

**Stewartstown Borough Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Members Present**

Bill Gemmill  
Donna Bloom  
Roy Burkins  
Brittany Barnette  
Polly Kreiss

**Others Present**

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

**Visitors**

Joel Washok, Penn Waste Rep  
Andrew Warntz, Republic Services Rep  
Scout Troop #27 & Scoutmaster Matt Gaumer  
Pam Almony  
Joyce Ryer

Kent & Lynn Billings  
Sam Gemmill  
Joe Cunningham  
John Barnette

1. The meeting was called to order @ 7:00p.m. by Mayor Kurtz. Everyone participated in the pledge to the flag.
2. **Appointment of Vice President**—Mrs. Bloom made a motion to appoint Bill Gemmill to Council Vice President; Mr. Burkins seconded. All were in favor; motion carried. Mr. Gemmill took over the meeting at this time.
3. **Public Comment/Visitors**—the following were present to address Council:
  - Scoutmaster Matt Gaumer & 13 scouts from Stewartstown's Troop #27 were present as they're working on their Citizenship in the Community badge. They need to present an issue or problem the community is facing & state how they would resolve it. They chose the problem of littering at the Hopewell Area Fairgrounds, being that's the location of the Scout building. Each Scout offered a resolution to the problem which included installing more "No Littering" signs in the area, offering more trash cans in that area & a community-wide cleanup event to involve more residents. The scouts also offered their help in other community events where they can be of service.  
Mayor Kurtz invited them to contact Ira Walker, Jr. regarding their participation in the "I Love America" Parade scheduled for Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> @ 10am.
  - Kent & Lynn Billings of 14 N. Hill Street, were present to discuss speeding in front of their home. A few months ago, the Borough had installed a solar speed sign in that area near the railroad tracks, but then removed it, thinking most motorists are already slowing down to go over the tracks and it could be put to better use elsewhere. Mr. Billings stated many motorists start to pick up speed in the area from Dollar General to Sommers' Snowball Stand. He asked if 1) Southern Regional Police could do more speed enforcement in that area and 2) if Council could install another solar speed sign in the area closer to Dollar General & the library.  
Mrs. Bloom made a motion to purchase another solar speed sign for N. Hill Street; Ms. Kreiss seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.  
Council urged Mr. & Mrs. Billings to contact their State Representatives about the speeding problem in hope that municipal & regional Police forces will soon be able to use RADAR.
4. **General Business**
  - Approval of Meeting Minutes—Ms. Kreiss made a motion to approve the August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 Meeting Minutes; Mrs. Bloom seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

- Approval of Financial Statements
  - **General Funds**—Mr. Burkins made a motion to approve General Fund bills dated July 30<sup>th</sup> thru September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, totaling \$89,293.36. Ms. Kreiss seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
  - **Sewer Funds**—Mrs. Bloom made a motion to approve Sewer Fund bills dated July 30<sup>th</sup> thru September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, totaling \$278,442.05. Mr. Burkins seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
  - **Water Funds**—Mrs. Bloom made a motion to approve Water Fund bills dated July 30<sup>th</sup> thru September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, totaling \$108,732.54. Mr. Burkins seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
- 5. **Solicitor's Report**—Craig Sharnetzka reported the following:
  - **Refuse contract bid opening**—there were several biddings options. Two companies submitted bids, along with the proper \$500 bid bond & insurance certification. Bids from Penn Waste (PW) & Republic Services (RS) were as follows:
    - **One trash collection, one recyclable collection & 1 bulk trash item per week, for a term of three (3) years:**
      - 1<sup>st</sup> yr total—\$252,600 (PW); \$252,498.96 (RS)
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> yr total--\$267,756 (PW); \$262,602.96 (RS)
      - 3<sup>rd</sup> yr total--\$283,821.36 (PW); \$273,102.70 (RS)
    - **One trash collection & 1 bulk trash item per week, with NO recyclable collection for a term of three (3) years:**
      - 1<sup>st</sup> yr total--\$222,288 (PW); no bid (RS)
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> yr total--\$235,625.28 (PW); no bid (RS)
      - 3<sup>rd</sup> yr total--\$249,770.88 (PW); no bid (RS)
    - **One trash collection, one recyclable collection & 1 bulk trash item per week, for a term of four (4) years:**
      - 1<sup>st</sup> yr total—no bid (PW); \$252,498.96 (RS)
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> yr total—no bid (PW); \$262,602.96 (RS)
      - 3<sup>rd</sup> yr total—no bid (PW); \$273,102.70 (RS)
      - 4<sup>th</sup> yr total—no bid (PW); \$284,023.44 (RS)
    - **One trash collection, one recyclable collection & 1 bulk trash item per week, for a term of five (5) years:**
      - 1<sup>st</sup> yr total--\$252,600 (PW); \$252,498.96 (RS)
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> yr total--\$267,756 (PW); \$262,602.96 (RS)
      - 3<sup>rd</sup> yr total--\$283,821.36 (PW); \$273,102.70 (RS)
      - 4<sup>th</sup> yr total--\$300,897.12 (PW); \$284,023.44 (RS)
      - 5<sup>th</sup> yr total--\$318,983.28 (PW); \$295,382.02 (RS)
    - **One trash collection & 1 bulk trash item per week, with NO recyclable collection for a term of five (5) years:**
      - 1<sup>st</sup> yr total--\$222,288 (PW); no bid (RS)
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> yr total--\$235,625.28 (PW); no bid (RS)
      - 3<sup>rd</sup> yr total--\$249,770.88 (PW); no bid (RS)
      - 4<sup>th</sup> yr total--\$264,724.80 (PW); no bid (RS)
      - 5<sup>th</sup> yr total--\$280,588.08 (PW); no bid (RS)
    - **Two trash collections, one recyclable collection & 1 bulk trash item per week, for a term of three (3) years:**
      - 1<sup>st</sup> yr total--\$298,068 (PW); no bid (RS)
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> yr total--\$313,021.92 (PW); no bid (RS)
      - 3<sup>rd</sup> yr total--\$328,683.12 (PW); no bid (RS)

