

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 2, 2024
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REORGANIZATION MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM.

HOLIDAY LIGHT CONTEST AWARDS – Council member Stephanie Reichert introduced the winners of this year's contest and presented them with their awards. All Council members agreed that the Borough was well lit this holiday season. The winners and prizes are as follows:

First Place - 408 Pennsylvania Ave - \$150

Second Place - 325 Church - \$100

Third Place - 520A Pennsylvania Ave - \$75

BUSINESS:

Consideration of Renewal of Water/Sewer Plant Contract with KBX/Windriver – The current 3-year contract is expiring, and the Borough has the opportunity to enter into a new 3-year contract with the same terms as the prior contract. Vice President Mike Essmaker made a motion that the Council authorize the President to sign the new 3-year contract with KBX/Windriver assigning them as the Borough's plant operator effective January 3, 2024. Ms. Reichert seconded the motion. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 5-0.

Consideration of Nathan Schwing's Memorial Garden Bench location Plan – Nathan is an Eagle Scout Candidate doing a project for the Borough. He has added some additional details to his bench plan to include gravel around the base of each bench. The Council reviewed Nathan's new plan. Mr. Essmaker made a motion to authorize Council to approve Nathan Schwing's revised plan to build and place benches in a gravel area in the new memorial garden at no cost to the Borough. Ms. Watts seconded the motion. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 5-0.

Social Media Access – The Council discussed who should be posting information to the Borough's Facebook account. The primary discussion point was that having a primary contact, or two posting information promotes continuity. The Council decided that the Administrator and the Mayor should be the ones to post. If anyone wants anything on social media, they can type up exactly what they wish to have posted and send it to either person.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Susan reported that Verizon came out and examined the Verizon pole which was driven through the Borough's stormwater pipe blocking the flow of the water. Verizon will contact the other utilities that are connected to that pole and return to fix the situation. This should improve stormwater flow in the area (Church and Minor Streets).
- The Mayor contacted Direct Energy, a company soliciting in the Borough without a permit and also claiming that they were friends with the Mayor demanding that they no longer solicit in the Borough. The Company said they would send her a letter stating that they would not solicit here again. The Council discussed a No Solicitation Ordinance and asked the staff to contact the Solicitor.
- The Mayor discussed a historical grant through Representative Sappey's office which has a 50% match to it. The Council briefly discussed the grant but due to the 50% match, the Borough Council does not want to pursue it.
- Historic Museum in the Borough building – the Mayor discussed her wishes to display all of the wonderful historical information people have dropped off; however, it has been difficult finding the right cabinets to display the items. Council member Janet Watts volunteered to search for furniture and requested that the measurements be sent to her.
- The Mayor will be out of the area from January 8 – 11 but available via email and text/phone.

Ms. Watts asked that the Southern Chester County Regional Police address what we can do about trucks parked next to the Borough building at the next meeting. She also wanted them to address the trucks that were parked at Cutones next to the sign that said no parking on Friday Dec. 29th at 1007 and Thursday after 3 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:50 PM on a motion by Mr. Essmaker and seconded by Mr. Ortiz.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Norris, Secretary