

Abbottstown Borough Public Comment & Council Meeting November 19, 2020 7 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Frank Anderson, Laura Baker (tele), Dennis Posey, Dale Reichert, Daniel Watkins, Sr.

Also in attendance: Mayor Duane Watson; ABPD Chief James Graham, M/S/T David Bolton, MBA, CBO, Solicitor, Tim Shultis, Engineer. Excused: John Golanoski.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by President Posey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: An Exec Session was held at 6:30 to discuss legal matters with Solicitor

GUESTS: Ray Gouker and Mark Wherley of Community Media
Greg Hollinger, 1124 700 Rd., New Oxford

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mark Wherley, Comm Media: thanks for the support with agreement and PEG fee. Working on several projects; broadband and internet access.

Ray Gouker, Comm Media: excited about Abbottstown's support. Trying to bring true broadband to Adams Co. 10 mb downloads and 1 mb uploads; want 1 Gig lines in the borough and New Oxford. Grants ready, engineering plan to be established. Working with UH&L to host equipment; share revenues.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Review minutes from meeting held Oct 15, 2020.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept the minutes of October 15, 2020; 2nd by Dan Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Council reviewed the financial documents and prepared bills. A bank audit was also presented, which was thoroughly reviewed.

Motion made by Dan Watkins to accept the Treasurer's Report thru 10/31/2020; 2nd by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Approval of Expenditures:

Motion made by Frank Anderson to approve paying the bills as presented; 2nd by Dan Watkins.; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Dale Reichert to approve paying the remainder of budgeted and capital expenses through December 31, 2020, as necessary and timely, under Res 2020-10 and 2020-11 relating to administrative procedures under Emergency Declaration; 2nd by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

ADMINISTRATIVE: David Bolton, MBA, CBO

⇒ Dave Sneeringer from DAS has offered to return in 2021 at the same rates as 2020 and would like to enter into agreement with the borough at this time for lawncare services for the borough.

Motion made by Laura Baker to enter into agreement with DAS Landscaping for 2021 lawncare services at the same terms and rates as 2020; 2nd by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

- ⇒ Adoption of annual resolutions for 2021 (no reorganization):
- 2020-18: 2021 SALDO fees
 - 2020-19: 2021 Zoning fees
 - 2020-20: 2021 General Administrative fees
 - 2020-21: 2021 Declared Borough Appointments

Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt Resolutions 2020-18 through 2020-21 en bloc for the 2021 administrative year; 2nd by Dan Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

⇒ Adams County FAIR act Covid Funding Grant: qualified for reimbursement for computer upgrades for telecommuting, tele-meetings, and file retention security efforts (\$689.97).

Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize President Posey and Mr. Bolton to sign agreement with County for FAIR act funding grant; 2nd by Dale Reichert; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

⇒ Mr. Bolton updated Council on the bank notes rates (same for 2021) and solicited interest in receiving the PSAB Borough News subscriptions for this year.

SOLICITOR: Tim Shultis

⇒ Codification: no update from General Code

⇒ 2019 Employee Handbook: certain policies must be enacted to qualify for federal and state grants (per application received by County Solicitor's office/FAIR Act).

Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt non-discrimination and DFWP human resources policies presented by Solicitor Shultis; 2nd by Dan Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Council assigns Councilor Baker and Mr. Bolton to a committee to review the rest of the Employee Manual items with Ann Shultis prior to the next meeting for recommendations prior to adoption.

⇒ 2018 International Property Maintenance Code

Motion made by Laura Baker to adopt the 2018 IPMC with amendments (Ordinance 2020-06) as duly advertised in the Gettysburg Times; 2nd by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Mr. Bolton instructed to order three copies of the 2018 IPMC for the borough and one for President Posey, who will pay for his own.

⇒ Resolution 2020-22: 2021 Code Enforcement Official for IPMC

Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt Res. 2020-22 to appoint R. Clem Malot and PA Municipal Code as Enforcement Officials for the IPMC in Abbottstown Borough; 2nd by Dan Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

⇒ Facebook/Social Media Pages

FB page was making a mess of things; need to keep outsiders out of our business, focus on residents' concerns, not those from neighboring municipalities

Motion made by Dan Watkins to delete the award-winning Facebook page for Abbottstown Borough; 2nd by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

- ⇒ Solicitor Shultis advises to keep page active until a good way of archiving is found in line with state record retention policies; suggests exploring other avenues for communication with residents.

Motion made by Dan Watkins to explore other avenues; 2nd by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

ENGINEER: John Golanoski

- ⇒ Update on Multimodal Grant for N/S German Street (via Mr. Bolton)

MAYOR'S REPORT: Honorable Duane Watson – none.

ABBOTTSTOWN BOROUGH POLICE DEPT: Report submitted - copy on file.

- ⇒ Chief: need four tires for police car for winter, MarBar through Costars is cheapest.

Motion by Frank Anderson to purchase tires; 2nd by Daniel Watkins; Motion carried, 5 ayes.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: James Graham, PMCA Report submitted - copy on file.

- ⇒ Water issues on Abbotts Court continue; three residents complaining to Mr Graham and to Mr. Bolton. 24 Abbotts Court has sump pump which discharges 11' 6" from roadway; nothing in ordinances addresses sump pumps. 170' run to closest storm grate and the grade is not conducive; water rests. Shultis: can create a public nuisance. Section 507 IPMC drainage of yards...shall not be discharged in a manner that creates a public nuisance (p 22). Stormwater mgmt. ordinance should keep water on premises. Dale: Borough didn't cause and can't fix. Officer Graham will investigate options and contact resident.

- ⇒ Need to order magnetic signs for code vehicle identification.

Motion made by Frank Anderson; 2nd by Daniel Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

EMERGENCY SERVICES: UH&L No. 33, PSP, AREMS Reports submitted

COMMITTEES and ORGANIZATIONS:

- Personnel Committee: Dale Reichert/Laura Baker - Chief Graham and Mayor Watson have interviewed candidates for the position of PT Patrol Officer for the ABPD from the applications received from the advertisement previously placed in the Gettysburg Times and have submitted their recommendation to the Personnel Committee. This committee reviewed the candidate's qualifications and agrees with the recommendation, charging Council to vote on the employment of **Clement Smith** in the ABPD, to begin

no sooner than December 1, 2020, and pending all appropriate checks and certifications have been received for HR file.

Motion made by Laura Baker to approve the hire of Clement Smith as a part-time patrol officer, pending the necessary certifications and paperwork, for no more than 2 shifts/week, 10 hours/week, (no benefits), unless need arises from the absence of Chief Graham and approved by Mayor Watson, at a rate of \$21.00 per hour for 2021 service hours; 2nd by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Budgeted wage increase for Chief Graham as recommended previously.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to approve wage increase for Chief Graham from \$21.50/hr to \$23.00/hr as budgeted, to commence January 1, 2021; 2nd by Dale Reichert; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

- EBACC: Dennis Posey - Are municipalities willing to support them in the future? Pres Posey says he wants to support them. East Berlin borough is looking at signing over deed for building to EBACC; their options are to repair or go somewhere else.
- ACBA/PSAB: David W. Bolton Attending PSAB Fall Board meeting in Gettysburg.
- Adams County Council of Governments: David W. Bolton
 - ⇒ Comcast Intergovernmental Committee: agreement has finally been reached with Comcast on agreement for five municipalities. Four of them will provide a PEG fee; Abbottstown, Freedom and Hamiltonban have negotiated .25% for years 1-4 and .5% for years 5-10 to support Community Media capital initiatives.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to approve Comcast agreement with terms negotiated as such through Salzmann Hughes and authorize President Posey to sign the Franchise agreement; 2nd by Dale Reichert; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

CORRESPONDENCE: On File.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Councilor Dan Watkins: permission to get with Chief Graham to enforce firework issues over the holidays. Dale asks if he can enforce while on Council: Tim says he cannot be compensated for work in the borough while on Council. Nuisance and fireworks are a citation offense that can be enforced.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to allow activity under the powers of Constable to enforce code infractions in the event of the absence of current Code Officer, with no compensation paid for services; 2nd by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 5 Ayes, subject to review by solicitor for conflicts with PMCA agreement and conferral of the District Attorney's office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next regular Council meeting is December 17th at 7 pm

Motion made by Frank Anderson to adjourn at 8:13 pm; 2nd by Dan Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.