

STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 3, 2020

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2020 AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Council Members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Vice President, Kathleen Zdonowski, Cindy Hower, Joe Gosnell, Pamela Davis, Rosemarie Wenzelberger and Carl Zito
- Borough Secretary/Treasurer Anita Caughy and Mayor Ken Zemencsik were present.
- Solicitor Gary Asteak, John Soloe and Asst. Chief Eric Schwab were present.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Amy Richard asked for a Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter.

Executive Session

- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to inter into executive session as 7:30 PM to discuss a Borough legal matter. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Pam Davis, Seconded by Carl Zito to exit executive session and enter into regular session at 7:41 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

Council Comment

- Carl Zito questioned when the sidewalk and curbing along Center Street would be fixed. Mayor Zemencsik informed him that PA American Water has been in contact with them and stated they would be repairing the sidewalks and curbs shortly.
- Carl Zito also raised concern with the high grass of several properties in the Borough and the continued POD Container located at one residence.
- Carl Zito requested that an "End of Trail" sign be installed at the end of the bike/walking trail to show the end for travelers using the trail.

Solicitor/Agenda

- Solicitor Gary Asteak referenced a request received from Attorney Charlesworth on behalf of NEWPRO for an extension of time in which to review and act on the Preliminary Plan that is now pending before the Borough until 90 days after either an unappealed or unappealable docketing of a Final Order in the NEWPRO Land Use Appeal or withdraw or termination of the lawsuit by them. Attorney Asteak stated that he recommends that the Borough grant them the opportunity to receive a determination of that appeal.

- Amy Richard asked for a Motion to take no action on the Preliminary Plan at this time.
- **Motion** by Pam Davis, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to grant NEWPRO their request for an extension of time in which the Borough will review and act on the Preliminary Plan that is now pending before the Borough until 90 days after either an unappealed or unappealable docketing of a Final Order in the NEWPRO Land Use Appeal or withdraw or termination of the lawsuit by them. Motion carried unopposed.
- Rocco Caracciolo of Maser Consulting stated that they have sent notices to all the residence in the surrounding area and that a lot of them have been calling him. He asked whether the Borough would notify them that the Planning Commission meeting will be cancelled. Mr. Asteak stated that he would notify the Planning Commission Chair as to Council's decision.

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Carl Zito to approve Council Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2020, as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Cindy Hower to approve accounts payable for the General Fund and Sewer Fund through August 3, 2020. Motion carried unopposed.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Zemencsik had nothing to report.

Police

- Acting Chief Eric Schwab read out the calls for service report from July 1, 2020 to July 31, 2020. He stated that there were 2 Criminal Arrests; 3 Criminal Warrants; 1 Motor Vehicle Accident; 41 Traffic Summonses; 17 Traffic Warnings; 6 Assist other Agencies, along with Miscellaneous calls for a total of 99 for the month of July.
- Acting Chief Schwab stated that the Stockertown Police Department is currently looking to hire additional part-time police officers.

Zoning

- John Soloe stated that there is nothing for zoning at this time.

Public Comment

- Blair Talijan of Jubilee Drive informed Council that he is a retired PA State Trooper and that he has opened his own business in police training of firearms, tactics and securities. He stated that he is a certified instructor. He has spoken with Acting Chief Schwab and has offered free training to the Stockertown Police Department since he has a genuine interest in the Borough. With the current climate of defunding the police, training seems to be the first item that is cut in a police department. Amy Richard stated that Stockertown will do their best not to cut the police budget in any way. Council all thanked Mr. Talijan for his generous offer to support the police department.

- Amy Richard asked for a Motion to go into executive Session. She stated that there will be some decisions afterwards.

Executive Session

- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Cindy Hower to exit regular session and enter into executive session at 8:00 PM. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Pam Davis to exit executive session and enter back into regular session at 8:37 PM. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to increase the part-time police officers' salary by \$1.00 effective August 2, 2020.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Cindy Hower, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:39 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on August 17, 2020

The foregoing was approved the 17th day of **August., 2020.**

President of Council

Attest:_____