

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
July 20, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

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

GUESTS PRESENT: Mayor Cummings, Sandy Masten, Dennis O'Neill, Faith Shore, Susan Rzucidlo, Officer Jason Ward, Steven Nuse, Tom Quinn

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was called to order by President Shore.

RESIDENT AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steven Nuse – Avondale Fire Company – EMS Division Captain
Mr. Nuse gave the following report:

The EMS Division is operating in a deficit. The deficit came from:

- The addition of necessary staff for the past six years.
- The loss of London Grove Township. \$89,110.00 contribution, billing loss of \$66,000.00, and Fund Drive estimated loss of \$12,500.00. (LGT changed to using West Grove Fire Company).
- Equipment and apparatus costs.
- Minimum Municipal contributions

Billing through Blue Cross, Blue Shield, Aetna, Medicare, and Medicaid is the toughest. We can only bill Medicare and Medicaid between \$300-\$400 for each trip with the base rate cost of \$950.00 per trip. They have a contract with Medic 94 for every call Avondale does Medic 94 gets \$125.00 and vice versa. We have this contract so we both get something. We bill out around \$600,000.00 and we average getting back \$300,000.00. This is where EMS is having the problem; we are not getting the return we are putting out and this is where the municipalities come through for us.

So far this year we have had 503 calls in New Garden Township; 44 in Avondale Borough, 23 in London Britain Township, 14 in Franklin Township, 16 in West Marlborough Township and 99 calls in other municipalities. Avondale Borough has already contributed \$7,500.00 and we are asking for an additional \$11,250.00 to get them through the rest of the year. The budget request for 2022 is \$55,000.00. The budget will be discussed and see what funds are available.

Susan Rzucidlo

Ms. Rzucidlo asked when the dead tree in the Third Street Park is going to be cut. The Secretary said Andy is aware of the tree and has it on his schedule to cut down. Ms. Rzucidlo asked if the Borough applied for the federal funding for the American Rescue Grant. The Treasurer said we did apply for the grant but we didn't receive any funding yet. Council will discuss how to use the grant funds.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the minutes from the Council Meeting on June 15, 2021 and Work Session on July 13, 2021, 2nd by Bob McCue, motion carried.

WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP)

No one from KBX attended the meeting

SCCRPD

Lt. Jason Ward gave the following report

We will be hosting National Night Out on August 3rd from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 pm. at three locations: Avondale Borough in the parking lot next to Earl's Sub Shop, Toughkenamon at Harvest Ridge Winery, and West Grove Borough in front of the Borough Building.

We will be having our Citizen's Advisory Board meeting on July 28th at 6:00 p.m. at the police station. Anyone who lives in an area covered by the SCCRPD is welcome to come with any questions, comments and questions.

President Shore asked if they are aware of the increase in graffiti in the Borough. Lt. Ward said they are aware of it and have a person of interest. Officer Syska is in charge of investigating.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT

Dennis O'Neill gave the following report:

NEW WATER SUPPLY

We had some technical comments from DEP and have responded.

RESERVOIR COVER

Eastern Environmental is scheduled to start the project around the week of September 20th and the project should take about two weeks.

STREAMBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT

The project has started. They are working on the quarry pond embankment first taking about a week and a half. Then they will be moving to do the 175 feet of streambank stabilization. London Grove Township, White Clay Creek Association, and the Avon Grove School District were notified.

WEST STATE STREET RECONSTRUCTION

The Co-op (Municipal Cooperative of Southern Chester County) put together a bid package for resurfacing West State Street from Pomeroy Avenue to the bridge. The lowest bid was from Long's Asphalt Inc. Avondale Borough's bid came in at \$99,457.50. In order for the Borough to proceed with the work, Council will need to approve to enter into a contract with Long's Asphalt. Dave Besselman said this was budgeted for 2021. Dave Besselman made a motion to enter into a contract with Long's Asphalt Inc. of Quarryville, PA in the amount of \$99,457.50, 2nd by Dottie Howell, motion carried. Long's Asphalt will be giving a quote on resurfacing in front of the Borough Building.

GEARBOX AT THE WWTP

The Gearbox drives two of the aerators for the ditches and has been down for about four weeks. We had originally ordered a gear box, motor, and labor from Ironhorse. We had a quote from them for \$22,341.00. When we sent them the order Ironhorse called back and said they shipped the gearbox to someone else and won't have one until mid-July. We couldn't wait that long so we found a company in Oxford called Smoker Fabrication. They found a gear box in three days. The cost for the motor and gear box was \$11,170.99 and they charged us \$1,988.00 to take off the old gear box and put the new one. The total was 13,168.99. so we saved a total of about \$9,000.00.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Kim Venzie was absent from this meeting.

NEXTERA

Dave Besselman said Kim didn't find anything objectional in the contract but she will review it in detail if Council approves to move forward with Nextera. Dave said the estimated savings is about \$440.00 per month and it is a 5-

year contract to upgrade to LED Street Lights which was reduced from a 10 year. We asked for the maintenance and they have agreed to do the maintenance at no cost to the Borough. There are no other companies involved, it is strictly a contract between Nextera and Avondale Borough. Bob McCue asked after the five years are there still the three options? Dave said yes, we can renew the contract for five years, renew the contract for one year, or purchase the lights. Dave Besselman made a motion to move forward with Nextera and have Kim Venzie finalize the contract, 2nd by Bill Shore, Bob McCue-nay, Dottie Howell-nay. Council vote was 2-2. Mayor Cummings voted yes; motion was carried with the mayor breaking the tie.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

OLD BUSINESS:

HEROES WALL

Faith Shore said Dottie and she have been working together on this project. Mrs. Shore is handling the wall and landscaping around the monument and Dottie is handling the monument. Mrs. Shore drew a diagram of where they want the wall, pavement and landscaping. She received three proposals: \$40,000.00, \$9,600.00 and \$8,200.00. Conley Doss was the low estimate at \$8,200.00. Dottie Howell made a motion to approve \$8,200.00 to Conley Doss for the wall / hardscaping portion of the project with \$2,000.00 down payment, 2nd by Dave Besselman, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ROUTE 41 CORRIDOR

Dave Besselman, Dottie Howell and Bob McCue attended a meeting at New Garden Township with Representative Sappey and PennDOT regarding Route 41.

Dave said there was some good issues raised at the meeting. PennDOT moved the Route 41 Bridge up to number one which is the biggest issue on Route 41. We got on record that Avondale Borough is not in favor of a round a bout at the intersection of Route 41 and State Street/First Streets. PennDOT wants the municipalities to get together and come up with some priorities and Dottie has volunteered to chair the task force. Dottie said she suggested that each municipality work together and figure out what they will accept from PennDOT. Dottie will send out a letter to the municipalities and set up a date to meet.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Work Session – Tuesday, August 10, 2021 @2:00 p.m.
- Council Meeting – Tuesday, August 17, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.
- There was an Executive Session after this meeting to discuss a legal issue.

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Becky Brownback
Borough Secretary