- **Two trash collections & 1 bulk trash item per week, with NO recyclable collection for a term of three (3) years:**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> yr total--\$252,600 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> yr total--\$265,230 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> yr total--\$278,466.24 (PW); no bid (RS)
- **Two trash collections, one recyclable collection & 1 bulk trash item per week for a term of five (5) years:**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> yr total--\$298,068 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> yr total--\$313,021.92 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> yr total--\$328,683.12 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 4<sup>th</sup> yr total--\$345,152.64 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 5<sup>th</sup> yr total--\$362,430.48 (PW); no bid (RS)
- **Two trash collections & 1 bulk trash item per week, with NO recyclable collection for a term of five (5) years:**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> yr total--\$252,600 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> yr total--\$265,230 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> yr total--\$278,466.24 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 4<sup>th</sup> yr total--\$292,409.76 (PW); no bid (RS)
  - 5<sup>th</sup> yr total--\$307,060.56 (PW); no bid (RS)
- **Option for residents to rent a 96-gallon trash toter on wheels**
  - \$6/month (PW); \$4/month (RS)

The current Borough refuse contract with Penn Waste expires on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020; however, Council members would like more time to review all the above options before awarding the next refuse contract. The above bid amounts are good for 45 days.

Ms. Kreiss made a motion to authorize the advertisement of a special Council meeting for Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 at 7:00p.m. at which time Council will award the refuse contract. Mrs. Bloom seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

- **Movie theater/auction update**—the absolute auction took place on September 1<sup>st</sup>. The highest bid was \$21,250 from Aaron & Erica McKee, so the property at 3 S. Main Street is now under contract with them.
  - **56 N. Main Street property**—this property was bank-owned & was due to settle on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Council & Borough staff just learned settlement fell through because the previous owner, Andrew Shank filed a 30-day stay with the local District Justice. Mr. Shank had vehicles & items stored in the garage at the property and they need to be removed prior to the property being sold. The Borough had the property cleaned up to comply with the Nuisance Ordinance & Council agreed to Mr. Sharnetzka placing a lien on the property for the cleanup costs.
  - **Council recessed to Executive Session @ 7:48p.m.** to discuss a personnel matter.
  - **Council reconvened @ 8:06p.m.** No decisions were made in Executive Session. Mrs. Bloom made a motion to increase employee Dean Phillips' pay from \$16/hr. to \$18/hr. Ms. Kreiss seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
6. **Engineer's Report**—Jason Brenneman reported the following:
- **Storm sewer pipe issue at 37 S. Main Street** was discussed. A failing pipe created a large sinkhole in the residents' property and Jason, Ira, Mr. Wisnom & Mr. Gemmill met there a couple weeks ago; however, the problem wasn't detectable on the surface. After using a camera to see underground, Mr. Gemmill determined there was a hole in the metal storm sewer pipe. Options of digging it up & replacing, patching, or lining the pipe were discussed and since that time, Jason spoke to some contractors to gather ideas & prices. The cost to line the pipe was very expensive because it can't be lined in only one section; the entire pipe from the inlet to the outlet must be lined. Jason estimated the metal pipe (which then ties into an

old clay pipe) extended beyond the residents' property another 100-feet. Mr. Gemmill said digging up the pipe to patch it would be much less expensive & that he would handle scheduling the job.

The pipe is right beside the gas line in that area, so Mr. Gemmill suggested hand digging most of it, then cut off the section of the pipe with the hole & TV the pipe prior to the repair.

