

Abbottstown Borough Council Meeting

February 18, 2021 7 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Frank Anderson, Dale Reichert (online), Laura Baker (tele), Dennis Posey, Daniel Watkins, Sr. Also in attendance: ABPD Chief James Graham; M/S/T David W. Bolton (online); Solicitor, Tim Shultis (online); Engineer, John Golanoski (online). Excused: Mayor Duane Watson.

For Berwick Township: Earl Black (tele), Scott Kennedy (online), Pete Socks (online), Barry Cockley (online), Tom Danner (at bldg).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by President Posey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: A joint meeting was advertised for Berwick Township and Abbottstown Borough to review and accept bids for an intergovernmental project at Kinneman Road.

GUESTS: Berwick Township Supervisors, KPI Engineering.

Public bids opened last week at Berwick Township (witnessed by Mr. Bolton) are presented for review and approval by Council.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to issue a Notice of Intent to Award for the bid of \$ 305,000 from H & H General Excavating for Kinneman Rd Phase 2; 2nd by Daniel Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Scott Kennedy to issue a Notice of Intent to Award for the bid of \$ 305,000 from H & H General Excavating for Kinneman Rd Phase 2; 2nd by Barry Cockley; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to adjourn joint meeting with Berwick; 2nd by Daniel Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Barry Cockley to adjourn joint meeting with Berwick; 2nd by Earl Black; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the January 21st meeting are tabled until next meeting due to the last-minute storm accommodations.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Treasurer's report for 2/28/2021 are tabled until next meeting due to the last-minute storm accommodations.

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

Treasurer is currently working on municipal audit with Boyer and Ritter, state annual filings.

ADMINISTRATIVE: David Bolton, MBA, CBO

⇒ Resolution 2021-01: Address change request. April O'Brien has split her parcels and would like to re-number the properties according to the content in the resolution. Chief Rabine of UH&L No. 33 has given his blessing on this action.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt Resolution 2021-01 as presented; 2nd by Daniel Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

⇒ Crissy Redding, Adams County Treasurer, has agreed to collect municipal taxes through her office for Abbottstown Borough for the 2021 tax seasons. County Solicitor's office is finalizing a similar agreement to the one proposed last month with Conewago Township, as they did not approve the agreement at their meeting earlier this month. Here, Council will vote to adopt the resultant resolution, as will the County, with an agreement contained within the addendum as before.

Motion made by Daniel Watkins to adopt tax collection resolution (2021-02) and approve President Posey and Mr. Bolton to execute the agreement documents once completed and reviewed by Mr. Shultis and the County Solicitor for this arrangement; 2nd by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

⇒ The borough copier/printing agreement with Quality/Eicholtz ends 4/2021.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Mr. Bolton to collect new RFPs for these services, to be reviewed at the next meeting; 2nd by Daniel Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

⇒ The borough audit agreement with Boyer & Ritter ends after this year's audit.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Mr. Bolton to collect new RFPs for these services, to be reviewed at the next meeting; 2nd by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

- ⇒ Letter received from Ms. O'Brien regarding the 'paper alleys' that surround her parcels. (Letter read). Council should consider vacating any such alleys that will not be developed.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Mr. Bolton and Mr. Shultis to review and recommend action to the Streets and Sidewalk Committee prior to next meeting, for consideration of vacating specific paper alleys in the borough; 2nd by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

SOLICITOR: Tim Shultis

- ⇒ Codification: Final product has been received as updated. Advertising tabled until review by Mr. Shultis for accuracy and to review adoption documents. Target date for enactment is April meeting.
- ⇒ Request for Executive Session at end of meeting for Personnel matters (action may be taken once Council reconvenes).

ENGINEER: John Golanoski

- ⇒ No update on Multimodal Grant for N/S German Street.
- ⇒ Update on Rec Park phasing project (Parks & Recreation meeting)/grants.
- ⇒ Plan of Action for Country Club Road bridge established. Considerations such as land development plans and permitting should be investigated for repairs.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Honorable Duane Watson – none.

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

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

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

COMMITTEES and ORGANIZATIONS: No reports.

CORRESPONDENCE: On File.

OLD BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Marna Wagner, 44 Abbotts Court. Discusses her frustration with the stormwater issues coming from her neighbor pumping his sump water into the yards and sidewalks of the cul-de-sac. Council confirms that enforcement have been on going but a cooperative solution has not been implemented by the homeowner. A civil remedy is a suggested path for the resident's issue.

RECESS: *Motion made by Frank Anderson at 7:45 pm to recess into Executive Session; 2nd by Daniel Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

RECONVENE: Council reconvened at 7:56 pm.

⇒ President Posey announces that the Executive Session covered consultation from the Solicitor concerning an employment matter and a resignation received by Mayor Watson.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to rescind authorization to hire Clement Smith as PT police officer for ABPD; 2nd by Daniel Watkins; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to refund application fee to Clement Smith for ABPD; 2nd by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Mr. Bolton and Chief Graham to advertise PT police position with no application fee; 2nd by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Laura Baker to accept resignation of Mayor Duane Watson after the public reading of his letter; 2nd by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

⇒ Councilor Daniel Watkins, Sr. tenders his resignation letter from his Council seat, effective immediately.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept resignation of Daniel Watkins, Sr. from Council after the public reading of his letter; 2nd by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 4 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to appoint Daniel Watkins, Sr. as Mayor of Abbottstown Borough through the 2021 term; 2nd by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 4 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to appoint April O'Brien to Council seat vacated by Mr. Watkins, upon her acceptance, through the 2021 term; 2nd by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 4 Ayes.

⇒ President Posey calls Ms. O'Brien on the phone; she accepts the appointment.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Councilor Frank Anderson discusses the need for more salt at certain place through the borough during snow emergencies. Duly noted.

- Mayor Daniel Watkins, Sr. outlines his efforts to get snow emergency information to the local media outlets. Previous administrations had not updated the contacts and borough officials had the wrong information to report weather warnings.
- President Dennis Posey thanks everyone for their patience with the new technology used for this meeting (Zoom).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next regular Council meeting is March 18th at 7 pm

Motion made by Frank Anderson to adjourn at 8:10 pm; 2nd by Laura; Motion carried, 4 Ayes.