

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM at the Adamstown Municipal Building, 3000 N. Reading Road, Adamstown by Council President Randy Good.

Council Present: Randy Good, Dave Matz, Cindy Schweitzer, Jessica Kelly, Shad Lewis, Alex McManimen

Visitors Present: Tom Shumaker, Steven Roth, Randy Dautrich, Kathy Thren, Carol Johnson, Todd Good, Helen Shaak, Stephanie Scheifley, Sue Weinhold, Thomas Wieder, Bob Stork, Val Lacin

Others Present: Dean Johnson, Mike Palm, Lisa Crouse, Sam Toffy

MINUTES: Minutes from the September 4, 2018 meeting were approved with a motion from D. Matz, seconded by S. Lewis and unanimously carried.

BILL LIST: Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by S. Lewis and unanimously carried to approve all bills and receipts presented.

POLICE and/or FIRE REPORT:

The September Police Report was read by Tom Shumaker.

The September Fire Report was read by Steve Roth. A grant program sponsored by GSM Roofing awarded the Fire Company up to \$5K to repair their roof. Open house at the station has been scheduled for October 7th from 1PM to 3PM.

VISITORS BUSINESS:

Kathy Thren, Adamstown Area Library – Ms. Thren gave an update on the Room to Grow capital campaign. She explained that due to the structural integrity of the former VFW’s existing 3-story building, their plans of renovating it would be too costly so it will now be raised. She presented Council with the new plans for the proposed one-story building. To date the Library has raised \$950K of the \$1.5 million needed for the campaign.

Bob Stork – Mr. Stork addressed Council regarding his ongoing concern with the condition of the walking path from Stoudtburg Village to the grove. He explained that there are areas where the tree branches hang too low and muddy conditions make it difficult to traverse through the area. R. Good said that we’ve had 9.76” of rain in the past month. M. Palm said that the Public Works employees trimmed the branches along the path and the tractor is able to travel through the area without being touched by branches. D. Johnson offered to accompany Mr. Stork on a walk along the path to get a better understanding of what Mr. Stork’s concerns are.

SPECIAL TOPICS: None.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Bees Nest – M. Palm said there is an active honey bee nest in the walnut tree next to the tennis courts. He reached out to a bee specialist to see what options he has and was told that they can either be killed or the tree can be cut down and the bees safely relocated. There is currently caution tape surrounding the tree. D. Johnson said he could look into the situation when he takes his walk. R. Good suggested putting a fence around the tree and Council agreed.

DEP Inspection – M. Palm had a DEP biosolids inspection and it passed with no issues.

Blowers – The blowers are scheduled for delivery on Thursday.

Channel on Bowmansville Road – There is an open channel across the road from 1998 Bowmansville Road that, as a result of stormwater runoff, is undermining an existing retaining wall and causing the wall to sag and the road to settle. M. Palm is looking into pricing to extend the pipe beyond this area. Permission was given by the property owner to down some trees to do the work. R. Dautrich did a site visit and will be obtaining the necessary permitting to do the work. The cost to do the work is approximately \$12K with an additional \$3,500 for the permit.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by A. McManimen and unanimously carried to obtain the proper permitting and to proceed with the stormwater repair along Bowmansville Road.

TREASURER:

Pension MMO – L. Crouse met with Marty Gerhart to discuss insurance and the budget and he didn't anticipate any significant increases. It was decided not to revise the MIB at this time.

2019 Budget – L. Crouse is working on the budget and requested that any last budget items be given to her as soon as possible.

Laptop – M. Palm will need to replace his laptop. This item has been budgeted for. Laughing Rock provided a quote for an i5 processor at a cost of \$1,221.92. A. McManimen suggested upgrading to an i7.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by A. McManimen and unanimously carried to purchase an i7 processor laptop for M. Palm.

FINANCE:

C. Schweitzer said that the Committee met and went through the budget. All of the accounts look good for the exception of the sewer account which will need a boost. Money cannot be put in reserves for sewer and with the proposed sewerline project, a slight increase in the sewer rates may occur. Rates have remained the same since 2011.

