

**STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES OF MONDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2021**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021 AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Council Comment

- Rosemarie Wenzelberger complained about the amount of snow left on her side of Center Street. She felt that the snow should be pushed to the other side of the road. Amy Richard informed her that Public Works plows all roads the same. There were many cars left on your road which made it difficult for plowing. Residents were informed of the snow emergency on news channels; Code Red and the Borough Marque which means in accordance with Borough Ordinance, all vehicles must be off the roads. There are residents who refuse to listen and abide by the laws. Flyers were placed on those cars advising that they will be ticketed and/or towed during the next snow emergency. Amy Richard proceeded read an email sent to the Borough Office thanking Public Works for doing such a great job plowing their street.

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to approve Council Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2021, as written. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Cindy Hower to approve accounts payable for the General Fund and Sewer Fund through February 22, 2021. Motion carried unopposed.
- A letter of gratitude was received and read aloud from The Center for Animal Health & Welfare for a \$100 donation they received from Entech Engineering on behalf of the Borough.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Zemencsik had nothing to report.

Police

- Chief Schwab read out the Calls for Service for the month of January, 2021. He stated that there were 2 Narcotics arrests; Arrests for Gambling and Harassment. There were 31 Traffic Summonses and 11 Traffic Warnings along with miscellaneous calls for a total of 77 calls for January.
- Council received notice that Chief Schwab received the Patriot Award from the Office of the Secretary of Defense of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. The plaque he received was passed around to Council. Everyone congratulated him for this award.
- Chief Schwab provided Solicitor Asteak with a copy of the Policy for procedures for Police evaluations which must be approved yearly. Chief Schwab did provide the Borough Insurance Carrier with a copy for their approval.
- Chief Schwab informed Council that the new Police Vehicle has been received and is it now out on the road.
- Chief Schwab asked for Council's approval to attend an Executive Leadership Training class in the amount of \$695.00. Amy Richard asked for a Motion to approve this expense.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to approve the \$695 for Chief Eric Schwab to attend the Executive Leadership training course. Motion carried unopposed.

Zoning

- Council was informed that the Borough had received a letter of resignation from Planning Commission member Joel Zingone.
- A letter was received from attorney Christopher Spadoni requesting authorization from Council to represent the Stockertown Zoning Hearing Board in the Malik Appeal. Council granted the authorization and attorney Gary Asteak stated that he would work with attorney Spadoni to coordinate the case.

Solicitor

- Attorney Asteak explained to Council that he has been engaged in negotiations concerning a Lease Renewal which was received from Taylor Wos of Jones Lang LaSalle Brokerage, Inc on behalf of the U.S. Post Office. This renewal is for an additional 15 years with a small increase every 5 years. There is an additional commission fee charged to the Borough for preparation of the Lease. Council does not feel that the Borough should be responsible for the commission when the Post Office hired the firm who prepared it. Attorney Asteak suggested that the Borough hire someone to give an appraisal value for the leased portion of the building. Several options were discussed. The new Lease would not take effect until September, 2022; therefore, the Borough has some time to evaluate the proposal and decide what they will offer.

Agenda

- With regard to the Sewer Interceptor Project, Amy Richard read a Memorandum received from the Borough's Sewer Engineer, Jeffrey Morgan in which he stated that The Sanitary Sewer Interceptor and WWTP Decommissioning Project went out for bids which were received on January 13, 2021. There were seven bids received for the project ranging from \$2,060,450.00 to \$2,827,292.00. The lowest bid for the project was received from JOAO & Bradley Construction Co., Inc. which is located in Bethlehem, PA. Jeffrey Morgan of S C Engineers stated in a Memo sent to the Borough that this contractor does a great deal of work in the Lehigh Valley and has solid references and is currently the emergency response contractor for the Lehigh County Authority. Jeff Morgan stated that his office and Entech Engineering, the design engineer for this project, have reviewed JOAO & Bradley Construction Co., Inc.'s bid documents and determined that they are technically complete and acceptable. These bids have also been reviewed and approved by the Borough Solicitor. S C Engineers recommend that the Borough approve the low bid from JOAO & Bradley Construction Co. for this project in the amount of \$2,060,450.00 and that we authorize issuance of a Notice of Award. Amy Richard asked for a Motion to award the sewer project to JOAO & Bradley Construction.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Cindy Hower to award the Bid for the Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Project and WWTP Decommissioning Project to JOAO & Bradley Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$2,060,450.00. Motion carried unopposed.
- A Service Agreement from Gilmore & Associates, Inc. for Geology & Geotechnical Consulting Service was presented to Council for approval. This agreement will provide on-call geology consulting services during the Sewer Interceptor Project in the event sinkhole repairs are necessary during the project construction phase. Amy Richard asked for a Motion to authorize the signing of this Agreement.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Joe Gosnell to approve the Geology & Geotechnical Consulting Services Agreement with Gilmore & Associates, Inc. to be on-call in the event of sinkhole repairs during the interceptor project construction phase. Motion carried unopposed.
- Amy Richard explained that the sewer project would have been approximately \$90,000 cheaper if the DEP had not changed their requirements for decommissioning the ponds. The Borough's out-of-pocket expense will now be \$169,777.00.
- Solicitor Asteak stated that the Easements have all been signed and the issues with Equipto have been worked out. They finally accepted \$10,000 for the Easement. Attorney Asteak stated that Tatamy Borough has been very cooperative and have granted the Borough the Easement which we requested. Polymer Products also granted the Easement without any issues. The cooperation of both Tatamy Borough and Polymer Products is very much appreciated by the Borough. The project is expected to be completed, as long as there are no issues, by June, 2021.

Executive Session

Personnel & Police Procedural Matters

- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded by Cindy Hower to enter into Executive Session for personnel issues at 8:27 PM. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Cindy Hower, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to exit Executive Session and enter back into Regular Session at 8:36 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

Adjournment

- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Cindy Hower to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:40 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on March 1, 2021.
The March 1, 2021 Council Meeting was cancelled.

The foregoing was approved the **15th** day of **March, 2021**.

President of Council

Attest:_____