

## **STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 2, 2021**

THE BOROUGH OF STOCKERTOWN HELD A COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2021 AT 7:30 PM AT BOROUGH HALL.

### **Attendance**

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

**The Meeting was called to order by Council President, Amy Richard, at 7:40 PM**

**There was a brief Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss a litigation matter.**

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Solicitor Asteak explained to Council that there is a new item listed on the Agenda stated Agenda Approval. This is in accordance with the new protocols for public meetings. Attorney Asteak stated that this is where we approve the Agenda and if there are any amendments or additional topic which need action, they need to be addressed at this time.

### **Agenda Approval**

- Amy Richard requested an item to be added to the agenda for the purchase of a new time clock.
- **Motion** by Cindy Hower, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to approve the Agenda with the addition of the purchase of a new time clock. Motion carried unopposed.

### **Public Comment**

- Eric Wenzelberger of Center Street expressed his concerns regarding vehicles traveling too fast off the highway onto Bushkill Street.

### **Secretary / Treasurer Report**

- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Cindy Hower to approve Council Meeting Minutes of July 7, 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 August 2, 2021. Motion carried unopposed.

- Amy Richard asked for a Motion to approve the payment of \$243,000.00 to Joao Construction for the Interceptor Project. Council was informed that all construction invoices are first submitted to Jeff Morgan, the Borough's Sewer Engineer for his review and approval.
- **Motion** by Cindy Hower, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to approve the payable to Joao Construction for the Interceptor Project from the Bond Fund in the amount of \$243,000.00. Motion carried unopposed.

### **Police**

- Chief Eric Schwab read out the calls for service from July 1, 2021 to July 31, 2021. He stated that there were 2 Narcotics arrests; 1 Arrest pending; 1 Pending Autopsy; 3 Protective Orders; 4 Motor Vehicle Accidents; 8 Suspicious Persons; 106 Traffic Summonses; 50 Traffic Warning plus miscellaneous calls for a total of 233 calls for service for the month of July.
- Chief Schwab stated that the new security system has been installed and is up and running.

### **Zoning**

- John Soloe informed Council that a letter was sent to Dawood Real Estate regarding the lights at the gas station at 307 Main Street. He has not heard anything as of this date. There was a target date in the letter and if they do not comply, they will be cited under the Borough Ordinance.
- There was a discussion between John Soloe, Council and Solicitor Asteak as the study conducted by Hanover Engineering on Lincoln Avenue and Werkheiser Street. With respect to Lincoln Street, the intention is to create an egress for emergencies out of town. The Engineers' report stated that the property owner's Deeds did not comply with the Borough Ordinance. Solicitor Asteak stated that the street was created by way of Ordinance which supersedes the property owners' Deeds. He suggested that the Engineers place markers staking out the right of way of the Borough's property in accordance with the Ordinance. Werkheiser Street was reviewed to determine where the Borough's property begins and where the property owners right of way is located and whether the Borough should enforce the Ordinance or vacate the street. Property line markers will also be placed on Werkheiser to show the Borough's property in accordance with Borough Ordinance No. 47.

### **Public Works**

- Amy Richard stated that the Road Paving Project is now complete. She stated that they did an excellent job and were a very good company to work with. She informed Council that Old Easton Road was mistakenly left off the paving plans. It has now been paved as part of an add on to the project. She informed Council that Alex Hennings monitored the project to ensure the specifications were followed.