- **Storm sewer map discussion**—the above issue led into this discussion. Several months ago, Ira had told Council his concerns about the condition of the storm sewer pipes in the whole Borough. It's an aging system and more sinkholes, like mentioned above, are going to occur. Jason had spoken to a few contractors for pricing to TV the whole system to see its condition; however, that cost was extremely expensive (approx. \$10/foot). One suggestion was to remove the grate (which must be done to TV the line anyway) to get pictures of a portion of the pipe. Another suggestion would be to put a selfie stick & cell phone through the grate to get pictures of the pipe. A few feet of pipe would be able to be viewed that way to see what type of pipe it is & its condition.

The pipe at 37 S. Main Street is obviously in poor condition & a resolution to that problem will be determined. But Jason stated his office currently has a York College co-op who has some experience with this type of work & the Borough could have him take pictures of our storm sewer system (possibly the oldest sections first) for much cheaper. Jason estimates it may take 2 weeks to go through the Borough's system, costing approx. \$1,500-2,000/week. Council was agreeable to the cost to get that work completed. Being that there is currently no overall map of the Borough's storm sewer, only individual pieces of certain sections, this would be a nice opportunity to obtain a map of each inlet, learn what type of pipe is there & its condition.

Mr. Burkins made a motion to spend up to \$5,000 to begin mapping the storm sewer system; Mrs. Bloom seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

More discussion on videoing the storm sewer system was held. Council suggested starting on Main Street, then go from there, completing the entire system. A certain amount can be built into the budget each year, beginning with 2021.

- **Street/road paving**—if Council wishes to do any street work in 2021, the earlier they get their ideas to Jason's office, the better in order to get them bid.
  - **Intersection of Shawnee Drive & George Street**—Ira reported he spoke to the contractor who is extending the sewer line down George Street for the Mayberry development & asked him to give the Borough a price on completing necessary work at Shawnee & George. Council can decide whether or not they want the contractor to do the work while coming through the area.
7. **Sewer/Water Supervisor Report**—Ira Walker, Jr. submitted his report. Expenses will come before the Sewer & Water Authority for approval.
  8. **Mayor/Police Report**—the following was discussed:
    - Mayor Kurtz mentioned the letter sent to Kristin Phillips-Hill's office & Stan Saylor's office urging them to vote, when possible, in favor of municipal & regional police forces using RADAR in an effort to control speed. Mrs. Hill sent a letter in response noting that she voted in favor of Senate Bill 607, permitting local law enforcement to use RADAR or LIDAR for speed enforcement. This bill passed in June 2019 & is currently awaiting a vote by the House of Representatives. Mayor Kurtz suggested a letter also be sent to PA State Representative Mike Jones' office. Office staff will do so.
    - Mr. Burkins stated Stewartstown Borough must select an alternate to the Southern Regional Police Commission. Mr. Burkins made a motion to nominate Donna Bloom as alternate; Ms. Kreiss seconded. All were in favor; motion carried. Office staff will send a letter to the Commission stating Roy Burkins & Mayor Kurtz are the members & Donna Bloom is now the alternate member.

9. **Treasurer's Report**—Request for Fire Police was received for September 27<sup>th</sup>, from 7am-4pm at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual York Fire Muster at Olde Tyme Days Park in Fawn Grove Borough. Mr. Burkins made a motion to approve the Fire Police to help at this event on September 27<sup>th</sup>; Ms. Kreiss seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
10. **Other business before Council--**
- Trash bags & clothe in the rear yard of 4 N. Main Street. Office staff can mail a letter in an attempt to have the property cleaned up.
  - 47 Church Street has a lot of items (children's toys, plastic storage totes, etc.) all over the yard & driveway; however, Mr. Sharnetzka said those things aren't "nuisances" listed in the Nuisance Ordinance. There is a section of the Zoning Ordinance prohibiting "outside storage" longer than 18 months. Office staff can review this issue further for potential violations.
  - Joe Failla, owner of Original Pizza has been yelling at motorists driving through the pizza shop parking lot, stating that it's private property. A few months ago, he installed signs prohibiting people to drive through the area & Mr. Sharnetzka said Mr. Failla can protect his private property if he wants to. It's not a Borough issue as it's not a Borough road, but part of that parking lot also belongs to Murray Kovens.
  - Mr. Burkins was recently contacted by Richard Ford, stating he might attend tonight's meeting. He inquired about the vacant My Three Sons building for a possible brewing operation. Mr. Sharnetzka had spoken to Mr. Ford & urged him to speak to the Zoning Officer, as he doesn't believe Mr. Ford will need Council's approval for this type of operation. He can get a permit which authorizes him to make the beer & with that permit comes a license to sell limited amounts of his own beer on site. Mr. Ford can research the requirements & move forward if he wishes.
11. **Adjournment**—With no further business before Council, Mr. Burkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting @ 9:01p.m. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Myers, Recording Secretary