

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 21, 2006
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jay Pusey, Russ Kilmer, Fred Bryan, Bob Cleveland, Pat Longen, Patrick Harrison **Absent:** Rose Ann Swift

GUESTS PRESENT: Walter Barcz, Lew Christy, Mike Short, Howard Thompson, Harold Brown, Bill Webb, Jerry Poe, Kmiike Parsons, John Andaloro

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Pusey called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

RESIDENT COMMENT/REQUEST/COMPLAINT

KMIKE PARSONS

Mr. Parsons asked what was the purpose of the new rental ordinance besides greed. President Pusey said safety is the main issue. Mr. Parson's said he doesn't think it is right that landlords have to pay the Borough \$75.00 to have it inspected yearly. Bob Cleveland said he take exception to the remark that the Borough is doing this out of greed, the Borough gets nothing out of this, the cost goes to the Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Parson said the last time the Code Enforcement was scheduled to inspect his property, he didn't show up and he lost wages and he can't afford to take off work. Russ Kilmer said we will work with you and try to set up an evening appointment during the week.

HAROLD BROWN

Mr. Brown said during the last warm day, he saw children playing at the Third Street basketball court and the next thing he saw was three known "dope" dealers. Mr. Brown said he is getting tired of these young kinds trying to play basketball and all of a sudden you see these grown men hanging out there. Mr. Brown said he called the State Police but nothing was done. Russ Kilmer said this is a recurring event and he will speak to the Parkesburg Chief of Police regarding this situation.

MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Mike Short gave the following report:

Monthly Water Production – 2,902,600 gallons / average daily flow - 103,664 gallons

Monthly Effluent Flow – 11,976,000 gallons / average daily flow – 428,000 gallons

New Garden Flow – 3,342,063 gallons / average daily flow – 119,359 gallons (2/1/06 to 2/28/06)

Unaccounted Monthly Wastewater Flow - 5,731,337 gallons (47.8%)

The following activities were reported for the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant:

- Lowered main gate to reservoir as required by the Chester County Health Department inspection.
- PECO shut the power off to the well houses on 2/1/06 so they could install a new transformer on utility pole for the plant upgrade.

- Installed a new water meters at 202 Hoopes Alley, 215 Chatham Street and 402 Church Street
- Repaired wires to water meter at 12 Miller Drive and 246 Church Street.
- Installed a new register for water meter at 312 Third Street and a new remote for water meter at 519 Henson Street.
- Tested for Total Coliform in water distribution system on 2/2/06. Results were negative.
- Continued adding air into the sludge holding tank as requested by DEP.
- New Garden Township removed a brick from Route 41 sewer line on 2/10/06 that was causing the flow meter to give an inaccurate reading. The flow for this period has been adjusted.
- A new shear pin and belt was installed on the sludge thickener drive unit.

SEWER PLANT ODOR

Russ Kilmer said for the last two weeks there has been a raw sewage odor from the treatment plant and this can't keep happening. Russ said he has lived in the same house for 32 years and for the first 30 years there was never an odor. Walter Barcz said he and Lew Christy will put together a plan of action to resolve this matter.

WWTP LIASION

Howard Thompson gave the following report:

Visited the plant on March 8th and March 20th and took a lot of pictures. Everything seems to be coming along quite well. The concrete is poured around the headworks but some plumbing that needs to be done. The concrete around the electrical building has been poured. The pump house is pretty fascinating, there are two electrical panels and three pumps in the pump house and each pump has a 7 ½ hp. motor. The motors have the capability to send the sewage anywhere it is suppose to go. The pumphouse is a high tech sewer operation and when it is completed it enable the operator to monitor all the facilities at the sewer plant. There is still some plumbing and electrical work on the reactor and the clarifiers that needs to be done.

ENTECH REPORT

Walter Barcz gave the following report:

STATUS OF HENSON AND MAPLE STREET PROJECT

Closeout form documents were submitted to the County. The County will be closing out the project and then the final check will be sent to the Borough.

