

**AVONDALE BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
May 19, 2020  
6:00 P.M.**

In order to comply with Governor Wolf's Order that all individuals in Chester County stay home and, in an effort, to slow the spread and minimize public exposure to COVID-19 and maintain social distancing, the meeting was conducted via Zoom.

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

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Sandy Masten, Jamie MacCombie, Kim Venzie, Steve Cummings, Lt. Joe Greenwalt, Lisa Lightner, John Watts, Michael Essmaker

The meeting was called to order by President Shore.

**APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR – RESOLUTION 2020-2**

Kim Venzie reviewed the process that was taken to fill the vacancy of the Mayor:

On March 31, 2020, Mayor Dottie sent an e-mail stating she was resigning as Mayor. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, Borough Council formally accepted Mayor Dottie's resignation. Borough Council started to discuss different processes on how to spread the word of the vacancy. From April 21<sup>st</sup> through May 12<sup>th</sup>, written notice in both English and Spanish were mailed to Borough residents. The notice was posted on the Borough's website and discussed at the Council meetings. The notice was placed in the Daily Local News in conjunction with the notice of the work sessions beginning at 6:00 p.m. During this time period, four candidates submitted letters of interest and one withdrew their letter. The three candidates were invited to the Work Session meeting held on May 12th via Zoom in order to introduce themselves and answer questions. This did occur and all three candidates participated. A form resolution was sent to the Secretary to fill in after an appointment is made.

President Shore asked if there were any questions or concerns about the process. There were no comments. President Shore thanked the candidates for their interest in the position and hopes the two that do not get appointed will still want to do things for the Borough because we can always use the help.

Paul Morgan made a motion to nominate Lisa Lightner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Becka Schlimme, Dave Besselman-nay, Bob McCue-nay, Bill Shore-nay, motion not carried with a 2-3 vote.

Becka Schlimme made a motion to nominate John Watts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Morgan, Dave Besselman-nay, Bob McCue-nay, Bill Shore-nay, motion not carried with a 2-3 vote.

Dave Besselman made a motion to nominate Steve Cummings, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob McCue, Paul Morgan-nay, Becka Schlimme-nay, Bill Shore-Aye, motion carried with a 3-2 vote. Steve Cummings is the new Mayor.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE****APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dave Besselman made a motion to approve the minutes from the Council Meeting on April 21, 2020, and the Work Session on May 12, 2020, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob McCue, Becka Schlimme-aye, Bob McCue-aye, Paul Morgan-aye, motion carried.

**SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Lieutenant Joe Greenwalt gave the following report:

On June 1<sup>st</sup> we are opening up the lobby area of the police facility to the public. We have been handling all complaints outside unless it was something serious. The health of the department is good; they currently do not have any current covid-19 cases. The week of March 13, 2020 through May 12, 2020 was compared to the same time frame in 2019. What that revealed was a 40% decrease in serious crimes, and a 48% decrease in less serious crimes, which is your assaults, thefts and drug violations, etc. There was a 20% decrease in domestic situations. There was a 57% decrease in accidents which was due to the COVID-19 stay at home order with less vehicles on the road.

**WWTP OPERATIONS REPORT**

Fred Walton was not present for this meeting

**BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Jamie MacCombie gave the following report:

**NEW WATER SUPPLY**

Herb MacCombie met with the contractor and went over the punch list items.

- ❖ There is a hole in the floor of the building that needs to be grouted and closed off.
- ❖ There is a pile of pipe in the grass area that needs to be cleaned up.
- ❖ Packaging from the equipment was left in the building that needs to be cleared out.
- ❖ Pipe that was installed for the floor drain to the drain is leaking when you discharge in the floor drain from a small hose.
- ❖ Piping needs to be labeled as far as the direction of water flow goes.
- ❖ Operations manuals for the building need to be delivered.

