

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM at the Adamstown Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant, 235 E. Swartzville Road, Denver by Council President Randy Good.

Council Present: R. Good, D. Matz, A. McManimen, M. Bansner, d. Alumbaugh, R. Weaver, J. Thomason

Visitors present: Chuck Hess, Chief John Petrick, Shad Lewis, Zach Hoffman, James Johnson Null, Helen Shaak, Michele Walter Fry

Others present: Mayor Schmidt, Mike Palm, Sam Toffy

MINUTES: Minutes from the January 3, 2022 meeting were approved with a motion from D. Matz, seconded by J. Thomason and unanimously carried.

BILL LIST: Motioned by J. Thomason, seconded by R. Weaver and unanimously carried to approve all bills and receipts presented. M. Palm said we were overcharged on an E.M. Kutz bill for some plowing equipment so he wanted to be sure the correct amount is going to be paid. R. Good suggested that we implement having someone sign off on the bills for materials ordered to avoid this in the future. A. McManimen said he will have the Personnel Committee look into this.

POLICE REPORT:

The January Police Report was read by Chief Petrick. He said they are still investigating the incident where an oversized truck traveling down Rt. 272 hit and did extensive damage to the traffic light at the intersection of Rt. 272 and Willow Street.

FIRE REPORT:

The January Fire Report was included in the packets.

VISITOR'S BUSINESS: None.

SPECIAL TOPICS: None.

PUBLIC WORKS:

MIB Quote – M. Palm presented the latest MIB quote received. The last time this was done was in 2017 based on inflation. A. McManimen requested that it be tabled.

Raw Sewage Pump Replacement Project at WWTP – M. Palm said the pumps used to pump the raw sewage to the treatment plant are over 30 years old and is requesting that they be replaced. We currently have two 20-hp pumps and one spare 5-hp pump. He would like replace the two 20-hp pumps and upgrade the spare 5-hp pump to a 20-hp pump as well. There will be some permitting required. A. McManimen will have the Committee review the total scope of work to be sure it is all included in the project.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to allow SDE to begin the legwork for this project.

TREASURER: None.

FINANCE:

Revised 2022 Budget – Due to employee increases for the new year, Council revisited the 2022 budget and made several changes. A. McManimen commented that the borough has not increased its donation to the Adamstown Area Library in over six years and he is proposing increasing their donation from \$11,250 to \$15,000. d. Alumbaugh said we need to know where the expense is coming from. A. McManimen said it is a general fund expense.

Motioned by J. Thomason, seconded by D. Matz and unanimously carried to adopt the revised 2022 budget as presented with the inclusion of the increase of the Library's donation an additional \$3,750.

WATER/SEWER/MS4:

2138 Old Lancaster Pike Sewer Waiver Request – The property owner originally thought her 3rd quarter 2021 bill was higher than usual due to power washing her house and camper, however her 4th quarter bill was approximately \$400 higher than normal and she found that there was a leaking pipe under her house. She is in the process of having it repaired and is asking Council for a waiver of the overages of those two quarters (\$448.96 less the \$25 waiver fee for an amount of \$423.96) plus any overage in the upcoming quarter.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by R. Weaver and unanimously carried to grant a waiver in the amount of \$800 which will cover the overage from the last two quarters in the amount of \$423.96, with the remaining balance being applied to her next sewer bill.

Ordinance 413 – Ordinance 413 to amend Chapter 237 of the Code of Ordinances to increase sewer rates 6% across the board was advertised after the January meeting.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by R. Weaver and unanimously carried to adopt Ordinance 413 to increase sewer rates 6% to go into effect January 1, 2022.

D. Matz mentioned an article that was in the Lancaster paper the previous day pertaining to MS4 and the extensive damage the use of salt has on the roadways. He recommended that all Council members read the article if they have not already.

COMMUNITY:

Adamstown 2026 – d. Alumbaugh said our next meeting to discuss the Master Plan is coming up this Thursday. He, J. Schmidt and L. Crouse are continuing with their grant writing classes which will help with the process.