SLUDGE AERATION MODIFICATIONS

Entech has examined the sludge aeration at the wastewater treatment plant and have completed and assembled revisions, and formally requested change order proposals from Walabax for general & mechanical work, and Monacacy for electrical & scada work. This involves: the old aeration tanks, which are being converted to aerobic digesters; and the old eq/sludge holding tank, which is being converted to all sludge holding. The old blowers and piping will be insufficient to properly aerate the tanks with their converted uses. Because the converted tanks will have more solids to deal with, for purposes of aeration and mixing, they will need more air. More air and better air delivery are needed for process performance, energy efficiency and odor prevention. The proposal for this work is Walabax for \$150,096 and \$21,120 for Monacacy. Fred Bryan made a motion to accept the change order proposals for a total of \$171,216.00, 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried.

NPDES PERMIT APPLICATION

Council's approval is needed for the application fee of \$500.00. Russ Kilmer made a motion to approve the fee, 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried. The application is in the process of being completed.

CHAPTER 94 REPORT

The report will be completed by the March 31st deadline.

1 MILLER DRIVE

The project has been completed and Mr. Cummings indicated that he is satisfied with the work. Technivate's invoice for \$5,994.11 will be forwarded to the Borough for payment already approved by Council.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Glenn Diehl gave the following report:

RESOLUTION 2006-03 / 8% WATER AND SEWER RATE INCREASE

Fred Bryan made a motion to approve Resolution #2006-03, 2nd by Russ Kilmer, motion carried.

THOMSON ZONING HEARING – APRIL 12, 2006 @ 7:00 P.M.

John Andaloro said he would like to convert part of the candy store into a professional office and the rest of the building into two residential apartments. As the building currently stands, there is about 6300 square feet and the trailer is about 560 square feet. If the trailer is removed, something will need to be done to the back of the building, like a set of stairs added to access the second floor. Glenn Diehl said Council can: support, oppose, request conditions to be placed on the variance if granted, or let the Zoning Hearing Board handle it. Council needed more time to review the application and will continue this meeting to March 28th at 6:00 p.m. at which time a decision will be made.

STORMWATER, MASTER SEWER AND WATER ORDINANCES

Glenn Diehl said he and Jaime Mac Combie are working on putting together the ordinances.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Fred Bryan gave the following report:

2005 AUDIT

The auditor is diligently working on the audit and he plans to have a draft to Council for their review in April.

APPROVE BILLS TO BE PAID

The committee reviewed the bills to be paid and recommend that Council approve them. Fred Bryan made a motion to approve the bills to be paid, 2nd by Russ Kilmer, motion carried.

APPROVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The committee reviewed the financial statements and recommend that Council approve them. Fred Bryan made a motion to approve the financial statements, 2nd by Russ Kilmer, motion carried.

WALABAX PAYMENT #14 - \$222,135.00 & MONACACY PAYMENT #7 - \$21,739.33

Fred Bryan made a motion to approve payment #14 to Walabax and payment #7 to Monacacy, 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Russ Kilmer made a motion to approve the minutes from February 21, 2006 as written, 2nd by Fred Bryan, motion carried.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

President Pusey gave the following report:

REZONING PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

The committee met two times discussing the possibility of rezoning Pennsylvania Avenue or parts of it. Spoke with a couple of realtors and a business person from the town. They gave their positive input and their ideas. The next step, if Council approves, is to have a public meeting. The committee suggests writing a letter to all the property owners along Pennsylvania Avenue and invite them to attend the meeting to find out their ideas, thoughts, oppositions, etc. Russ Kilmer said he would like to see a "plan" before it goes to the public.

STREETS AND STREET LIGHTS COMMITTEE

Bob Cleveland gave the following report:

OLD BUSINESS

1. Council received a letter from PENNDOT regarding the State Street Bridge. It has been determined that the bridge was built by the county in 1921. It was previously reported in last month's Streets report that ownership of the bridge rests with the Borough. However, no supporting documentation has yet been found to support this. The Borough Solicitor is still researching the matter.
2. The parking spaces on W. State St. at Avon News have been installed.
3. The Borough Engineer is currently formulating a cost and scope of work study for a "no trucks" restriction on Chatham Street. between 1st Street and 3rd Street.
4. Streets Committee has met and, in conjunction with the Borough Solicitor, and Borough Engineer, is in the process of formulating 1 year, 3 year, and 5 year plans pertaining to infrastructure and streets repair. A report, when completed, will be submitted to Council.

