

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 17, 2016
6:00 P.M.**

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

GUESTS PRESENT: Jamie MacCombie, Kim Venzie, Rick Davis, Officer Jebiz Anderson

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

ANNOUNCEMENT

There was an Executive Session held after the April 19, 2016 Borough Council meeting to discuss possible litigation on the Wilkinson Project

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MICHAEL TANTAROS – 420 CHATHAM STREET

Mr. Tantaros said he has lived in the Borough for the past 20 years and he lives at 420 Chatham Street that has an unoccupied building in the back of his property that was used as a radiator repair shop before he purchased the property. Back in February he realized he could not keep this property unless there was additional income. Upon submitting a recent permit application to the Borough to renovate the building into a rental unit; he learned that he would owe tapping fees for water and sewer. Mr. Tantaros said he is here to appeal this decision to charge the fees and asked Council to reconsider because he can't afford the fees.

President Shore said the Borough's Solicitor and Engineer researched the ordinance and both have come to the conclusion that it is clear in the ordinance that you would be required to pay the fees since the use of the building would be changing to a rental unit.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 19, 2016

Abby Pyle made a motion to approve the minutes from April 19, 2016, 2nd by Steve Cummings, motion carried.

PUBLIC WORK'S DEPARTMENT REPORT

Rick Davis gave the following report:

PAVING ESTIMATES – VERIZON JOB

Received four estimates for paving the Verizon inlet job. The lowest estimate came from Keystone Paving for \$2,250.00. Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the estimate from Keystone Paving for \$2,250.00, 2nd by Steve Cummings, motion carried. This expense will be billed to Verizon.

GREASE SEWER BLOCKAGE – 91 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

Discovered a sewer blockage at 91 Pennsylvania Avenue; the lateral was completely blocked and the manhole extremely dirty due to grease build up. The homeowner Rich Wannemacher was notified and McGovern’s pumped and jet cleaned the line. The homeowner should be billed for this cleaning due to grease generated by this property. Jamie MacCombie said a normal house will not generate enough grease to create a blockage. Requiring grease traps for out of the ordinary homes was discussed. Mr. MacCombie will send a draft ordinance to Kim Venzie for her review for the property’s that generates excessive grease.

BOROUGH ENGINEER’S REPORT

Jamie MacCombie gave the following report

ANHOLT SEWER MAIN CONNECTION

Jennifer Fields from DEP approved the sewer connection from Anholt to Avondale Borough. We are waiting on Anholt decision on how they want to move forward.

WILKINSON PROJECT STATUS

The Borough received an extension of time until December 31, 2016.

NEW WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

We need 24 hour pumping and additional testing to be done. Eichelberger Well Drillers wants \$9,929.70 for the pumping services and Brickhouse wants \$8,810.00 for testing and reports. Mr. MacCombie said he needs the reports to get the well permit. Kim Venzie will call Brickhouse regarding their open ended proposal.

WATER AND SEWER CONNECTION APPROVAL – 325 CHURCH STREET

Abby Pyle made a motion to approve water and sewer connection for a new single family dwelling at 325 Church Street, 2nd by Steve Cummings.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Kim Venzie gave the following report:

STATE STREET BRIDGE UPDATE

There are two standard documents for general permit application that need to be signed. Chapter 105 General Permit Registration & the attachment PASPGP that goes with it. Dave Besselman made a motion to authorize the Council President to sign the general permit documents, 2nd by Abby Pyle, motion carried.

STOUT UPDATE

Requested from Stout’s Attorney a \$500.00 escrow to pay the Zoning Officer to inspect the building. The check has not been received. The inspection will be scheduled as soon as the escrow is received.

EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Dave Besselman made a motion to adopt the employee handbook, 2nd by Steve Cummings, motion carried.

MAYOR’S REPORT

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Mayor Howell is absent from this meeting but she wrote a letter to the County asking for their in kind services to update the Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Howell asked for Council’s approval to send the letter to get the process started. Steve Cummings made a motion to

approve sending the letter after taking out the third paragraph as recommended by the Solicitor, 2nd by Abby Pyle, motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Abby Pyle made a motion to approve the bills to be paid up to May 17, 2016, 2nd by Steve Cummings, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Abby Pyle made a motion to approve the financial statements, 2nd by Steve Cummings, motion carried.

81 BALTIOMRE PIKE /STRIP MALL – RELIEF ON SEWER BILL

Council approved to give a sewer adjustment for the first quarter 2016. This property had a water leak outside the building between the water meter and the building. This water did not go in the sewer system.

301 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE – RELIEF ON SEWER BILL

Council approved to give a sewer adjustment for the first quarter 2016. This property had a leak in the ice maker which did not go into the sewer system.

NEW BUSINESS

COMPOSTING FACILITY

Council agreed to close the composting facility until the wood chipper can be replaced and a plan is put into place.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Work Session – Tuesday, June 14, 2016 @2:00 p.m.
- Council Meeting – Tuesday, June 21, 2016 @6:00 p.m.

Dave Besselman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., 2nd by Abby Pyle, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Becky Brownback
Borough Secretary