

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
January 21, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Shore, Dave Besselman, Becka Schlimme, Bob McCue, Paul Morgan

GUESTS PRESENT: Mayor Howell, Sandy Masten, Dennis O'Neill, Chief Simpson, Wilson Lysle, Henry Schlimme

After the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance the meeting was called to order by President Shore.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

WILSON LYSLE

Mr. Lysle said there are a lot of holes on Pomeroy Avenue from Third Street to the bridge and asked if something could be done with it. The Secretary will contact Andy to see what he can do.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the minutes from: Council Meeting on December 17, 2019, Reorganization Meeting on January 6, 2020, Work Session on January 14, 2020, 2nd by Becka Schlimme, motion carried.

SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Simpson gave the following report:

- We hosted a new elected officials meeting last week. Paul Morgan and Bob McCue attended.
- 2019 Annual Report will be out in a couple weeks.
- On January 2nd, outside of the 40 hours, there was a burglary call on Third Street. The subject was arrested the next day.
- On March 12th, at 7:30 p.m. there will be a Public Safety Commissioners meeting and also our annual awards ceremony. Everyone is invited to attend.

WWTP OPERATIONS REPORT

Fred Walton gave the following report:

DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

All systems online and ok. There were no problems in December. The gas injection system is working normally and Hypochlorite back up system is operational.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Everything for December was within permit limits. MGk installed utility pump #1. The influent screener is still offline. Utility pump #1 is out of service.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT

Dennis O'Neill gave the following report:

NEW WATER SUPPLY

The telephone line has been installed in the new pump house. Trying to schedule the filter people around February 1st to get the system started up again. We submitted the last payment request to the County. There was approximately \$6,000 that wasn't spent on this project. The County will reimburse the Borough and we can use it to offset the cost of the fence. In the process of getting three fence prices.

RESERVOIR COVER

The package is ready to go out for bid. After the last invitation to bid when we didn't receive any bids; we talked to the perspective bidders as to why they didn't bid. They thought the temporary storage was too open ended because of all the connections that would have had to be made at the water plant. Instead of putting in temporary storage we can make a connection at the reservoir between the 6" feed line that goes to the reservoir and the 12" line that goes back to the Borough. We can valve it so the water won't go up the reservoir. It will get chlorine contact time in the 6" line then it will go back to the feed system while the reservoir is shut down. Another question was the bid package from JH Waters the manufacturer of the reservoir cover. They put in the bid package "reservoir cover complete in place". The bidders were concerned that if you need extra parts and pieces, the bidder would have been stuck for it. JH Water did a drawing with all the parts and pieces so we are all bidding the same. The bid package will be advertised and will be due and opened at the February 18th Council meeting. This includes all new valves at the reservoir, all new piping around the reservoir, includes a locator (locate all the pipes so we get a good mapping of where everything is). Also, includes allowance of \$25,000 for unforeseen conditions to the reservoir. It will take about 6-8 weeks to get the cover made. In the meantime, we can start working on the valves.

STREAMBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT

Everything is drafted for the bid package. Spoke to Kim Venzie and she is in the process of getting the consent to enter Mr. Webb's property. Would like to take bids on this in April which will give Kim another month to get the consent. We don't want to put the project out for bid before we get the consent.

WELLHEAD PROTECTION GRANT

This grant expires in June. DCED said they are going to allow us to submit a letter to request an extension. The letter will go out tomorrow. Would like to have the bid package ready in June or July and take bids in September and do this work through the fall.

GREASE TRAP ENFORCEMENT

We did get information from the Chinese Restaurant. Apparently, they have a tank that he gets pumped out monthly. We are reviewing the information.

DRBC ANNUAL EFFLUENT MONITORING REPORT

We are working on submitting the annual report to the Delaware River Basin Commission that's due on January 31st.

ANNUAL CHAPTER 94 REPORT

Started working on the Chapter 94 Report that is due on March 31st. This is the annual sewage monitoring report that is sent to DEP. The purpose of the report is to calculate the flow for the year and projects where you will be at in 5 years showing you don't have any flow or organic overload projections.

NEW GARDEN TOWNSHIP – REQUEST FOR SEWAGE FLOW

Received a request for sewage flow from Spencer Andress for an existing facility at 1263 Newark Road that is not currently connected to the system. The request is for 380 gpd and based on Jamie's calculations, it will not create a hydraulic or organic overload.

THREE PORTABLE METERS

Received a quote from WG Malden to repair the portable meters. President Shore said these are portable meters we can place at different manholes if there is a question of flow coming down a certain line. The cost to repair two meters is \$4,649.03. The other meter is unable to be repaired in house and must be sent to the factory for repair. Dave Besselman made a motion to approve up to \$4,649.03 to repair two portable meters, 2nd by Bob McCue, motion carried. Dennis said we should wait to see if the third meter can be repaired at the factory.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dave Besselman gave the following report:

MONITORING FINANCE ACCOUNTS

We discussed at the work session how to protect and monitor the Borough's finances. It was decided to have our auditor write a letter on our procedures and we can inform the citizens all the protections we have in place. Sandy Masten said she went to the bank and registered Dave to go online and monitor the bank accounts since he is the head of the finance committee and vice-president.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Becka Schlimme said she has a few questions on the bills:

Question #1: AGREM yearly dues for \$500.00. Becka said she understood while working on the budget that we only give money to AGREM in an emergency and now she is seeing \$500.00 for dues. Bill Shore said the only money released to AGREM is the yearly dues that we have been paying once a year.

