

**AVONDALE BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
January 19, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bill Shore, Dave Besselman, Dottie Howell, Bob McCue, Paul Morgan

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Mayor Steve Cummings, Sandy Masten, Dennis O'Neill, Kim Venzie, Chief Simpson, Kevin Brophy, John Watts, Janet Watts

The meeting was called to order by President Shore.  
This meeting was conducted via Zoom.

**RESIDENT COMMENTS / REQUEST AND COMPLAINTS**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the minutes from the Council Meeting on December 15, 2020, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob McCue, motion carried.

**SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Chief Simpson gave the following report:

By January 29<sup>th</sup>, we will be dropping off hard copies of the 2020 annual report. We had an earlier meeting with the emergency management coordinators for information purposes.

**WWTP OPERATIONS REPORT**

Kevin Brophy gave the following report:

The transition from the previous WWTP operator to KBX is underway and going well. We are working on the following: Re-programming the auto dialers, re-activating the alarm systems, creating SOP's, updating emergency response plans for both waste water and drinking water, putting up signs identifying KBX 's emergency numbers, Re-programming the SCADA system at the existing plant and the new well building.

There has been heavy sludge forming in the aerations tanks which is the primary treatment aspect of the wastewater plant. They did a couple of heavy cleanings of the 24" feed line between the oxidation ditch and the clarifiers. We are looking into why the heavy sludge has been forming over the past two months when it is something that didn't happen in prior years. In early February, we are scheduled to replace a big part of the headworks treatment process of the wastewater treatment plant called the auger monster. This is scheduled for February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Jamie MacCombie gave the following report:

**NEW WATER SUPPLY**

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, the flow meter was installed on the intake side of the filters. On December 30<sup>th</sup>, EFI tested the flow meter with a backwash cycle and it was determined that the flow meter was accurately recording and the flow through the filters were functioning as intended to function. It was determined that the system is functioning and

ready to be put on line. Had a discussion with Don Detweiler from DEP to let him know we are ready to commission the well. We are now waiting on instructions from the permit people at DEP to get final approval.

#### RESERVOIR COVER

The installation of the reservoir cover is contingent upon getting the wells online. The Contractor suggested not to start the project until after March 1<sup>st</sup> because of the cold weather. The concern is draining the existing reservoir.

#### AQUA

Aqua purchased the New Garden Township's sewer system and Aqua is requesting to meet with them to discuss and coordinate what Avondale needs from them. This is also an opportunity to open up a relationship and dialog with Aqua for the things we couldn't get from New Garden. The meeting is scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. at Borough Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### GREASE TRAP COMPLIANCE

We made a couple of inspections. China King needs an application and we are now in the process of drawing up the procedures and calculation method they need to use for their facility.

#### STREAMBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT

The bid package will be advertised on Penn bid at the end of this week. We are looking to take bids on March 9<sup>th</sup> for a June project.

#### BOROUGH SOLICITORS REPORT

Kim Venzie gave the following report:

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION COVERAGE DRAFT ORDINANCE

President Shore said he had a change in section three where it states "authorized by an officer or officers of the Fire Company". He would like it limited to "chief and chief officers". There would be three people make a decision instead of seven. After discussion, Kim will take a look at the section and make the changes as long as President Shore agrees. Dave Besselman made a motion to authorize Kim to advertise with the change to section three, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Morgan, motion carried.

#### FIRE SERVICE TAX

The Borough Code is very specific on what the tax can be used for. The tax can not exceed three mills and can be used for fire engines, fire apparatus, training. There is also a tax allowed, not to exceed one-half mill, for the purpose of supporting ambulance, rescue and other emergency services serving the Borough. Council needs to look at a spreadsheet on how much it will cost the taxpayers of Avondale starting with a half-mill with the different property assessment amounts. Also, you will need to know how much money it will bring in before making a decision. Dottie and Dave volunteered to work on a spreadsheet with the Treasurer.

#### CONSTABLE APPOINTMENT

Kim said she received everything from Mr. Watts. She is trying to figure out a way that the current constable is located but she hasn't had much success. She will keep moving forward.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

### APPROVAL OF BILLS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Bob McCue made a motion to approve the Bills and Financial Statements from December, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Morgan, motion carried. Dave Besselman said the income for 2020 was down because of COVID-19 but our expenses were also down. We came in overall at 15% underbudget.

