

The regular monthly meeting of the Stewartstown Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were: Marsha England, Chris Reed, Frank Paules, Bill Gemmill, Mildred Pomraning, and Theresa Geroux. Also in attendance were: Mayor Smith, Chief Cunningham, Attorney Craig Sharnetzka, Ira Walker, Stacy Myers and Dennis Sarpen. Gordon Wisnom was absent.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 3, 2011 Council meeting. Mrs. Pomraning seconded and the motion was carried.

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the general fund financial statements, including checks dated October 17, 2011 totaling \$46,939.00 and checks dated November 1, 2011 totaling \$10,050.91 seconded by Mrs. Geroux and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the sewer fund financial statement, including checks dated October 17, 2011 totaling \$24,036.58 and checks dated November 1, 2011 totaling \$13,606.76 seconded by Mrs. Geroux and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the water fund financial statement, including checks dated October 17, 2011 totaling \$25,955.65 and checks dated November 1, 2011 totaling \$4,987.13 seconded by Mr. Paules and the motion passed unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Sharnetzka stated that an Earned Income Tax Ordinance has been drafted by the York County Tax Coalition Attorney. The goals of the Ordinance are to pass mandatory collection for all; employers that do not collect can be penalized. The Ordinance in no way affects the amount of money collected. Mr. Reed made a motion to adopt the Earned Income Tax Ordinance #2011-02 (Act 32). Mrs. Pomraning seconded and the motion was carried. Mrs. England and the Mayor will sign the Ordinance.

Attorney Sharnetzka presented the Police Union Contract to Council for consideration. It is a 3 year contract with a pay increase of 2% for 2012, 2% for 2014 and 3% for 2014. The contract can be re-opened and negotiated in the third year. The contract also illustrates a disciplinary and complaint procedure. Mr. Gemmill wished to table the vote on the contract until next week so Council could review. Mrs. Pomraning made a motion to approve the Police Contract, Mr. Reed seconded and the motion was carried with Mr. Gemmill opposing. Mrs. England will sign the contract.

Attorney Sharnetzka also stated that the South Eastern School District Police contract with Fawn Grove Borough and Peach Bottom Township has been signed. Fawn Township will be signing next week. The contract is through this school year.

Attorney Sharnetzka stated that the Governor has signed into law an increase in the bidding limits for Council and Authority. The bidding limit was raised from \$10,000 to \$18,500. Three telephone quotes will be required for projects costing \$10,000, up from the prior \$4,000.

A reorganizational meeting for Council will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012.

The Borough will not be raising taxes in 2012; they will hold at 2.85 mils.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A question was raised by the public regarding the recording of meetings. If a meeting is recorded by Borough, it is usually announced. Tonight's meeting is not being recorded. Mayor Smith stated that if a meeting is public, one should believe that the meeting is being recorded unless told otherwise.

Council recognized Carl Seitz of 8 West Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Seitz stated that there are two more leaks found at 9 and 13 West Pennsylvania Avenue. He believes a larger main is needed on that street. Mr. Sarpen stated that during the summer the sewer line was viewed with a TV camera and no trouble was found. There are also no leaks on the water side. Mr. Seitz does not believe that a permit is needed to dig on a state road, which he was told is incorrect; a permit from PennDot is required.

Council recognized Brian Gettle from 11 West Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Gettle stated his cellar has filled up with water several times. He believes the crown in the road in front of his house is not correct. The water is going into his basement from the water line on the street. Mr. Walker and Mr. Sarpen will visit Mr. Gettle and view the problem. Mr. Gettle agreed to show them the property and what he sees as the issue.

Mr. Seitz stated that he believes the road will collapse and stated he has warned Council.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Sarpen was recognized by Council. He stated that the paving of Memory Lane has been completed. Mr. Gemmill made a motion to approve the payment of \$20,825.85 (\$4000 less than bid due to lesser quantities). Mrs. Pomraning seconded and the motion was carried.

Mr. Paules made a motion to approve the low bid of \$6643 from Easy Dig for the miscellaneous curb and pavement modifications on High Street and Springwood Avenue. Mrs. Pomraning seconded and the motion was carried.

Mr. Sarpen stated that the Ravenscliff Developers will be attending the Council Workshop meeting this month.

Mr., Sarpen stated the Mandatory Storm Water Ordinance is still in talks with the state and county; no word on when it will be adopted. Part of the issue is the permit requirement for storm water and the need for standard details. Refinements to the Ordinance need to be made to comply with the law.

Mr. Sarpen viewed the site work on Westminster Place and stated that everything has been completed except the Hill Street Emergency Road. The contractor did not install what was drafted by the Engineer.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. England stated that the Workshop meeting will begin at 7:00. She requested that Council review the draft budgets for the meeting. Ravenscliff will be here to discuss their project.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Smith stated that he had recently read nasty things regarding Borough employees on a certain website. He was very disappointed and stated that families should not be included in these remarks or discussions. He also feels that if anyone is using recording devices at a meeting they should announce that they are doing so.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mrs. Myers stated that the quarterly cost for the Penn Waste trash service is currently \$64.36. Council may be able to lower this cost to residents due to the new 3-year contract being lower than the previous contract. The landfill is now charging a fee to municipalities to bring trash there and this will impact the Borough's contract. Mrs. Myers will check into this & report back.

Mrs. Geroux addressed Council. She stated that she was not born in Stewartstown, but chose to live here. She joined Borough Council because she was interested in the well being of the town. She has no business here and no monetary connections. She reviewed issues from facts. She believes that complaints on the internet are not facts; people write things that do not attend meetings. The slanderous literature on the internet is an embarrassment to Stewartstown. She also stated that her child should not be included in the election discussions; that has nothing to do with her job on Borough Council.

Mr. Paules stated that he facilitated the repairs of 17 streets in his 15 years on Borough Council.

Mr. Reed stated that he wished to thank Mrs. England, Mrs. Pomraning, Mrs. Geroux and Mr. Paules for their dedication and service. He also offered his support.

Mrs. Pomraning stated that she was hurt by people she thought were friends. She also felt that her children should not be subject to attack. People that are attacking her character or her family should sign their names.

Chief Cunningham stated that he is on this job because no one from Stewartstown applied for his job. He is the lowest paid Chief in the State of Pennsylvania. He stated that the Police Department has ticketed 638 people since January. Of those, 50 live in Stewartstown, 131 live in Hopewell Township, 355 in other areas of Pennsylvania, 85 from Maryland and 14 from other states.

There being no further business, Mr. Paules made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Pomraning and the Stewartstown Borough Council meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy McCartin
Minute Taker/Transcriber