Borough Cleanup – d. Alumbaugh and S. Toffy will assess properties in the borough to determine which ones require notification of property maintenance violations. The list will be forwarded to the Code Enforcement Officer to address. R. Weaver referenced a particular building in disrepair which he has requested to be addressed.

ROADS AND BRIDGES: None.

PERSONNEL:

A. McManimen commended borough staff for all their work and wanted to express his appreciation.

RECREATION:

Snack Bar Vendor – R. Weaver said that his committee is working on finding a snack bar vendor for the upcoming pool season. Interviews will be conducted in the next couple of weeks.

FIRE/SAFETY: None.

BUILDING: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Zach Hoffman – Borough resident Z. Hoffman expressed his interest in filling the vacant PC position left when J. McManimen did not re-run in 2022. It is a 4-year term running through December 2025.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by J. Thomason and unanimously carried to appoint Zach Hoffman to serve on the Planning Commission for a 4-year term to run through December 2025.

Borough Bridges – R. Good said he is concerned regarding the condition of the two bridges along Rt. 272 (near Bowmansville Road and Broad Street). Borough business owner Chris Schnader shares this concern and has reached out to PennDOT to find out when they are expecting to work on the bridges so that he, as well as others owning businesses along Rt. 272 are aware and could plan accordingly. To date he is unable to get any answers so d. Alumbaugh was able to contact someone at PennDOT and was told that we are not scheduled for any bridge work in the next 5 years. Borough resident Shad Lewis said there was an article in the Lancaster paper which stated that bridge work is not planned until 2034. He has concerns with waiting this long for repairs because there currently are no weight restrictions for the bridges, and when the weigh station is open on Rt. 222, truckers opt to use Rt. 272 instead. R. Good suggested tabling this item until d. Alumbaugh is able to set up a meeting with PennDOT to further discuss.

The issue of brake retarders was also discussed. Chief Petrick said this issue came up in their borough and was told that it is difficult to prove and therefore difficult to enforce. There are also a lot of hoops to go through with PennDOT regulations. He suggested posting signs prohibiting brake retarders, as this frequently helps minimize the issue.

Trail to Connect with Warwick/Ephrata Trail – This subject was brought up by Mike Hession at the at the regional leader’s meeting. He said they could have an outside company do a feasibility study of the trails in the Cocalico School District region with the end goal to connect them to the Warwick/Ephrata trail. The cost of the study is \$60K with a \$30K grant. The municipalities would contribute the remaining \$30K based on per capita. R. Good is in favor of participating in the feasibility study.

Motioned by d. Alumbaugh, seconded by D. Matz and unanimously carried to approve participating in the feasibility study and paying our portion per capita.

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program – The borough was contacted by the Department of Human Services regarding participating in an assistance program to aid residents in paying their water/sewer bills. Due to the criteria that must be met in order to participate in the program, in addition to having local agencies available to offer aid, Council opted to not participate.

Annual 5K for Johnnie K – Permission was requested by Lynn Keene to allow runners to use designated roads in the Borough for the annual 5K for Jonnie K scheduled for May 22nd.

Motioned by J. Thomason, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to approve the use of the designated Borough roads for the annual 5K for Johnnie K provided a certificate of insurance is provided by the Leo Club at least one week prior to the event and both the police and fire departments are notified at least one week prior as well.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council went into executive session at 8:10PM to discuss personnel issues, potential land sale and easements for gravity sewer.

The regular meeting resumed at 8:42PM.

Motioned by A. McManimen, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to retroactively credit S. Toffy one additional week of vacation effective January 1, 2022 for time worked at the borough.

Motioned by A. McManimen, seconded by d. Alumbaugh and unanimously carried to sell the current borough building through auction by Klein, Kreider & Good auctioneers.

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by J. Thomason and unanimously carried to authorize A. McManimen, C. Hess and M. Palm to negotiate with property owners regarding easements for gravity sewer line.

Adjournment:

Motioned by D. Matz, seconded by M. Bansner and unanimously carried to adjourn.
The meeting ended at 8:48PM.

Attested: _____
Sam Toffy, Adamstown Borough Administrative Secretary