

Abbottstown Borough Council Meeting

April 20, 2023 - 6 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by President Dennis Posey – Moment of Silence is observed.

GUESTS: James and Linda Robertson, 25 Confederate Dr., Gettysburg
Logan J. Kibler, 76 Skyview Circle, Hanover (borough employee)
Kristy and Matt Lotzinger, 11 Ocelot Drive, Hanover
Serenity Young and Jamison Cluck
Duane and Michelle Watson, 335 Sutton Road
Amy Perry, Director of the APJSA
Becky Fengfish, 354 Sutton Road
Dave Sneeringer, DAS Landscaping, borough contractor
Jessica Day, 101 Abbotts Drive
Austin Wertz, 501 Sutton Road
Timothy "Dustin" Danehy, 427 Sutton Road

ANNOUNCEMENTS: An Executive Session was held tonight at 5:30 pm to discuss personnel matters for the Mayor and Police Department with the Solicitor.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS: Mayor Daniel W. Watkins, Sr.

- ⇒ DW Automotive Services, for helping disabled utility trucks in Center Square.
- ⇒ New Oxford High School Chess Team – 1st place in National Tournament.

PUBLIC COMMENT (on agenda items only): None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept minutes from March 16, 2023, as presented; Seconded by April O'Brien; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

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 3/31/23
Seconded by April O'Brien; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

*Motion made by Frank Anderson to approve/ratify paying the bills as presented thru
4/20/2023; Seconded by Dale Reichert; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

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

*Motion made by Frank Anderson to pay \$1,800 towards the Bulldog Baseball Club
storage shed in the Rec Park, which will stay once they are done with it; 2nd by Laura
Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt resolution for Plan Revisions for Sutton Run Estates; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept quote from Tom Parichuk to pave the Rec Park pavilion; 2nd by April O'Brien. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by April O'Brien to adopt resolution for cooperation between the ABPD and PMCA regarding enforcement activities; 2nd by Dale Reichert. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt resolution for changes to state law for fire department audits; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Laura Baker to authorize transfer of ARPA funds (\$5,801.14) from PLGIT account to General Fund savings after SLFRF Compliance Report is completed; 2nd by Frank Anderson. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize extra bond payment of \$24K to ACNB; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept quote on Borough Impound lot fence installation from DK Fence; 2nd by April O'Brien. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Pres Posey to sign Developer's Agreement with Affordable Pet Supply; 2nd by Dale Reichert. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

Dr. Bolton updated Council on his upcoming schedule and possible changes to LST tax revenues for next year with announcement of G&S Foods moving to Conewago Twp.

SOLICITOR: Tim Shultis

- ⇒ 312 Sutton Road – Permit applications have been received and a peaceful resolution is eminent.
- ⇒ Review of Ordinance 2021-03 – Council requests that the Solicitor amend Ordinance Section 64-5 to remove acre limits, making it applicable to ANY parcel in the borough. A copy will be presented at next meeting for approval to advertise. **Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize solicitor to make changes noted; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.**

ENGINEER: Keller Engineers

- ⇒ Affordable Pet Supply – **Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Council to sign Final Development Plans; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.**

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Honorable Daniel W. Watkins, Sr. – Completed a course on dispersement techniques and criminal investigations.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: PMCA – Reports filed. Mr. Graham updates the Council that APS has all permits ready for pick-up and zoning permit is approved. Two properties in the borough are blighted and have been cited. One is vacant and the other is bank-owned. Dr. Udo's property on the square has another couple of months left on their permits, can reapply.

ABPD: Reports filed. Chief Graham informs Council that the car is running good. Grants have been accepted for traffic enforcement activities. The new speed control sign is in operation and collecting good data for future enforcement opportunities.

APJSA: Director Amy Perry informs Council of the upgrade project for stations and generators. They sent information to PMCA for permitting, received an invoice for \$2K. Ms. Perry questions why they received the bill for the services, inferring the borough should pay for it, and claims that no permits were required in other municipalities. Code Officer Graham informs her that commercial structures need permits. When asked about the one done in Berwick Twp, he explains that the work was done illegally. Clem Malot is looking at the invoice to see where reductions can be allowed. Ms. Perry will look into the issues in Berwick and contact PMCA for compliance suggestions.

EBACC: President Posey announces the Biggest Yard Sale event next week.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Councilor Baker informs Council that a representative from DCNR will attend the next meeting. She explains that plants need watered, equipment washed, and trees maintained. Dave Sneeringer from DAS offers to do the watering for up to \$75/week. Ms. Baker believes more help will be needed than being offered. ***Motion made by Frank Anderson to approved up to \$75/week for DAS help in park; 2nd by Dale Reichert. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.***

PERSONNEL: Logan Kibler will attend college in July and will not return this Summer. Abigail Kibler is available for light office and cleaning work if reauthorized. ***Motion made by Frank Anderson to approve Abigail Kibler for 2023 at a rate of \$9 per hour; 2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.***

EMERGENCY SERVICES: Reports filed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Baker discusses waivers for permit fees on the website. Solicitor would like to review a program set-up and asks for ideas for the June meeting discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jessica Day, 101 Abbots Drive. Ms. Day has issues with Ordinance 2021-03, borough code enforcement activities, the police department, and her neighbors. She proceeded to bad-mouth Chief Graham and threatens a lawsuit.

Bill Stitt, 83 Abbots Drive. Mr. Stitt has issues with Ms. Day at 101 Abbots Drive. While detailing his grievances, he and his wife are interrupted by Ms. Day, who curses at them and threatens to take Mrs. Stitt outside to beat her.

***** At 7:11 pm, President Posey calls a recess to dispel the animosity and to give Ms. Day a chance to calm down. Council reconvenes at 7:17 pm, with Posey informing the audience that any further outbursts of cursing or threats will lead to expulsion.**

Mr. Stitt still has time during his Public Comment, and finishes his complaint on Ms. Day. He tells Council that Chief Graham is doing a good job, but the Day residence has junk piles, their dogs get out of the property and attack others. He is upset about

the amount of and smell of dog waste in the yard. He would like to see it resolved in the name of Community Pride.

Timothy Danehy, 427 Sutton Road, received a Notice of Violation about unregistered vehicles on his property. Code Officer Graham explains that a neighbor put in a complaint which started the process. He advises that if the vehicles are operable, it will be dismissed. Other items on the property need addressed. The two parties will work together to get the issues resolved.

Becky Fengfish, 354 Sutton Road, inquires about SALDO low density residential areas and keeping properties consistent with larger lot sizes in the ordinances. She notes that low and medium density in the borough have the same definition.

Austin Wertz, 501 Sutton Road, also speaks on density of development in different zones of the borough. He asks about the jurisdiction over the Center Square. He notes the difference in paving versus concrete street surfaces by G&S Foods, and would like to see more traffic stops on Sutton Road for overweight vehicles (posted).

Amy Perry, APJSA, asks for the addresses of the blighted properties mentioned earlier. Code Officer Graham identifies 13 E. King Street and 182 E. King Street. She also asks about permitting requirements for projects, which is handled through PA Department of Labor & Industry.

Brian Krebs is introduced as an intern for Solicitor Shultis.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: President Posey thanks the crowd for participating.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: E-cycling event is April 22nd at the Rec Park pavilion, 8 am to 10 am.
Next regular Council meeting is May 18, 2023, at 6 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: *Motion made by Frank Anderson to adjourn at 7:34 pm; 2nd by Dale Reichert; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*