

**Stewartstown Borough Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**

**Members**

Gordon Wisnom, Sr.  
Kenton Kurtz  
Polly Kreiss  
Donna Bloom  
Roy Burkins  
Mike Ellinger

**Others**

Craig Sharnetzka, Solicitor  
Jason Brenneman, Engineer  
Mayor Robert Herzberger  
Ira Walker, Jr., Sewer/Water  
Stacy Myers, Recording Sec'y

**Visitors**

Bryan Gettle  
Joel Washok  
Jeff Ross

Joe & Rebekah Wilson  
Elizabeth Piette

1. The meeting was called to order @ 7:00p.m. Everyone participated in the pledge to the flag.
2. **GENERAL BUSINESS**
  - Approval of Meeting Minutes—Mr. Burkins made a motion to approve the August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Meeting Minutes; Ms. Kreiss seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
  - Approval of Financial Statements
    - **General Funds**—Mrs. Bloom made a motion to approve General Fund bills dated August 2<sup>nd</sup> thru August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019, totaling \$109,206; Ms. Kreiss seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
    - **Sewer Funds**—Mrs. Bloom made a motion to approve Sewer Fund bills dated August 2<sup>nd</sup> thru August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019, totaling \$259,211.69; Mr. Burkins seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
    - **Water Funds**—Mr. Kurtz made a motion to approve Water Fund bills dated August 2<sup>nd</sup> thru August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019, totaling \$38,458.67; Mrs. Bloom seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS**—the following were present to address Council:
  - Joe & Rebekah Wilson from 30 Mill Street expressed their concern about excessive speeding on Mill Street. Joe has said they've been dealing with this issue for years & he's contacted Southern Regional Police Department on numerous occasions. He's very frustrated because he doesn't get any follow-up from his calls. SRPD painted the lines on Mill Street to track speed; however, nearby residents state they've seldom seen officers in the area checking speed. They're very concerned, especially for their children's safety. There are 10-15 school-age children along Mill Street and the bus stop is at 43 Mill, where the road crests & motorists seem to gain the most speed.
  - Jeff Ross from 33 Mill believes the traffic on Mill Street has gotten heavier since new developments are going in the Stewartstown/Shrewsbury area. Motorists use Stewartstown Road, then Mill Street as a shortcut, so residents are experiencing heavier traffic flows, which brings with it, more dangerous speeding. He would like to see Borough Council be more proactive about this situation than reactive before a pedestrian gets hit.
  - Elizabeth Piette from 37 Mill Street mentioned another issue that she is concerned about that goes along with the speeding. The vacant house at 43 Mill & the empty lot next to it get overgrown with grass, weeds, trees, etc., making it hard for pedestrians to pass easily. The sidewalk ends at 39 Mill Street & starts again at 43 Mill, so rather than walking her children to the bus stop (at 43 Mill) where there is no sidewalk & no shoulder on the road, she walks across the street till she is directly across from the bus stop, then crosses the street again. She

stated, most of the time, you can hear cars coming when crossing the road; however, sometimes you can't & if they're traveling at a high rate of speed, it's very dangerous. The Borough has an Ordinance for sidewalk maintenance; however, the Borough can't require a homeowner to install a sidewalk where there is none except for new construction. Mrs. Piette will contact the property owner of the vacant lot & ask them to keep the area trimmed back to allow pedestrians to walk past safely.

- Council held discussion on this. Unfortunately, speeding is a problem throughout the Borough. Knowing that Mill Street is a PennDOT road, the Borough is unable to do what they want with it. The Borough would need to ask PennDOT to conduct a speed study for speed-slowng devices to be installed on the road. Rumble strips were mentioned also; that they may slow traffic down a bit or at least, make motorists more aware, but anything done to Mill Street would be a PennDOT decision.

Mayor Herzberger & some Council members had discussed the speeding problem with Southern Regional's Police Chief who said officers have increased their speed monitoring along Mill Street and will continue to do so. Mr. Burkins has personally seen officers at 49 Mill & 43 Mill on two separate mornings; however, Mill Street residents have not seen them. Mr. Wisnom will personally call Chief Boddington tomorrow and discuss this problem with him. Council members urged Mill Street residents to call our State Representatives urging them to pass a law allowing municipalities to use Radar, as currently, only State Police can use it. Council also welcomed the residents to attend tomorrow night's (9/4) Police Commission meeting in New Freedom (7pm) to express all their concerns. Borough Council is looking into purchasing & installing solar speed signs that would flash the motorists speed on a screen. This may serve as a deterrent & slow down traffic.

4. **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**—Craig Sharnetzka reported:

- **Borough's Trash contract renewal**—Two bid packets were received by the 9/4/19, 2:00pm deadline.
  - Republic Services' letter stated they would not be bidding on the contract as it doesn't fit within their operational plan.
  - Penn Waste submitted one thru five-year bids for 828 units as follows:
    - Total bid for one year--\$288,144/yr.
    - Total bid for two years--\$591,192 (\$288,144/1<sup>st</sup> yr.; \$303,048/2<sup>nd</sup> yr.)
    - Total bid for three years--\$909,144 (\$288,144/1<sup>st</sup> yr.; \$303,048/2<sup>nd</sup> yr.; \$317,952/3<sup>rd</sup> yr.)
    - Total bid for four years--\$1,242,000 (\$288,144/1<sup>st</sup> yr.; \$303,048/2<sup>nd</sup> yr.; \$317,952/3<sup>rd</sup> yr.; \$332,856/4<sup>th</sup> yr.)
    - Total bid for five years--\$1,589,760 (\$288,144/1<sup>st</sup> yr.; \$303,048/2<sup>nd</sup> yr.; \$317,952/3<sup>rd</sup> yr.; \$332,856/4<sup>th</sup> yr.; \$347,760/5<sup>th</sup> yr.)
  - Mr. Burkins made a motion to award the Refuse Contract to Penn Waste for five years (October 31, 2019 thru October 31, 2024); Mrs. Bloom seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
  - Being that the new contract reflects an approx. 34% increase from the previous contract, an increase in the current quarterly trash rate of \$67/household will be necessary. The exact amount will be determined by office staff by the December Trash billing.
- **Ordinance 2019-1**—an Ordinance to amend the Stewartstown Borough Zoning Ordinance regarding Buntings, Pennants & Banners. Section 614; subsection g of that Ordinance will be removed entirely and replaced with language that allows buntings, pennants, banners and similar objects announcing special occasions for a business or industry, a civic event or non-profit organization to be in place for 14 days prior to the event, 7 days after (not exceeding a total of 30 days). Banners are only permitted above a public street if it's promoting a civic event or non-profit organization located in Stewartstown Borough, Hopewell Township, East

Hopewell Township or Crossroads Borough. Any other organization wishing to hang a banner above a public street may request an exception be made from Borough Council. Mr. Burkins made a motion authorizing the advertisement of Ordinance 2019-1; Mrs. Bloom seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

- **Cloverfield Phase 2 Bond**—Craig made suggestions of revisions to the Bond but has not heard back from the developers. Jason said they can do groundwork per the Preliminary Plan, but they can't move forward with Phase 2 building until the Developer's Agreement is in place.
  - **Jeanie Olson** sent an email stating she is amenable with the Borough advertising her former office space at 6 N. Main, Ste. B for lease.
  - **Movie theater update**—no word from Bill Neal, but he has until September 30<sup>th</sup> to sell the theater before it goes to public auction.
  - **Executive Session**—Council recessed to Executive Session @ 7:50p.m. to discuss personnel issues; Council reconvened @ 8:14p.m. No decisions were made.
5. **ENGINEER'S REPORT**—Jason Brenneman reported:
- **Ecker Avenue**—projected start date is the week of September 16<sup>th</sup>. Jason said the contractor needs to be done by the PennDOT paving deadline of October 15<sup>th</sup>. An extension can sometimes be requested till October 30<sup>th</sup>, but that is the contractor's responsibility.
  - **West PA Storm Sewer**—this project has been completed & a Payment Application has been received from Clear View Excavating in the amount of \$54,355. This is lower than the original contract amount of \$57,595, due to some as-built quantities & adjustments (less storm sewer pipe installed than originally planned), etc. Mr. Kurtz made a motion to approve the payment of \$54,355 to Clear View; Mrs. Bloom seconded. All were in favor; motion carried. This is a final payment; no retainage is being held on this project.
  - **Cloverfield Phase 2**—most grading is done; contractor has started sewer & water work and Jason's office will be in the area to inspect.
6. **SEWER/WATER SUPERVISOR REPORT**—Ira Walker, Jr. presented his report which will be on file with these Meeting Minutes. Ira also asked Council if they want to move forward with replacing the Borough's current streetlights with LED. This was previously discussed & Ira obtained two quotes; one from Engles & Fahs & one from Dorn Electric. Dorn quoted \$10,800 to replace the Borough's 27 streetlights with LED. Ira stated Engles & Fahs quote was almost double Dorn's quote. Mr. Kurtz made a motion to accept Dorn's quote & move forward with an LED replacement; Mr. Burkins seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
7. **MAYOR'S/POLICE REPORT**—Mayor Herzberger reported the following:
- Police Commission Meeting to be held Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm
  - New Freedom Borough is still pushing for Police coverage from Southwestern Regional. There is a feasibility study available to review the pros & cons of this; however, the Mayor doesn't feel the need to rush into anything. And the idea of going with Southwestern was discussed before, but the involved parties didn't think it was a workable solution. The company conducting the study is the same that was used when Stewartstown Borough went to Southern Regional.
  - Mayor suggested hiring a part-time person to enforce the Nuisance Ordinance & impose fines to offenders and offending properties. This can be discussed at budget time.
8. **PRESIDENT/VICE-PRESIDENT/OTHER BUSINESS**
- York County Boroughs Association Meeting/Dinner—Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm at Hellam Fire Company—let office staff know who is interested in attending.
  - Thank You notes were received from the Historical Society & Senior Center for Borough donations.
  - Solar speed signs—Mr. Ellinger made a motion to purchase the solar speed signs, not to exceed \$12,000; Mrs. Bloom seconded. All were in favor; motion carried. The locations of

where to install can be discussed and/or determined by the Streets & Roads Committee, but one on North Main, one on South Main and one on Mill Street are prime locations.

9. **Adjournment**—Mr. Burkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting @ 8:55p.m.; Mr. Kurtz seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Myers, Recording Secretary