

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH BUDGET
MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 30, 2019**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A BUDGET MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019 AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Council Members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Cindy Hower, Joe Gosnell, Pamela Davis and Rosemarie Wenzelberger. Kathleen Zdonowski and Carl Zito were absent.
- Borough Secretary/Treasurer Anita Caughy and Mayor Ken Zemencsik were present.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- Eric Wenzelberger of Center Street stated that he received a phone call from someone concerned about holding Halloween on Thursday night because of the possible bad weather. Amy Richard informed him that a number of surrounding towns were not changing the night for trick or treat and that Stockertown would also be celebrating Halloween on the actual night.

Council Comment

- No Council Comments

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Cindy Hower, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to approve Council Meeting Minutes of October 1, 2019, as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Cindy Hower to approve accounts payable for the General Fund and Sewer Fund through October 30, 2019. Motion carried unopposed.
- Anita Caughy, Borough Secretary, advised Council that participating municipalities met with Stacy of the Pibbles Paws Program and were informed of the proposed changes to the 2020 contract. Some of the changes are as follows:
 - Pibbles Paws hours will now be 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
 - Two new ACO officer will be hired
 - Per Capita price will go from \$.50 to \$1.00
 - Pibbles Paws will not take any calls on Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's.

Council did agree to continue participating in the program for the benefit of the residents.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Zemencsik had nothing to report.

Public Works

- Quotes were provided to Council to purchase a Generator for the new Public Works Garage. The quotes were as follows:

Jason Billheimer Electric – 9 kw Generac generator	\$5,500.00
3 Modules to Breaker Circuit	<u>\$ 450.00</u>
	\$5,940.00

Lehigh Electric, Inc. – 9 kw Generac Generator \$6,852.73

R.G. Hoffman Electric – 16 kw Generac Generator \$7,200.00

Public Work's Director Alex Hennings recommended going with Jason Billheimer. Borough Council agreed to purchase the generator from Jason Billheimer Electric. Amy Richard asked for a Motion to approve the purchase.

- **Motion** by Pam Davis, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to approve the purchase of a 9 kw Generac Generator from Jason Billheimer Electric for the amount of \$5,940.00. Motion carried unopposed

Agenda

- Anita Caughy informed Council that the local library fee for residents has increased to \$65.00 per year. Amy Richard asked Council to approve reimbursement to Stockertown residents be increased to \$65.00 to cover this fee. Council agreed.
- An Ownership letter has been prepared by Entech to be forwarded to the PA Department of Community & Economic Development, Office of the H2O PA Program for the application of a Grant for the interceptor project. Amy Richard explained that the representative from Entech has been very successful in obtaining these grants and they are very hopeful that Stockertown will be awarded one for the interceptor project. The Ownership letter needs to be approved by Council confirming that Stockertown Borough owns and maintains the infrastructure of the WWTP. Amy Richard asked for a Motion to approve signing and sending the Ownership letter for the Grant application.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Cindy Hower to approve signing the Ownership Letter to PA Department of Community & Economic Development, Office of the H2O PA Program for the Grant application for the Interceptor Project.

- Resolution 2019-7 was presented to Council for approval which states that the Borough of Stockertown requests an H2O PA Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Projects Program Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for the Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Project. Amy Richard asked for a Motion to approve Resolution 2019-7. The exact amount of the Grant is to be determined.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Cindy Hower to approve Resolution 2019-7 authorizing the Borough of Stockertown to apply for an H2O PA Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Projects Program Grant Motion carried unopposed.
- Amy Richard informed Council that she had a meeting with a representative from Financial S&Lutions LLC which is a financial firm who will act as an exclusive independent financial advisor for the Borough in connection with any debt financing transactions with regard to the interceptor project. Ms. Richard stated that she was not familiar with the Bond process and that this institution would search the Bonds available to the Borough and also go beyond to contact and obtain quotes from various banks. Ms. Richard was informed that if the Borough went with Penvest, they would not allow the Borough to roll the current sewer loan into the new loan whereas, with a Bond it can all be rolled into one loan. Also, with a Bond the length of the loan can be stretched out over 30 years which will lower the payment amounts incurred by the current residents. The Engagement Letter from FS&Lutions states that all expenses incurred will come out of the Bond and not have to be paid up-front. FS&Lutions is requiring \$25,000 for their research and expertise but, if they do not find a suitable Bond, they do not get paid since their fee comes exclusively out of the Bond itself. Amy Richard stated that after several hours of meeting with the representative and asking many questions, she is comfortable with going with a Bond. She still would like Solicitor Asteak's opinion but there is a time frame to obtain a commitment from some Bank to add to the Grant application. Amy Richard asked for approval and a Motion from Council to sign the Engagement Letter.
- **Motion** by Cindy Hower, Seconded by Pam Davis to approve signing the Engagement Letter from Financial S&Lutions LLC ("FS&L") to assist with the options available to the Borough for financial assistance. Motion carried unopposed.
- Amy Richard went through the Budget vs. Actual of the General Fund and Sewer Fund. The actual amount for the 2020 taxes has not been received from the County as of this date so the review was just a general look at the accounts.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Pam Davis, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:30 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on November 4, 2019

The foregoing was approved the **18th** day of **November, 2019** .

President of Council

Attest: _____