

Abbottstown Borough Council Meeting

October 19, 2023 - 6 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 6:05 p.m.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by President Dennis Posey

GUESTS: Jerry Lillich, Resident Abbottstown Historian, High Street
Matt and Matty Sharrer, Bulldogs Baseball
Dave Neumayer, Bulldogs Baseball
Sandy Myers, Country Club Road
Isaiah Livelsberger, Intern for Salzman Hughes

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: President Dennis Posey was joined by members of Council, the Mayor, and the New Oxford Bulldogs Baseball organization to present a sign establishing the Jerry Lillich Baseball Field located behind the Borough Building in the Rec Park. Mr. Lillich thanked everyone and recalled his early days as a not-so-good third baseman with the local youth teams of his day. A group posed for a photo with Mr. Lillich and the sign, as listed above.

PUBLIC COMMENT (on agenda items only): Sandy Myers, Country Club Road, is a local landlord in opposition of the proposed Rental Property Inspection Ordinance and the fees that may be assessed as a result. She mentions several reasons, including fixed-income renters who will be burdened when the costs are passed along in their rents. Council thanked her for her feedback and will take her concerns into consideration.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Motion made by Frank Anderson to accept minutes from September 21, 2023, as presented; Seconded by Laura Baker; 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 9/30/23
Seconded by April O'Brien; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

Motion made by April O'Brien to approve/ratify paying the bills as presented thru 10/19/2023; Seconded by Frank Anderson; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

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

⇒ Advertisement of the 2024 municipal budgets.

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

⇒ Resolution to dispose of documents after digitalization per state retention laws.

*Motion made by Frank Anderson to adopt resolution;
2nd by Laura Baker. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.*

SOLICITOR: Tim Shultis

- ⇒ 530 W. King Street rezoning was not advertised in a timely fashion to adhere to MPC requirements. Council should motion to advertise Public Hearing (11/16) and enactment of ordinance as supported by Adams County Office of Planning and Development.

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

- ⇒ Council received updates on activity concerning 13 E. King Street, 312 Sutton Road, and the Rental Property Inspection Ordinance updates from Mr. Shultis to review prior to the next meeting, where Council may vote to advertise.

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

MAYOR’S REPORT: Honorable Daniel W. Watkins, Sr. – Absent.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: PMCA – Issues concerning 101 Abbotts Drive and 8 E. King Street were discussed with Council and the Solicitor

ABPD: Chief James Graham – Reports on file. Traffic patrols tough with construction backup.

EMERGENCY SERVICES: Reports on file.

BUDGET & FINANCE: With budget advertised, no more budget workshop meetings needed.
Motion made by Frank Anderson to cancel remaining budget workshops; 2nd by Dale Reichert. Motion carried, 5 Ayes.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilor Baker discusses plan for natural growth areas in the park next year and proposes that the Borough cut and maintain walking paths through the park instead of cutting everything. The paths will help establish areas for native plant gardens and tree lines. The Borough should purchase its own mower to reduce costs and control these areas. Councilor Anderson can donate a water tank for watering borough plants.

STREETS & SIDEWALK COMMITTEE: Discussion on the accident in Center Square, need to determine what will be repaired or replaced going forward after insurance is received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: Councilor Baker inquires on zoning regulations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next regular Council meeting is November 16, 2023, at 6 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: ***Motion made by Frank Anderson to adjourn at 7:19 pm; 2nd by Laura Baker; Motion carried, 5 Ayes.***