

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF AUGUST 7, 2017**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017 AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Council Members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Vice President, Kathleen Zdonowski, Robin Davis, Cindy Hower, Rosemarie Wenzelberger and Carl Zito. Joe Gosnell was absent, with his apologies.
- Mayor Charlie Davis and Borough Secretary/Treasurer Anita Caughy were present.
- Solicitor Gary Asteak, Chief John Soloe and OIC Eric Schwab were present.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Comment

- Robin Davis asked when the temperature reading on the Borough Marque would be fixed. Anita Caughy informed her that a new sensor was installed in the Marque, but that the cables inside the sign need to be replaced which will be completed shortly.
- Amy Richard commented that she is very happy with the renovations completed in Newhart Park.

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Robin Davis to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of July 5, 2017 as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Carl Zito to approve Accounts Payable for the General Fund and Sewer Fund through August 7, 2017. Motion carried unopposed.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Charlie Davis inquired as to whether a mirror could be installed on the corner of Werkheiser Street and the alley. He stated that traffic has picked up in that area and it would be helpful to be able to see the oncoming traffic. Amy Richard advised that she would look into the mirror options. She stated that there was a mirror on that corner at one time but it was continuously vandalized.

Police

- Chief John Soloe read out the call for service report for July 2017. He stated that there were 13 Criminal Arrests; 3 Township Ordinance violations; 3 Vehicle Accidents; 115 Traffic Summons; 54 Traffic Warnings along with miscellaneous calls for a total of 231 calls for the month of July.

- Amy Richard informed Council that the Police Department's 2005 Ford Crown Vic was rear-ended and the insurance company has deemed the vehicle totaled. The insurance company has offered \$5,826.00 for the vehicle. Amy Richard asked for a Motion to accept the insurance company's offer.
- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to accept Erie Insurance's offer of \$5,826.00 for disposal of the 2005 Ford Crown Vic. Motion carried unopposed.

Zoning

- Amy Richard questioned John Soloe as to whether a letter was sent out to the property owner of 119 Main Street notifying him that his tree is a potential safety risk to the roadway. John Soloe stated that a letter was sent out and that the homeowner was advised that any damage from falling limbs and branches onto the roadway are his total responsibility.

Public Works

- Amy Richard stated that the ADA Ramps are currently being installed where needed.
- Ms. Richard informed everyone present that the road paving project would begin on Wednesday, August 9th.
- Estimates were provided to Council for the replacement of the brick pavers next to the post office with a concrete pad. Amy Richard suggested that instead of concrete, she would like to install grass in that area. It was decided that the matter would be tabled to obtain additional information on options of how to handle the drainage issue.

Solicitor

- Solicitor Gary Asteak stated that there was nothing new to report. He advised that he has been monitoring the Handley lawsuit.

Agenda

- Amy Richard informed Council that she met with members of the Department of Environmental Protection Agency (DEP) in Wilkes Barre regarding the hook-up of Stockertown's Waste Water Treatment Plant to Easton's Sewer Authority. She stated that everyone at the DEP was on board with our plan. Ms. Richard was informed of the steps necessary and timeframe to facilitate this outcome. She stated that the income census would need to be scheduled for the middle of 2018 due to the fact that it must be done within a one year time frame of applying for the Grant.
- The first step to hooking up to Easton's Sewer Authority through Fork's Township is completing an Act 537 Plan which consists of exactly what will be done to facilitate the hook up and the step by step procedures on how to get there. Entech Engineering provided a breakdown of their costs at \$30,500 to complete the Act 537 Plan. Amy Richard asked for a Motion to accept Entech Engineering's proposal to complete this plan.

- **Motion** by Carl Zito, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to approve Entech Engineering to prepare and complete the Act 537 Plan for the Waste Water Treatment Plant at a cost of \$30,500.00. Motion carried unopposed.
- Amy Richard also had a meeting with members of Fork's Township to confirm that they are willing to sell Stockertown sewer capacity.
- Amy Richard stated that she attended a meeting with Northampton County and PA DCNR Secretary, Cindy Adams Dunn at Jacobsburg Park regarding Two Rivers Trail. She advised that it was a very informative meeting geared toward closing the gaps of the trail between Tatamy, Palmer and Stockertown.
- Morgan Schafer of Old Easton road questioned Ms. Richard as to what the cost would be to him after the hook-up of the sewer plant is completed. Ms. Richard advised him that from the preliminary numbers, there should not be much of a change, but that she honestly does not know the complete cost at this time.
- Amy Richard read aloud a Memorandum from the Borough Engineer, Jeffrey Morgan, which outlined the history of the potential connection of Stockertown's Sewer System to Fork's Township Sewer System. She read as follows:
 - Stockertown recently met with PADEP and has initiated work on Act 537 Plan. The plan will evaluate two main alternatives achieve compliance, (1) upgrades to the WWTP and (2) decommissioning the WWTP and building a sewer line to connect to the Forks' sewer system. Stockertown's preferred alternative is connecting to the Fork's sewer system.
 - In the late 1960's and early 1970s, a detailed feasibility study was completed which recommended that the Easton WWTP be expanded to be the sole regional plant serving the Bushkill-Lower Lehigh drainage basin. The study recommended that the conveyance facilities within the City of Easton (City) be expanded to accommodate these additional flows, the Easton WWTP be expanded from 5.0 to 10.0 MGD, that a new joint sewer authority be incorporated and that public sewers be constructed in certain areas of Bushkill, Palmer, Plainfield and Upper Nazareth Townships and Stockertown and Tatamy Boroughs.
 - In 1972, the Bushkill-Lower Lehigh Joint Sewer Authority (BLL) was formed and consisted of the members mentioned above. From 1972 to 1977, the BLL completed designs, obtained PADER permits and obtained a federal grant to construct a regional wastewater collection system to serve certain areas of the member communities. Unfortunately, public controversy surrounded the federal grant decision which culminated in the filing of multiple lawsuits against USEPA. The BLL eventually went bankrupt sometime in the 1980s and this regional wastewater collection system was never built.
 - In 1978, the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority (EAJSA) was formed and they completed designs, obtained PADER permits and obtained a federal grant to replace their existing 27-inch Bushkill Interceptor with a new 42-inch Bushkill Interceptor, expand their Second Street and South Delaware Drive Pumping Stations and expand their WWTP for 5.0 to 10.0 MGD. All of this work was completed.

- In the mid-1980s to the early 1990s the Bushkill Interceptor was extended north of the City through Forks and Palmer Townships and the Tatamy Borough wastewater collection system and interceptor were constructed. Both of these projects were constructed with pipe sizes similar to what was to be constructed by the BLL.
- Amy Richard stated once the Borough is hooked up to Forks Township Sewer, the potential for new housing will increase. She stated that she would like to have someone review the current ordinances to be sure the Borough has covered all the current laws. Solicitor Asteak stated that the Borough is part of the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission's Comprehensive Plan which will cover all current ordinances.
- A date for the Borough's Fall Yard Sale was discussed and decided on and will be scheduled for October 7th and 8th from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Robin Davis, Seconded by Carl Zito to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:19 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on August 21, 2017.
The August 21, 2017 meeting was cancelled.

The foregoing was approved the 6th day of **September, 2017**.

President of Council

Attest: _____