

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
February 18, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

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

GUESTS PRESENT: Mayor Howell, Sandy Masten, Jamie MacCombie, Kim Venzie, Chief Deputy Mike King, Lisa Lightner, Brandon Michaels, Susan Rzucidlo, Steve Cummings, Jerry Poe, Hank & Marianne DiFabio, Tom & Jacob Sharp, Kelly Williams, Michael Essmaker

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

BID OPENING – RESERVOIR COVER REPLACEMENT

One bid was received from Eastern Environmental, Inc. for \$404,440.00. Jamie said he will review the bid and make a recommendation at the next Council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MARIANNE DIFABIO

Ms. DiFabio said she and her husband reside at 33 Gap Newport Pike and they would like to honor families that are under served in the community through renting their apartment located on 2nd floor of their house. They have partnered up with Family Promise a nonprofit organization to rent to Parents with Children on an income-based amount which would be determined by Family Promise. We are asking Council to waive all inspection fees for the duration of this partnership in case we have two or three families who are being rehabilitated within a year. Kim Venzie said we need to talk to Anthony to see if its zoned for an apartment. Dave Besselman said he knows of Family Promise and they do nice things for those in need. President Shore said Council is not prepared to make a decision tonight, it will be discussed and we will let them know. Kim also asked the DiFabio's to provide documentation on the relationship they have with Family Promise.

SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Deputy Mike King gave the following report:

2019 ANNUAL REPORT – Council and the Mayor were given a hard copy of the 2019 Annual Report. A lot of work went into it and they tried to be as transparent as possible. Everyone will see that they are part of a very professional organization partnership with New Garden and West Grove. It is working out very well by policing all three communities and they have been able to keep crime down.

HOME INVASION IN WEST GROVE - Paul Morgan asked if there was any follow-up on the home invasion that happened in West Grove. Because of the sensitive and confidential nature, this can't discuss because it is still an ongoing active investigation. If there was a public safety issue other than what was originally issued, we would be sharing that with the public.

BRANDON MICHAELS – AVONDALE FIRE COMPANY.

Mr. Michaels introduced himself as the president of the Avondale Fire Company. He said he just wanted to stop by and say hello and thank Avondale Borough for their help this year with a good size increase in their contribution. Mr. Michaels said he always available to answer questions or concerns; just email or call him.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave Besselman said he had a comment on the minutes. Paul made a statement at the last council meeting that he wanted on record that we need to show more respect for woman in the room. He is not sure exactly what that meant but he doesn't recall not showing respect for woman. He has been on Council for a number of years and have disagreed with Dottie, Sandy and Becky and other woman; just because he disagrees doesn't mean he doesn't respect woman. This shouldn't have been in the minutes but Paul wanted it in the minutes. Dave said he wants it in the minutes that we do show respect for woman. Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the minutes from January 21, 2020, and the Work Session on February 11, 2020, 2nd by Bob McCue, motion carried.

WWTP OPERATIONS REPORT

Fred Walton gave the following report:

Fred said he couldn't complete the January report because he is still waiting on some lab results.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

There were no violations. We still have the screener offline. The new #1 utility pump was installed.

DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

All systems online and ok. The wells are running about 8.5 hours a day.

Susan Rzucidlo said she hears from her neighbors that she has to get a water softener because your appliances won't last long. Her question is since we are paying to have the water processed, is there a way to process the water so it is not damaging appliance's. Marianne DiFabio said she has lived in the Borough for over 20 years and she has never had a problem with any appliance.

Fred Walton said the only process in the water is the addition of hypochlorite (bleach). The safe range for bleach in the water is between .4 and 4 ppm and we run it about 1.2 ppm and we have a continuous analyzer that measures that. The disinfection process is the only process added to the water, there is no other treatment and none is required. We are a public water system so we follow the testing requirements put out by the DEP. All test results are available online through DEP's website. There is a new well that will be coming online soon that has a filtration process to remove iron and manganese. Kim Venzie asked if there was any kind of law that states you can't add anything to the water because it is hard. Fred Walton said we would first have to apply for a permit to DEP if we wanted to add anything to the water system to raise the ph. and we would have to show that we needed it.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jamie MacCombie gave the following report:

NEW WATER SUPPLY – FENCE ESTIMATES

The new well pump was tested today. The pump was okay but there was a leak between the well and the chlorine contact tank. Pact One was notified to repair the leak and then we will test the pump again. Received three fence estimates for the new well site. The lowest quote came from J & A Fence, Inc. After reviewing the different options, Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the quote from J & A Fence with the vinyl coated fence and galvanized barbed wire for \$18,385.00, 2nd by Bob McCue, motion carried.

STREAMBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT

Everything is drafted for the bid package. Kim Venzie said for the new council members we are going to do some streambank restoration on Indian Run Road because the road is falling into the creek. In order to do this, we need to get consent from the property owner, Bill Webb. She is still in the process of getting the consent to enter Mr. Webb's property. Kim talked to the son and he was going to speak with his father about signing the consent. Kim to follow up.

5 YEAR PROJECTED PLAN FOR STREETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Jamie said the cost to do a 5-year plan is between \$5,000-\$7,500 for a written report. We would physically inspect every street in the Borough including the evaluation of the infrastructure. After discussion, Becka Schlimme made a motion to approve the cost of \$5,000-\$7,500 for a 5-year written plan, 2nd by Dave Besselman, motion carried.

POE – PRELIMINARY LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

Received Mr. Poe's preliminary plans for subdivision and land development. A review letter should be sent out soon. Poe's engineer will be filing a separate application to DEP for sewage planning to connect into the sanitary sewer system.

STREETS SCAPE GRANT

Dennis is working on the application for a street's scape grant. PennDOT is aware we are applying for the grant so hopefully we will get the handicap ramps put in that they were supposed to do some time ago when they paved the road.

ANNUAL CHAPTER 94 REPORT

Continued to work on the Chapter 94 Report that is due on March 31st. Received the information needed from New Garden Township.

HYDRANT TESTING

President Shore asked Jamie to get a cost on testing all the hydrants after the new well goes online.

BOROUGH SOLICITORS REPORT

Kim Venzie gave the following report:

WATER/SEWER/TRASH SERVICE ORDINANCE

This ordinance will pull together all the changes we talked about. The ordinance will change the water rate with the 1% increase. Also included is the reduction in the water and sewer tapping fees. Dave Besselman made a motion to advertise the ordinance, 2nd by Bob McCue, motion carried. Kim will wait to advertise until we see if the trash needs to be raised.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dave Besselman gave the following report:

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Becka Schlimme said she has some concerns over the bill paying process. A lot of bills are paid when it comes to Council and we are supposed to approve it once it is already paid. Kim Venzie said that Townships and Borough's pay bills the way it works for them. There was much discussion on this

subject. Kim suggested if there are any questions on the bills is to sit down with the Treasurer and go over the them. Bob McCue made a motion to approve the bills, 2nd by Dave Besselman, Paul Morgan-yea, Becka Schlimme-nay, Bill Shore-yea, motion carried with a 4-1 vote. The Treasurer wanted the following in the minutes. There was an issue with the Core & Main invoice from December. Core & Main issued a refund in January.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dottie Howell gave the following report:

TRASH AND RECYCLING BIDS RESULTS

We received one bid from Trash Tech: Year One:	\$84,365.40
Year Two:	\$86,903.04
Year Three:	\$89,529.72

Dave Besselman made a motion to accept the bids from Trash Tech, 2nd by Paul Morgan, motion carried.

ROTARY CLUB

Met with the Rotary Club and they want to do something for the Borough. She suggested to revitalize the memorial by taking the names from the banners and putting them on a wall, bricks, etc. She would like other suggestions.

OLD BUSINESS

BOROUGH BUILDING RENOVATIONS - BIDS RESULTS

Dave Besselman said we received four bids. The low bid came in from BSS Contractors from West Grove. They are at \$163,000 for everything and we budgeted \$175,000 so they came in under budget. Last year, we talked about upgrading the HVAC system and changing the furnace from oil to gas and upgrade the air conditioning system at the same time. It was decided at the time if we were going to go ahead with the borough renovations to hold off and see if we could tie it in. He asked three contractors for proposals on the HVAC System. The lowest proposal came in from Chelsea for \$15,072. This will bring the total cost up to \$178,072.00 which is a little over budget. He would like to increase the budget to \$180,000.00. He would like to have a meeting with the low contractor, architect to make sure everything is covered. There was discussion on the renovations. Dave Besselman made a motion to move forward with the renovations, 2nd by Bob McCue, Becka Schlimme-nay, Paul Morgan-nay, Bill Shore-yea, motion carried with a 3-2 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

MGK INVOICE – PUMP REPAIR

President Shore said he has an invoice from MGK Industries for \$20,444.00. It is for a pump that was removed, rebuilt and reinstalled. Bob McCue made a motion to approve the invoice to MGK Industries for \$20,444.00, 2nd by Dave Besselman, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Work Session – Tuesday, March 10, 2020 @2:00 p.m.
- Council Meeting - Tuesday, March 17, 2020 @6:00 p.m.

Bob McCue made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. 2nd by Dave Besselman, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Becky Brownback
Borough Secretary