

Abbottstown Borough Council Meeting

August 17, 2023 - 6 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Frank Anderson, Laura Baker, April O'Brien, Dennis Posey, Dale Reichert, Mayor Dan Watkins, Chief James Graham, Solicitor Tim Shultis, Esq., M/S/T Dr. David W. Bolton. Engineer Erik Vranich was excused.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by President Dennis Posey

GUESTS: Charles and Janie Smyers, APS, 5600 Pine Road, Thomasville.
Todd Thornton, APS, 301 Pleasant Street.
Joan Weaver, 32 Spicer Drive.
Ron Arbogast, 114 E. King Street.
Sandy Myers, 171 Country Club Road.
Abigail Kibler, Borough Employee.

PUBLIC COMMENT (on agenda items only): Sandy Myers - Rental Property Inspection Ordinance – she currently has elderly tenants and is against any additional fees or inspections being proposed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept minutes from July 10, 2023, as presented; Seconded by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 4 Ayes (O'Brien abstains – did not attend).*

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

*Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept the Treasurer's Reports thru 7/31/23
Seconded by April O'Brien; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

Motion made by Frank Anderson to approve/ratify paying the bills as presented thru 6/15/2023; Seconded by Dale Reichert; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

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

- ⇒ Resolution 2023-xx Moul address change request – *Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt resolution; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*
- ⇒ Zoning Hearing Board resignations from Mary Galantino and Jerry Lillich – *Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept resignations; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*
- ⇒ Appoint Stephanie Wagner (J.L.) and Joan Weaver (M.G.) to ZHB – *Motion made by Frank Anderson to make appointments; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*
- ⇒ Rental Property Inspection Program – *Motion made by Frank Anderson to direct Solicitor to review Ordinance; 2nd by Dale Reichert. Motion carried, 4 Ayes (O'Brien opposes).*
- ⇒ Affordable Pet Supply Reduction Letter Request - *Motion made by Frank Anderson to grant bond reduction; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

SOLICITOR: Tim Shultis

- ⇒ Zoning Ordinance update – Commercial/Industrial Zone - Zoning Ordinance changes for 530 W King St from TCMU to CI zoning. Plans will go to the County Planning office for review and comment. TCMU zone changes will be reviewed with Rob Thaeler for next month's consideration.
- ⇒ Affordable Pet Supply tree reduction plan - land development plan requires too many trees for the plot. Zoning requirement so borough cannot authorize, must go to ZHB for variance. This situation is similar to the Sutton Run development variance. Mrs. Smyser (APS) explains the cost will be over \$100k and will be so close they will kill each other out. They would still make sure plenty are between the residences and their lot. It would take three acres of the farmland to put them all in. Mr. Shultis suggests coming up with an alternative plan or drawing prior to setting a ZHB date. The Smysers are encouraged to communicate with Councilor Baker and Engineer Vranich prior to determine a commonsense solution.
- ⇒ 13 E. King Street - Mr. Graham is working with the property company that has taken over the house (Saxton and Stump) and were unaware of the extend of the violations of the property. They will be demolishing the building. No need to move forward with legal actions.
- ⇒ 312 Sutton Road - Impounded trailer with no VIN number or identifiable owner. Borough needs court approval to get rid of it through Court of Common Pleas. Chief Graham says there is still no zoning application from 312 Sutton Road for the improvements made. Solicitor will make a call to their attorney to discuss. Approval needed for solicitor to pursue court action to dispose of trailer.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Solicitor; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

ENGINEER: Keller Engineers – Sutton Run development still pending reviews.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Honorable Daniel W. Watkins, Sr. – taking taser and warrant procedures classes next month.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: PMCA – 182 E. King Street applied for a demo permit to take the building down. Plans to rebuild on lot.

ABPD: Reports filed. Chief Graham gives an update on enforcement activities in the borough. Traffic enforcement grants, 33 hours received for August. Lots of activity.

EBACC: Searching for funding for the new property improvements.

PERSONNEL: Abigail Kibler thanks Council for allowing her to work this past Summer. Council and Mayor says she can work throughout the year to do cleaning and dusting.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilor Baker thanks Dr. Bolton and Ron Arbogast for their help so far with the park plan.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: A thank you for Jerry Lillich and Mary Galantino is suggested by President Posey. VISA gift card for \$50 each.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Solicitor; 2nd by Dale Reichert. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Baker would like a plaque in the park for people who have served the borough over the years. Cameras will be added as the park improves.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Joan Weaver would like to see an amicable agreement on the Rental Inspection Program.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: Councilor Anderson would like to consider naming the second baseball field after Jerry Lillich. Council will discuss it at the next meeting.

A local beekeeper asked Mayor Watkins if they could put four hives at the back of the park with insurance coverage. The Smysers would be willing to discuss having it on their property.

VP Reichert explains that York Water is extending from Water St north on 194 to Pine Run Road and the retirement center there. Currently on final plan approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: First Budget Workshop is September 7, 2023, at 6 pm.
Next regular Council meeting is September 21, 2023, at 6 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: *Motion made by Frank Anderson to adjourn at 7:15 pm; 2nd by Dale Reichert; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*