired a labor attorney when Mr. Asteak is perfectly capable. Several people tried to explain that a specialist will be better able to address all of the issues that labor negotiations will entail...

Motion at 8:44 pm by Paul Zaboy, Sr., seconded by Carl Zito, to exit regular session and enter executive session after a 5 minute break to resolve personnel matters. Motion carried unopposed.

Motion by Carl Zito, seconded by Joe Gosnell, to exit executive session and return to regular session at 9:27 pm. Motion carried unopposed.

Adjournment

- **Motion** at 9:27 pm by Kathleen Zdonowski, seconded by Cindy Hower, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on Monday, September 9, 2013 at 7:30 pm. The next Budget meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 7:30 pm. The foregoing were approved the 9th day of September, 2013.

President of Council

Attest: _____