WATER & SEWER:

Ordinance #392 – Ordinance #392 was advertised for adoption. This ordinance revises regulations of Chapter 304 governing the use of the water system and administrative matters which will allow the Borough to terminate water service to any property in which the property owner refuses access to their water meter. It also removes the requirement of a plumber's license and increases fines for violation of the ordinance.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by A. McManimen and unanimously carried to adopt Ordinance #392.

COMMUNITY:

ABI Inspection Project Update – ABI has completed its borough-wide audit and has cited 106 properties in violation. Borough staff is working on obtaining mailing addresses and parcel numbers which will be provided to ABI to complete the process.

Rental Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Update – ABI will be providing a proposal to provide services to the borough for rental inspections, ongoing property maintenance and code enforcement.

ROADS AND BRIDGES: None.

PERSONNEL:

Employees will be providing evaluations and the Committee will be meeting in October to discuss.

RECREATION: None.

FIRE/SAFETY:

School Resource Officer – Chief Keppley of the ECT Police Department sent a letter to D. Johnson regarding the costs of having a School Resource Officer. D. Johnson responded with a request for a detailed breakdown of costs.

School Warning Lights – D. Johnson provided samples of various school zone lights that could be installed along W. Main Street in the area of W. Main Street and Adamstown Road to alert drivers that they are entering a school zone. The Committee met to discuss and would like to review the current signage to ensure it meets code and paint the roadway to alert drivers before opting for warning lights at a cost of approximately \$13K for four poles. When asked what works best in his experience, Lt. Shumaker said that the flashing light signs grab a driver’s attention more often, and when the driver’s speed is displayed it tends to slow them down even more. R. Good asked the Safety Committee to get together with the police department to come up with some ideas and come back to Council with a recommendation.

Junior Councilperson – D. Johnson suggested we appoint a Junior Councilperson. R. Good asked D. Johnson to touch base with the high school principal.

MS4: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

LCPC’s Places 2040 – R. Good asked everyone to get comments, if any, to S. Toffy.

NEW BUSINESS:

12 Riverview Drive SWM Application – The applicant is installing an inground pool and patio and is required to fill out a SWM small projects application and agreement.

Motioned by S. Lewis, seconded by D. Matz and unanimously carried to approve SWM agreement regarding the installation of an inground pool and patio at 12 Riverview Drive.

3072 N. Reading Road Variance Application – A variance application was submitted by the owner of 3072 N. Reading Road who is looking to sell the property which would be used to lease the offices and store tractor trailers in the parking lot, and to continue to rent the two apartment units on the second floor. R. Good does not see where the hardship is which is a requirement to ask for a variance. He also said that Broad Street was not designed for high tractor trailer traffic. C. Schweitzer said there is concern regarding the ingress/egress of the tractor trailers to and from the property. A. McManimen commented there are three units (an office and

two apartments) using water but only one meter serving the property, and the apartments have never been registered with the borough office, nor has the water/sewer been property billed. He said the application is also very vague and there are a lot of unanswered questions.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by C. Schweitzer and unanimously carried to have legal counsel represent the Borough at the ZHB meeting scheduled for October 9th.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by C. Schweitzer and unanimously carried to have the solicitor prepare a letter/invoice to the current owner of 3072 N. Reading Road for back monies owed the Borough due to not properly registering the rental units with the Borough office.

7th Annual Stoudt's Cross Cyclocross Bicycle Race – A request was received by David Borden to use the Borough's roads during the annual Stoudt's Cross Cyclocross Bicycle Race to be held on November 4th.

Motioned by C. Schweitzer, seconded by S. Lewis and carried by a vote of 5-1-1 to allow the bike race on November 4, 2018 contingent on a Certificate of Insurance being submitted prior to the race and that any property that may be damaged is restored. D. Matz opposed.

H&L Emprises – R. Dautrich of Dautrich Engineering representing the owner, reviewed the Lot 3 Subdivision plan for property located at the corner of E. Main Street and Bowmansville Road. The plan defines a 6-lot, single family housing development along East Main and Bowmansville Road. The plans will be presented to the Council at the December meeting, seeking approval of necessary waivers and final land development approval.

Adjournment:

Motioned by A. McManimen, seconded by C. Schweitzer and unanimously carried to adjourn.
The meeting ended at 8:53PM.

Attested: _____
Sam Toffy, Adamstown Borough Administrative Secretary