### OLD BUSINESS:

#### MONUMENT UPGRADE

Dottie Howell said that Faith is moving along with getting the landscaping proposal. Still working with the monument company to get a quote on the hero's wall.

#### PACT CONTRUCTION – CONSTRUCTION RELEASE

Dennis O'Neill said there is an outstanding requisition release for Pact Construction for \$26,177.55. This is 2½% of the contract. The County has already given the Borough these funds in the final release. We have been holding these funds to make sure any of the work at the new well wasn't Pact's responsibility. Dennis said he recommends that Council consider releasing the last payment to Pact. All Council members agreed not to release these funds until the well is online and operating properly.

### NEW BUSINESS:

#### DEPUTY EMC

President Shore said he is training Ulysses to be his EMC Deputy. He is a nice young man and he work out well in this position.

#### ZONING HEARING BOARD VACANCY

Kathy Kilmer has resigned from the Zoning Hearing Board because she moved out of Avondale. The vacant position will be put on the Borough's website.

#### FIRE MARSHALL VACANCY

Russ Kilmer has resigned as being the Borough's Fire Marshall because he moved out of Avondale. President Shore said Guy Swift is interested in filling the vacancy.

#### ROUTE 41 PROJECT

Dave Besselman said he wanted to get involved because it involves the bridge on Pennsylvania Avenue and there has been some talk about a roundabout in the area of State Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. He reached out to PennDOT and they have approved a roundabout for Route 926 and Route 41. They are working on a roundabout at Route 841 and Route 41 but will take sometime because of historic properties. The reason PennDOT is looking into a roundabout at State Street and Pennsylvania Avenue is because of the increased traffic on State Street dumping onto Pennsylvania Avenue. PennDOT has two proposals for that intersection and they intend to come to a meeting to get Council's input. The plan is accelerated because of the bridge needing to be replaced and they want to tie it all together. Dennis O'Neill said PennDOT has been out surveying on Pennsylvania Avenue from the bridge to Third Street for at least 6 months last year picking up the existing conditions. PennDOT requested plans of the utilities that the Borough owns in those areas.

RESOLUTION 2021-1 – Russ Kilmer Recognition of Service

President Shore read the resolution:

**RESOLUTION 2021-1  
AVONDALE BOROUGH  
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**A RESOLUTION EXTENDING RECOGNITION AND GRATITUDE TO RUSS KILMER FOR HIS SERVICE TO  
THE BOROUGH OF AVONDALE**

**WHEREAS**, Russ Kilmer as been a lifetime resident of the Borough of Avondale; and

**WHEREAS**, Russ served as the Borough's Fire Marshal for over 45 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Russ also served on the Borough Council and varies committees throughout the years.

**WHEREAS**, Russ has given his time and energies generously and unselfishly in serving all of the residents of the Avondale Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Council recognizes that the above time was given oftentimes at the expense of other important pursuits in his life; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Avondale Borough Council recognizes and thanks Russ Kilmer for his integrity, and for his unselfish dedication and commitment to the residents of the Borough of Avondale.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that Avondale Borough Council wishes him the best in the future.

Bob McCue made a motion to adopt Resolution #2021-1, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Morgan, motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2021-2 Kathy Kilmer recognition of Service

President Shore read the resolution:

**RESOLUTION 2021-2  
AVONDALE BOROUGH  
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**A RESOLUTION EXTENDING RECOGNITION AND GRATITUDE TO KATHY  
KILMER FOR HER SERVICE TO THE BOROUGH OF AVONDALE**

**WHEREAS**, Kathy Kilmer served on the Borough of Avondale's Zoning Hearing Board for over 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Kathy as Chairperson of the Zoning Hearing Board, gave her time generously to represent and serve all the residents of the Borough of Avondale, and

**WHEREAS**, Kathy faithfully performed the duties as a Chairperson of the Avondale Borough Zoning Hearing Board with integrity and exceptional leadership, and

**WHEREAS**, Council recognizes that the above time was given oftentimes at the expense of other important pursuits in her life; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Avondale Borough Council recognizes and thanks Kathy for her unselfish dedication and commitment to the residents of the Borough of Avondale.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that Avondale Borough Council wishes her the best in the future.

Dave Besselman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-2, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Morgan, motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Work Session – Tuesday, February 9, 2020 @6:00 p.m.
- Council Meeting - Tuesday, February 16, 2020 @6:00 p.m.

Bob McCue made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Besselman, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Becky Brownback  
Borough Secretary