- Amy Richard informed Council that there was a meeting held at the Borough Office on Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> with herself, Mayor Zemencsik, Jeff Morgan, and representatives from Entech and Joao Construction regarding the status of the interceptor project. She informed them that the Boring under the Bushkill Creek is complete and that pipes are being laid. The project is expected to be completed by the end of September or middle of October. The next step will be to decommission the Borough's Sewer Plant.
- Ken Zemencsik informed Council that the installation of the security system at the Public Works' Garage is complete. He stated that they are waiting for RCN to set up a Wi-Fi connection for the system to be able to monitor it remotely.
- Council was provided with a quote for a new Scissor Jack which Ken Zemencsik had received from Best Line Equipment Co. The cost was going to be subsidized with a Grant they would apply for. A new scissor jack would cost around \$85,500 which is much higher than Council is willing to spend and Ms. Richard suggests that the Borough look into a used scissor jack which could be paid for out of the Public Works Capital Account. She then suggested that a Grant be written for a new Ford F-550 truck to replace the 1998 Big Yellow Truck. Chief Schwab offered to write the grant application for a new dump truck. Amy Richard asked for a motion to approve the purchase of a used scissor jack with a cap of \$18,000.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Cindy Hower to allow Ken Zemencsik to purchase a used scissor jack with a cap of \$18,000.00. Motion carried unopposed.
- Alex is now officially off of the Public Works schedule. He has informed Amy Richard that if the Borough needs him for a specific project in the future, that he would be willing to help, if necessary. Amy Richard stated that the Borough owes him a great debt of gratitude and wished him good luck and hopes he enjoys his partial retirement.
- Amy Richard informed Council that she wrote a letter to the Borough's PennDot representative regarding the paving needed on Main Street. She stated that the areas of Main St. which were just paved were not necessary and that the Borough was not informed of their paving project. She explained that the intersection of Main St. and Rt. 191 is like a washboard and is in serious need of repair. Ms. Richard stated that most importantly, snow removal on Main Street needs to be addressed. We are hopeful that this problem will be rectified by the new PennDot Representative.

## Solicitor

- Solicitor Gary Asteak presented Ordinance 2021-1 to Council for approval. He stated that the Ordinance has been duly advertised on July 24, 2021 in the Express Time and the Borough Website. The Ordinance revises specific pollutant discharge limitation and wastewater collection. The Ordinance has been drafted by Jeff Morgan. This revision is required by the Easton Sewer Authority as part of their pre-treatment limitations. Anyone connected to the Easton Sewer Authority has to comply with their new limitations. He asked for a Motion to approve the Ordinance.
- **Motion** by Renee Cantwell, Seconded by Kathleen Zdonowski to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-1.
  - **Ordinance 2021-1-** Establish Revised Specific Pollutant Discharge Limitations and Wastewater Collection Systems Referred to as Local Limits as Set forth in Exhibit A made part hereof. Motion carried unopposed.

## Agenda

- Amy Richard asked for Council's approval to use a part of the American Cares Act of 2021 to provide hazard pay to the Borough's employees who have been working from the beginning of the pandemic.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Renee Cantwell to approve Employee hazard Pay under the American Cares Act of 2021. Motion carried unopposed.
  
- Amy Richard explained to Council the ongoing problems with the current time clock system for employee payroll and requested their approval to purchase punch card time clocks for both the Public Works garage and Police Department. Having punch cards will alleviate the necessity to download the time into the main computer from the garage and police department. The cards could just be handed in to the Borough office with the time sheets. Council agreed.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Cindy Hower to purchase two new punch card time clocks for the Public Work's Garage and the Police Department with a cap of \$200 each. Motion carried unopposed.

## Council Comments

- Kathleen Zdonowski stated that the end of Hillside Avenue still puddles but only on the opposite side of the street. Amy Richard informed her that they have spoken with the paving company regarding this issue. They stated they will try get the water to the curb, if possible.
- Kathleen Zdonowski also questioned what would be done with the sewer plant once it is decommissioned? She suggested that an area be created for residents to dump brush and tree limbs. Council discussed that possibility. The details will be worked out once the decommissioning is complete.

## Executive Session – Personnel Issue

- Motion by Cindy Hower, Seconded by Renee Cantwell to enter into Executive session at 8:37 PM. Motion carried unopposed

- Motion by Kathleen Zdonowski, Seconded by Cindy Hower to exit Executive Session and enter back into Regular Session at 9:09 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

**Adjournment**

- **Motion** by Cindy Hower, Seconded by Rosemarie Wenzelberger to adjourn the Council Meeting at 9:10 PM. Motion carried unopposed.

The next regular meeting of Borough Council will be held on August 16, 2021  
The Council Meeting for August 16, 2021 was cancelled.  
Next Council Meeting will be held on September 8, 20201.

The foregoing was approved the **8<sup>th</sup>** day of **September, 2021**.

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President of Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_