

# Abbottstown Borough Council Meeting

## October 20, 2022 6 PM

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Frank Anderson, Laura Baker, Dale Reichert, April O'Brien, M/S/T David W. Bolton, Solicitor Tim Shultis. Dennis Posey and Engineer Erik Vranich were excused.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**GUESTS:** Darlene and Dennis Hogan, Sutton Road

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept minutes from September 15, 2022 as presented; Seconded by April O'Brien; Motion carried, 4 Ayes.*

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

*Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept the Treasurer's Reports thru 9/30/22; Seconded by April O'Brien; Motion carried, 4 Ayes.*

*Motion made by Frank Anderson to approve/ratify paying the bills as presented thru 10/20/2022; Seconded by April O'Brien; Motion carried, 4 Ayes.*

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:** David W. Bolton, MBA, CBO updated Council on projects, current agreements, and other borough activity.

⇒ ARPA reports completed: donation authorizations for:

United Hook and Ladder for apparatus - \$20K

East Berlin Area Community Center Capital Project - \$15K

Community Media of SCPA Broadband Project - \$25K

*Motion made by Frank Anderson to approve ARPA donations as listed; Seconded by April O'Brien. Motion carried, 4 Ayes.*

There are still some funds that need to be allocated for reporting purposes.

⇒ MOU for Adams County Conservation District

*Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Manager Bolton to sign MOU on behalf of the Borough; Seconded by April O'Brien. Motion carried, 4 Ayes.*

⇒ Resolution 2022-12 PennDOT ECMS Partner ID application

*Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt Resolution 2022-12 as presented; Seconded by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 4 Ayes.*

- ⇒ Stratix Digitalization of Records Project update – most of the large plats in inventory have been converted, which is the bulk of the project cost. Project boxes with smaller documents will be converted after the start of the new year.

**SOLICITOR:** Tim Shultis

- ⇒ Act 57 waiving fees and penalties for certain situations (purchase real estate/property and a tax bill is due on former owner). Late fees would be removed. Must attest that they did not receive the tax bill in timely fashion. Municipalities must adopt resolution or ordinance to enact Act 57 in the borough.

***Motion made by Laura Baker to prepare ordinance and advertise for next meeting; Seconded by April O'Brien. Motion carried, 4 Ayes.***

- ⇒ Ordinance 2022-04 was duly advertised.

***Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt Ordinance 2022-04; Seconded by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 4 Ayes.***

- ⇒ State fireworks law updates: Solicitor leads discussion of options to the Borough.

***Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize solicitor to draft ordinance update restricting consumer fireworks in the borough; Seconded by April O'Brien. Motion carried, 4 Ayes.***

- ⇒ MS4 discharges: currently under waiver through state. New permit will exempt borough for 5 years. Grass clippings and other discharges are a problem in the borough. Ordinance proposed by Manager Bolton would create enforceable legislation to update 2014 county ordinance. That ordinance currently prohibits discharges as such. Solicitor believes that county ordinance can be used with stormwater management ordinance to enforce these instances. Also, language could be inserted into roadways ordinances. Erik Vranich from Keller had stated previously that it is difficult to enforce. Chief Graham relays the specific situations that occurred recently that created the need for enforcement. Enforcement would occur within this ordinance Sections 311 and 705 of Ord 2013-01. Could also be added to Nuisance ordinance for grass clipping and leaves.

***Motion made by Frank Anderson to authorize Solicitor to draft update to Nuisance ordinance for these occurrences; Seconded by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 4 Ayes.***

**ENGINEER:** Erik Vranich                      Engineer is reviewing borough documents with transition.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** The Honorable Daniel W. Watkins, Sr. – Suicide prevention program completed to assist in crisis interventions if help is needed on a call. County has a list of nine certified individuals in three counties.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** PMCA – Code & Zoning Officer James Graham says that there is no definition of "fence" in the zoning ordinance (2015-01). There are standards but no definition. IPC has provisions and common definitions via Webster are applicable per Solicitor. Any changes must go to county, advertise it twice, and have a public hearing. Solicitor will research topic and bring to Council suggestions at next meeting. Laura Baker discusses the

identification of wildflowers. Mr. Bolton reads the Res 2020-16 that terms “native wildflowers” and residents must register at the office.

**ABPD:** Reports in file. Chief James Graham reports that Officer Bailey doing well, no major problems. PennDOT and Center for Traffic Safety has issued a new enforcement grant for the next four months. Chief has acquired a trailer for the speed sign purchased earlier this month to easily transport and store the large enforcement sign. Chief will work on the needed fabrication. No registration tag needed (portable, mobile equipment).

**EMERGENCY SERVICES:** Reports filed.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:** Manager Bolton recommends an increase of \$1 per hour for both members of the ABPD for 2023 (already included in budget totals).

***Motion made by Frank Anderson to approve pay increases for 2023; Seconded by April O’Brien. Motion carried, 4 Ayes.***

**BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE:** After reviewing the 2023 budgets with the committee, Manager Bolton asks Council authorization to advertise the three budgets.

***Motion made by April O’Brien to advertise the 2023 municipal budgets; Seconded Frank Anderson. Motion carried, 4 Ayes.***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Nothing more to add.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Next regular Council meeting is November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:** ***Motion made by Frank Anderson to adjourn at 7:24 pm; Seconded by April O’Brien; Motion carried, 4 Ayes.***