

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
August 20, 2013
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Shore, Steve Cummings, Dave Besselman, Wilson Lysle
Absent: Jim Duffy and Abby Pyle

GUESTS PRESENT: Mayor Howell, Sandy Masten, Jamie MacCombie, Glenn Diehl, Tom Lowry, Henry Ramaito, Lydia Johnson, Cleve Price, Phil Pusey, Chris Furlong

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was called to order by President Shore at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PHIL PUSEY

Phil Pusey said he wants to open a restaurant at the old train station on Pomeroy Avenue. Chris Furlong, lawyer for Mr. Pusey said Mr. Pusey has not signed a formal written agreement with the railroad but he would like to renovate the building on the same footprint. Mr. Furlong said he and Mr. Pusey will meet with Mr. Lowry to go over the process. Council expressed that they always welcome new businesses in the Borough.

HENRY RAMAITO / JOHNSON SUBDIVISION – PLAN APPROVAL

Mr. Ramaito said he is here to request final approval on the Johnson subdivision plans. Glenn Diehl said he wrote the plan note as discussed at the previous Council meeting and it is number nine on the plan. Mr. Diehl said he recommends approval by Council. Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the Johnson Subdivision Plan with the notes added on the plan, 2nd by Steve Cummings, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the minutes from July 16, 2013, 2nd by Steve Cummings, motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cleve Price gave the following report for:

1. Brought on two part time persons and one full time employee.
2. Mike Dixon has been cutting grass part time and the Borough is starting to look clean again.
3. AMR installation field training by HD Supply Waterworks is scheduled for 8/28/13 next Wednesday.
4. The exhaust fan to the drywell at the wastewater plant has been repaired. The dry well is no longer a permitted confined space and work can be done without a permit; cost \$1,375.00

5. The channel monster grinder at the headworks has been pulled and taken to the shop for a repair estimate by Municipal Maintenance. It was running in reverse and is out of service. We will know in a couple of weeks the cost to repair.
6. The Auger Monster needs new brushes on the spiral and the spray wash nozzles need replaced. Will get estimate on parts.
7. Rick's tree service did a town clean-up today of tree limbs, brush, etc.
8. Water System Flushing and Fire Hydrant Flow Test Report:
 Recommend replacing 5 fire hydrants and installation of flushing hydrants on 5 dead end lines.
 Replacement of Fire Hydrant at Third and Pennsylvania Avenue Estimate:

Materials (Borough Purchase)	\$3,273.80 (fire hydrant, valve and coupling)
	\$ 700.00 (est. stone and restoration)
Labor/Equipment (Contractor)	\$2,900.00(Fideity Construction)
Total	\$6,873.80

 Need Approval

Dave Besselman asked Cleve to get two more price quotes on the Contractor. Cleve said he would like to order the materials to have on hand. Dave Besselman made a motion to approve up to \$7,500 for the fire hydrant replacement at Third and Pennsylvania Avenue, 2nd by Wilson Lysle, motion carried.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT

Dennis O'Neill gave the following report

INDIAN RUN ROAD – PROJECT COST FOR BUDGET

By the end of the week we should have a cost to widen Indian Run Road.

LETTERS FROM COUNTY – NO GRANT FUNDING

Received two letters from the County indicating the Borough didn't receive any grant funding on the two applications. One application was to extend a 12" main down Pennsylvania Avenue to Church Street and the other application was for a third well. Dennis said he will call Neil Lovekin from the County and find out why they didn't get funded.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Glenn Diehl gave the following report:

STATE STREET BRIDGE – SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The Agreement has been signed by all parties and recorded at the Clerk of Courts. The Borough will get a copy of the document for the file.

WATER MAIN BREAK – PA ONE CALL NOT MARKED

Ready to send papers for mediation which is the first phase to recover the money from EEMA. The amount is \$17,296.88. If EEMA will agree we will be able to skip mediation and go straight to Arbitration.

Glenn Diehl gave a synopsis of the event:

The Contractor called in the PA One Call and described the dig location as Maple Street to outside of the Borough on Church Street. Within that strip there was a sewer line, storm sewer line and a water

main. The problem was the Church Street water line is on the east side and runs under the road to Minor Street which is the west side. This line was not marked and caused the line to get broken by the contractor.

When you do a PA One Call, the contractor calls PA One Call and this generates a ticket; and in the ticket it describes where you are going to dig, how you are going to do it. The ticket gets sent to all the utilities that are in the area. The utilities do a response and in the Borough's case the response was "marked" with the initials "wf". This doesn't mean that William did it; it just means someone from EEMA marked the lines. The question is whether it was marked or not marked. We have two persons to testify that the Minor Street main was not marked.

ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Tom Lowry gave the following report

WILKINSON PROJECT

Issued a footing foundation permit for the Clubhouse. Received revised plans for the clubhouse and in the process of reviewing.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE

Many of the perpetual violators of the Property Maintenance Code regarding the cutting of grass and weeds have dwindled. There is one specific problem property, 120 E. Second Street. Numerous violation notices and citations have been issued and currently there is an outstanding warrant for the owner and nowhere to be found. Currently, the lawn is quite in excess of the mandated height. Earlier this season, Dominick cut the lawn/weeds on the property. Section 302.4 of the PMC authorized the Borough to either have the grass cut by a Borough authorized employee or hired contractor. The cost of the cutting is charged to the owner. After discussion, Cleve said he will have the grass cut by an employee. Glenn Diehl said if the owner ignores the notices and doesn't want to pay then you can: access fines and penalties; you can cut the grass; you can lien the property, and you can sell the property. Council agreed to post the property "unfit for human habitation". There is no electric or water service to the property.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the bills to be paid up to August 20, 2013, 2nd by Wilson Lysle, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the financial statements, 2nd by Wilson Lysle, motion carried.

TRANSFER FUNDS

Dave Besselman made a motion to transfer \$100,000 from the general fund to the PLGIT General Fund, 2nd by Steve Cummings, motion carried.

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE REPORT

Council was given a copy of the report for their review. There were no questions.

NEW BUSINESS

SEWER AUTHORITY RE-APPOINTMENT – JAMIE BRYAN 5 YEARS

Steve Cummings made a motion to re-appoint Jamie Bryan for 5 years to the Sewer Authority, 2nd by Dave Besselman, motion carried.

WORK SHIRTS FOR PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES

Wilson Lysle made a motion to approve up to \$500.00 for work shirts, 2nd by Dave Besselman, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Water and Sewer Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 10th at 2:30 p.m.
- Council Meeting September 17, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Dave Besselman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m., 2nd by Steve Cummings, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Becky Brownback
Borough Secretary