Henry Schlimme asked what AGREM does. Bill said it is a group of Emergency Management Coordinators involved in the Avon Grove School District. We meet with many agencies including the County and discuss how to manage major disasters. The AM radio station 1670 for general or emergency information was set up by AGREM; signs are up all over. Mayor Dottie said AGREM consists of a group of municipalities in case we have a disaster like a hurricane or a tornado. They do tabletop training at the schools to show people where to go in an emergency. They open up centers if there is an evacuation. AGREM also organizes getting equipment like loaders, salt truck, trash trucks to disaster areas. Mr. Schlimme said doesn't the County do that for free. Bill said the County is well involved in the AGREM group; they send a representative to every meeting. The County doesn't supersede the group; we support each other. Bill said he is a member of the AGREM group and it's a good group we have been using since the year 2000. AGREM does a lot of things with the County and the schools so that is why we pay our dues every year. Mayor Dottie said they are volunteers; no one gets paid.

#2 Question: The Banners, they are adding up very quickly to about \$10,000 and she doesn't remember approving that much. Becka said she likes the banners but not for \$10,000. If we are going to keep ordering them then we need to see if it falls under some kind of grant. Dave said we decided early on that we were not going to charge for the banners. When we started this program, we didn't realize we would have this many. As of now, it looks like we will end up with about 70 people. Becka said we only approved \$2,003.00 for the banners. Henry Schlimme said we spent \$10,000 dollars on the banners and only \$2,000 was approved. Dave said we agreed originally that we were not going to charge the military families for the banners and it was a Council decision. Becka said she thought there was going to be two to three dozen banners. Dave said that what he thought but we had an overwhelming response for the banners. Dave said we did go over budget for the banners and asked Becka what her solution would be. Becka said we have a lot of banners that are thank you for your service. We should stop buying these and only buy the ones with people's faces on them. We need to find a max because \$10,000 on banners is a lot. Becka said that Council sets up here at meetings and says we can't pay the library what they are asking, we can't pay the medic what they are asking, and we can't pay the fire company what they are asking, but we will pay for banners. Dave asked Becka what she wants to do; does she want to make a motion to stop purchasing the banners? Paul Morgan made a motion to stop purchasing the banners, 2nd by Becka Schlimme, Dave Besselman-nay, Bob McCue-nay, Bill Shore-nay, motion not carried with a 3-2 vote. Becka said we spent \$10,000 in 2019 on the banners but only approved \$2,000. Dave said we went over budget. Bill said it happened and now that it has been brought to our attention. Becka said maybe we should save this when Kim is here.

#3 Question – Harris Computers Systems for \$2,126.41. Bill Shore said it is for the water and sewer billing system. Consulting Fees.

#4 Question - Core & Main in the Water Fund - \$7,991.61. We approved \$7,500.00 for the upgrade of the equipment and then we spent \$7,991.61. Becka said this should have been brought back to Council if spending more than the \$7,500.00. The invoice was not readily available to check the extra cost but will be looked into by the Treasurer. Becka said when she sees things that are out of the ordinary or that cost more and she wants to question it; she feels inundated that she is wrong for asking. Dave told Becka to ask whatever questions she has. Paul Morgan said he wanted this statement on record. "We need to show a little more respect to the woman in this room". Bill said this discussion has nothing to do with respecting woman. Dave said we are trying to answer Becka's questions. Becka said she wants to table some of this discussion until Kim is here.

Bob McCue made a motion to approve the bills to be paid up to January 21, 2020, 2nd by Paul Morgan, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Bob McCue made a motion to approve the financial statements, 2nd by Paul Morgan, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

TRASH CONTRACT

The invitation for bids will be advertised and will be due and opened on February 11th at the Work Session.

BOROUGH BUILDING RENOVATIONS - PRE-BID MEETING

The pre-bid meeting will take place at the Borough Hall on Thursday, January 23rd @ 10:00 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

FIVE YEAR PLAN

President Shore asked Dennis O’Neill to get a number to do a study on what roads need to be repaved and what infrastructure needs to be re-done. Dennis said your county revitalization plan would be a good start because some of the things have been done already and it may be a good time to update the plan. You can look at the plan and see what was projected 10 years ago. Dave said he would like to nominate Becka to head up the 5-year plan. Becka accepted.

NUMBERS FOR LINE PAINTING

The numbers for the line painting are due to the Co-op on Wednesday, January 23rd. The Secretary will take care of this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Work Session – Tuesday, February 11, 2020 @2:00 p.m.
- Council Meeting - Tuesday, February 18, 2020 @6:00 p.m.

Dave Besselman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. 2nd by Bob McCue, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Becky Brownback
Borough Secretary