STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 3, 2025

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025 AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

Attendance

- Council Members present were: Council President Amy Richard, Vice President Kathleen Zdonowski, Renee Cantwell, Pam Davis, Joe Gosnell, Cindy Hower, and Katie Santiago.
- Solicitor Gary Asteak, Mayor Rosemarie Wenzelberger and Candace Keller, Borough Secretary were present.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval

No additions

Solicitor Gary Asteak

 Solicitor Gary Asteak welcomed and introduced guests Jeremy Clark, presently Assistant City Solicitor for Easton running for Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County. Also, Rob Kemmerer, Bushkill Township Resident/Farmer and presently working as Director of Northampton County Pre-Trial Services. Rob is running for Wind Gap District Magistrate.

Secretary / Treasurer Report

- **Motion** by Renee Cantwell, Seconded, by Cindy Hower to approve Council Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2025. Motion carried unopposed.
- **Motion** by Katie Santiago, Seconded Cindy Hower to approve accounts payable for the General and Sewer Funds through March 3, 2025. Motion carried unopposed.

Mayor's Report

• Mayor Rosemarie Wenzelberger has nothing to report from State Police.

Public Works

Nothing to Report

Solicitor:

Solicitor Gary Asteak reported on School District letter received stating they reviewed the
bus stops with School Board, School District Chief of Police, and Transportation
Department. They did not identify any factors to change any of the present bus stops.
There also will be no cameras installed at the present time. Mr. Asteak reported our only
recourse is for Borough residents to attend the school board meetings and state their
concerns.

Agenda Items

- Amy Richard reported the remaining borough location signs that were approved last fall
 will be put up as soon as the ground warms. Amy and public works suggested we also put
 two new signs at the Rod & Gun Club so the signs match ours and are uniform.
- **Motion** by Joe Gosnell, Seconded, by Katie Santiago to approve signage for the Rod & Gun Club to match the Borough's signs. Motion carried unopposed.
- Amy Richard reported quotes are being obtained for new computers and IT services. This information should be ready by next meeting.
- Amy Richard is requesting to have our code and ordinance books reviewed to insure they
 are up to date. Solicitor Gary Asteak suggested we advertise to request proposals. There
 may also be grant funds available.
- Amy Richard requested that we start serious consideration of a Borough Manager. Gary
 Asteak suggested we have a salary plan and expectations, and suggested contacting
 Lafayette Meyner Center for guidance. Amy wanted to make sure everyone is in accord
 with moving forward the position of Borough Manager.

Public Comments

- Resident Peter Dewey inquired on police department update. Amy Richard read most recent correspondence from Tatamy Police Department about their concern covering our borough as they are trying to find adequate coverage for their own police force.
- Resident Bobbi Marie Conover inquired about our police wage budget being comparable to other municipalities and her concern about not having police coverage, especially during the evening hours.
- Pam Davis, Council Rep. commented on a contact she has that may be interested in the
 police position(s) open. She would like to share this information with our police consultant,
 Dan Monek for follow up.
- Discussion continued on police salaries of full time versus part time rates. Katie Santiago, Council Rep. reported on other Borough's rates and noted we are now competitive at this time with other municipalities.
- Peter Dewey also commented on the Public Works budget in comparison to the Police Department. Kathleen Zdonowski, Council Vice President also commented the hourly rate does not include any benefits. Amy Richard also commented Public Works does most of the work needed in house, versus using outside resources. Amy Richard reported the amount of salary for public works from the general budget. This budget in addition to wages also includes taxes, vehicle maintenance, building maintenance, office supplies, security, training and seminars, heating oil, fuel, highway supplies, contracted services, telephones, mileage, electric, tools, repairs and machinery. Total general budget for public works is \$185,707. Amy Richards asked if anyone wants to look at the figures are welcome to look at them to see what is included or let her know if any questions remain.

- Solicitor Gary Asteak made reference to the number of 911 calls handled on behalf of the Borough of Stockertown. This report is presented to Borough Council monthly
- Resident Scott Hill inquired again about the light at the Municipal Building which continues to shine in his upstairs window. Also, he is interested in obtaining the lighting code for Stockertown Borough.

Council Comments

- Council wished Jeremy Clark and Rob Kemmerer well in their bids for election.
- Adjournment
 - **Motion** by Pam Davis, Seconded, by Katie Santiago to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:25pm. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council is scheduled for Monday, March 17, 2025
The foregoing was approved the 21st day of April, 2025.
President of Council
Attest: