

# Abbottstown Borough Council Meeting

## September 19, 2024 - 6 PM

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Laura Baker, April O'Brien, Hanna Carbaugh, Dale Reichert, Austin Wertz, Mayor Daniel W. Watkins, Sr., M/S/T Dr. David W. Bolton, Chief James Graham, Solicitor Tim Shultis, Esq. Engineer Ted Brillhart.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by President Dale Reichert

**GUESTS:** Rodger Brooks, Debbie Shearer, Perry Shearer, Wanda Anderson, Courtney DeLollis, David DeLollis, Frank Anderson, Kristen Weaver, Travis Johnson, Elizabeth Johnson, Kevin Moul

**PUBLIC COMMENT (on agenda items only):** None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Motion made by Austin Wertz to accept minutes from Aug 15, 2024, and September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as presented; Seconded by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

**TREASURER REPORTS:** Dr. Bolton provided an update on the borough's fiscal status.

*Motion made by April O'Brien to accept the Treasurer's Reports thru 8/30/24; Seconded by Hanna Carbaugh; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

*Motion made by April O'Brien to approve/ratify paying the bills as presented thru 9/19/2024; Seconded by Hanna Carbaugh; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:** Dr. Bolton updates Council on projects, current agreements, and other borough activity.

- ⇒ Motion to Extend Solid Waste Agreement with Waste Connections. *Motion made by April O'Brien, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*
- ⇒ Motion to Approve Personnel Recommendations and advertise 2025 Budgets. *Motion made by April O'Brien, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hanna Carbaugh; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*
- ⇒ Motion to cancel remaining budget workshop meetings. *Motion made by April O'Brien, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*
- ⇒ Discussed Columbia Gas's restoration plan involving Streets and Sidewalks in the Borough.
- ⇒ Discussed the Implementation of the Boroughs new communication system "Savvy Citizens".
- ⇒ Announced that Trunk or Treat will be Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at St. Johns Church, specific time has yet to be announced.
- ⇒ Provided information regarding 2025's Rental Inspection schedule and Local Partnership Opportunities

**SOLICITOR:** Tim Shultis

- ⇒ Provided updates on the Boroughs legal activities, specifically regarding Moore appealing.

**ENGINEER:** Ted Brillhart of Keller Engineers

- ⇒ Motion to agree to an Indemnity agreement for street maintenance with the Sutton Run Estates. ***Motion made by Laura Baker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hanna Carbaugh; Motion carried, 4-1 (Wertz)***
- ⇒ Motion on filing intent to dedicate vs HOA (streets). ***Motion made by Austin Wertz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by April O'Brien; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.***

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Honorable Daniel W. Watkins, Sr. – Nothing at this time.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** PMCA – Code violations have been quiet.

**ABPD:** Chief James Graham – Police violations have been quiet; Police Truck will be marked.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES:** Nothing at this time.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:** Council Woman Laura Baker encourages people to donate time to volunteering at the park, and notes that time donated increases grant amounts.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Debbie Shearer – Suggests purchasing property and making it public parking, Perry Shearer – Wants Ordinance 2024-03 reconsidered, Courtney DeLollis – Supports purchasing property and making it public parking, David DeLollis – Voices frustration over boroughs “Lack of Communication,” has a signed petition from neighbors, Frank Anderson – Worried about parking away from his house, says his driveway can not be expanded, Elizabeth Johnson – Says she’s forced to park on the street due to her driveway being too steep.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Councilor Carbaugh says she agrees with public comments on parking restrictions and re-affirms that not all council members supported it. Councilor Wertz agrees with Hanna and says the Borough needs better ways to communicate with the public. Mayor Daniel Watkins, Sr. says he was going to veto it but signed the ordinance anyway. He did not know what the public wanted and regrets his decision. Vice President of Council Laura Baker says she would like Ordinance 2024-03 to be revisited.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Next regular Council meeting is October 17, 2024, at 6 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:** ***Motion made by Austin Wertz to adjourn at 7:33 pm; 2nd by Hanna Carbaugh; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.***