

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 07, 2022
7:00 PM**

Council Members Present: President, Paul Morgan, Vice President, Stephanie Reichert, Mike Essmaker, and Janet Watts. Council member Fernando Tena-Diaz was absent. Mayor Susan Rzucidlo, Borough Treasurer Joan McVaugh and Sharon Norris, Borough Administrator, were also in attendance.

Call to Order – President Paul Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resident and Public Comments – Several residents complained about the tall grass at the abandoned house at 141 W. State Street. Ms. Judy Parsons whose house is next door was in attendance to discuss this issue. The Council noted that the Zoning Official was going to mark the house as abandoned and directed the Staff to make contact with whomever owns that property to get it mowed. If the bank did not mow it in a timely fashion, the Council discussed the Borough mowing it and charging the bank. The Mayor was contacted by a resident regarding speed on Church Street. The Council discussed speed bumps and other traffic calming devices. The Mayor will meet with the Police Chief and discuss options. She also noted that the Police will be placing a speed tracking device on Clay Creek Road. A property owner at 505 Pennsylvania Avenue would like the trees trimmed in front of his properties and all down Pennsylvania Avenue. The Staff will contact PennDOT.

White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic Greening Demonstration – Shane Morgan of the White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic Organization and Laura Gill, Water Resource Engineer presented their plan to submit a grant application to the DEP Growing Greener Plus program for additional funding for a project to design and construct a demonstration stormwater BMP on Borough land adjacent to the Park. This proposed BMP will showcase to residents and businesses what they can do on their own properties to infiltrate and treat stormwater while also beautifying the community. Ms. Morgan was seeking a letter of support for the grant application. The Council was in full support of the project and will provide a letter of support. Mr. Morgan called for public comment. Ms. Parsons commented on flooding at her and her neighbors' properties.

Approval of Minutes – Mr. Morgan called for a motion to approve the May 24, 2022 minutes. Council member Janet Watts made a motion to approve the May 24, 2022 minutes as presented. Council member Mike Essmaker seconded the motion. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 4-0.

Finance Committee – Mr. Essmaker welcomed Ms. McVaugh to the Borough. Ms. McVaugh updated the Council on her progress in accessing programs and accounts. She also requested that the Council consider using PLGIT (Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust) bank for all Borough business and use a local bank for payroll only. Additionally, she discussed the Treasurer's Bond. Mr. Essmaker made a motion that Ms. McVaugh be bonded at the same level as Mr. Barsz, the contracted Treasurer, had been. Ms. Watts seconded the motion. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 4-0. Ms. McVaugh will contact the insurance company. Mr. Essmaker gave an update on Invoice Cloud and the training schedule. Mr. Essmaker made a

motion that Ms. Norris get her Notary license at a cost not to exceed \$500. Mr. Morgan seconded the motion. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 4-0.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Rzcudilo reported as follows:

- The newly refurbished Third Street Bridge Basketball Court looks great and the neighborhood residents were very complimentary. The Council thanked the Mayor for heading up this endeavor. The Mayor would like to investigate the cost of lights for the Courts and will come back to the Council with some pricing information. The Mayor and Council discussed baseball fields but acknowledged that they are nearly impossible to keep intact due to flooding. The fields will stay as soccer fields.
- The Mayor proposed that Borough correspondence, forms and bills be provided in both English and Spanish. Mr. Morgan called for a motion. Mr. Essmaker made a motion to approve the cost of using an online translation service to translate documents so the Borough can provide them to residents in both English and Spanish. Ms. Watts seconded the motion. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 4-0.
- The Mayor proposed the purchase of one ton of recycled playground mulch in 50 lb. bags for the Pomeroy Avenue Park as it needs replenishing. Mr. Morgan called for a motion. Council Member Stephanie Reichert made the motion that the Council direct the Staff to order one ton of mulch in 50 lb. bags at a cost not to exceed \$580.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Essmaker. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 4-0.
- Mayor Rzcudilo provided a status update on the Codification project.

Mr. Morgan discussed the graffiti that was sprayed on the Third Street Playground equipment and the need for cameras to deter vandalism and to possibly provide information to the Police. Mr. Morgan called for a motion. Mrs. Watts made a motion that the Borough purchase two cameras, one for the Third Street Bridge Park and one for the Pomeroy Park at a cost not to exceed \$200 for both. Mr. Essmaker seconded the motion. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 4-0. The Council will direct Mr. DiFilippo to remove the graffiti.

New Business

Consideration of Resolution 2022-08 – Mr. Morgan called for a motion. Ms. Watts made a motion that the Borough Council approve Resolution 2022-08, the Signers Resolution, which identifies those Council members and staff who are authorized to sign Borough checks. Mr. Essmaker seconded the motion. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 4-0.

Consideration of Resolution 2022-09 – The Borough received three responses to the Request for Proposals for the 2021, 2022 and 2023 Audits. Following the Council's discussion, Mr. Morgan called for a motion. Ms. Watts made a motion that the Council adopt Resolution 2022-09, appointing Maillie Accounts and Advisors as the Borough Auditor for the years 2021, 2022 and 2023. Mr. Essmaker seconded the motion. Mr. Morgan called for the vote. The motion carried 4-0.

Consideration of Resolution 2022-10 – The Borough discussed this Resolution which designates the financial institutions with which the Borough does business. After discussion, the Council tabled this Resolution to a future meeting.

Announcements – Mr. Morgan announced that the next Borough Council meeting will be held on July 05, 2022 at 7:00 PM. Mr. Morgan also announced that there would be an Executive Session following this meeting to discuss personnel issues. Mayor Susan announced that National Night Out is on August 2, 2022 noting that the Borough Council meeting for that night is cancelled. Ms. Watts suggested providing signs advertising National Night Out in both English and Spanish.

Public Comment: Ms. Parsons commented that a tree fell in the stream adjacent to her property and is concerned it is blocking the stream.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Norris

Sharon Norris
Borough Administrator