There will be a service person on site to investigate the leak in the discharge from the sand filter. Working on the calibration of the hypo chlorite generator. They will begin to run the water to complete the flushing to have the water tested. The water test originally stopped at the beginning of the COVID-19 shutdown and they need to test for the magnesium iron and residual chlorine. A notice to proceed was issued to J & A Fence company to install the fence.

**RESERVOIR COVER**

The contract has been signed by the Borough and has been sent to Eastern Environmental. A notice to proceed was issued and a pre-construction meeting will take place in the next 2-3 weeks.

**GREASE TRAP ENFORCEMENT**

Additional notices were sent out. We heard from China King and Domino's Pizza. David Porter from Jamie's office met with representatives from China King, Domino's, and Dunkin Donuts on May 11th. A report will be forwarded to Council.

**STREAMBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT**

Jamie's office prepared a revised separate permit and easement plan. A draft bid package was prepared. The only thing holding the project up is the access issue.

**WELL HEAD PROTECTION**

Received an extension until June 30, 2021. We are going to schedule a meeting with Fred Walton and Bill to go over the project.

**POE – PRELIMINARY LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION**

An extension was received from Mr. Poe until June 17, 2020. Dave Besselman made a motion to accept the extension until June 17, 2020, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob McCue, Becka Schlimme-aye, Paul Morgan-aye, Bill Shore-aye, motion carried.

**5-YEAR PLAN**

Started to evaluate the condition of the roads, storm sewer and other utilities in the roadways. A report should be forthcoming in late June.

**BOROUGH SOLICITORS REPORT**

Kim Venzie gave the following report:

**WEBB - CONSENT TO ENTER**

This matter is dealing with real estate and possible litigation and we cannot discuss this at a public meeting. An email from Webb's attorney will be forwarded to Council.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE****PROCEDURES FOR ACCOUNTING PRACTICES**

Dave Besselman said we received the procedures from our Auditor, Vince Barbone. In past meetings it was raised whether Avondale was following proper procedures for all of our accounting practices in light of what happened in Kennett Township. Sandy will e-mail the procedures out to everyone tomorrow. We follow all the procedures that are recommended by the Auditor.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FROM FEBRUARY, MARCH AND APRIL**

Bob McCue made a motion to approve the Bills and Financial Statements from February, March, and April, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Besselman, Becka Schlimme-nay, Paul Morgan-nay, Bill Shore-aye, motion carried with a 3-2 vote.

**OLD BUSINESS****BOROUGH BUILDING RENOVATIONS - PROJECT APPROVAL**

Dave Besselman said the renovations are moving forward. The new gas furnace was installed and is operational. The oil tanks are out of the garage. The general contractor started work. We need everyone's input on color scheme's for carpet, paint, siding, etc.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Andy has been cleaning up the area to prepare for the garden. Nick Santella is working on getting some dirt delivered. All people interested in having a garden has signed a waiver. The fence at the facility is damaged by fallen trees. The fence at Pomeroy Park also needs to be repaired. We will get estimates on the repairs.

DIFABIO'S – FAMILY PROMISE RENTAL

The DiFabio's have backed out of renting their apartment to Family Promise. Borough Council approved to waive the rental inspection fees. The DiFabio's paid for the initial inspection since they decided not to work with Family Promise at this time.

CARILLON – DAMAGED TREES

Dave Besselman said he and Becka met with the arborist today to look at the six damaged trees. The arborist said the trees were not cut properly but they would be able to be saved and shaped up. We were supposed to get a quote today but have not received it yet. Bob McCue made a motion to approve up to \$2,000 to repair the trees, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Morgan, Becka Schlimme-aye, Dave Besselman-aye, Bill Shore-aye, motion carried. Kim will look at our tree ordinance to see if we need to update the ordinance.

NEW BUSINESSZONING HEARING BOARD RESIGNATION

Michael Cleveland has moved out of the Borough and submitted his resignation. Any resident can fill this position. The Zoning Hearing Board is a separate entity from Borough Council. Council agreed to wait to send out notices to see if we can get someone by word of mouth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Bob McCue made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Besselman, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Becky Brownback  
Borough Secretary