NEW BUSINESS

1. There are currently 15 known Abandoned/Expired/Inoperative vehicles in the Borough. Letters will be sent to the residents by the Borough Secretary.
2. A complaint was received regarding the condition of the streets in the Borough. The resident noted that the streets were in the worst condition she has ever seen in her 12 years as a Borough resident. The Streets Committee agrees, and has responded to the resident by Letter.
3. The Borough Secretary is in the process of coordinating the pickup of the old, and the delivery of the new trash containers with BFI and Penn Container respectively.

4. Dominick has begun patching potholes in the Borough beginning on Morris St. at 2nd St.
5. Pomeroy Ave. has been resurfaced with stone extending from the parking lot of the Avondale Presbyterian Church to W. 3rd St. The resurfacing required 100 tons of material. Material and Labor came to a total of \$ 779.69. A member of the church has agreed to split the costs with the Borough, making the Borough's share \$ 389.85.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Russ Kilmer gave the following report:

POLICE ACTIVITIES

Police are still working 24 hours per week. The monies coming in from District Court is covering 50% of the police costs. The committee would like to increase the police hours for the warmer months. Council agreed to increase the hours starting in May.

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE

Jay Pusey gave the following report:

AVONDALE FIRE COMPANY – SEWER ADJUSTMENT

The fire company had a water leak in the basement and is requesting a sewer adjustment. The water did not go into the sewer system so the committee is recommending a bill adjustment on the sewer portion of the bill.

PARKS COMMITTEE

Pat Longen gave the following report:

WATSON PARK FIRE

The claim was approved and the insurance check will be sent next week. Council gave the secretary permission to schedule to have the fire damaged equipment taken out of the park. The committee will meet and draft a plan on what to do with the insurance money. The County will need to approve the plan.

BASEBALL FIELDS

The Presbyterian Church is requesting to use the field for their church baseball league. Due to the condition of the fields, the committee is recommending that the fields not be open for organized teams. Glenn Diehl said that a solution is to require that the organization be held responsible for the safety and maintenance of the field while in use. Patrick Harrison made a motion to allow organized teams to use the parks and that they be required to inspect the field before use, 2nd by Russ Kilmer, Fred Bryan-yea, Pat Longen-nay, Bob Cleveland-nay, Jay Pusey-yea, motion carried by a 4-2 vote. Glenn said the Borough needs to do routine inspections of the park and keep it mowed.

WEBB PROPERTY ON INDIAN RUN ROAD – TRASH, DEBRIS, ETC FROM CREEK PROJECT

The Secretary said Dominick will need a dumpster, chainsaw, and the wood chipper to clean up the property. Council approved the clean up.

DIRT AND DEBRIS PILE AT WATSON PARK

Council approved to clean up the dirt and debris pile.

ENVIRONMENTAL & COMPOSTING FACILITY COMMITTEE

Patrick Harrison gave the following report:

COMPOSTING FACILITY

Dominick started chipping the wood and is turning the compost. The facility will be open the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., starting April 22th. Dominick will schedule one day a month to pick up compostables. This information will be in the newsletter.

ORDINANCE AND FEE SCHEDULES COMMITTEE

The committee met and reviewed the schedule fees and some of the fees were inadequate. The committee is recommending raising some of the fees. Glenn Diehl suggests circulating the changes for Council's review and depending on how the current ordinance reads, a resolution or an ordinance will need to be adopted.

EARNED INCOME TAX TASK FORCE

Jay Pusey said that the list of names not on the list was sent to Berkheimer

OLD BUSINESS**DCED GRANT – REST ROOM UPGRADE**

The Secretary said the upgrade has been done and there is \$25.03 left over.

Fred Bryan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. and will continue the meeting on March 28, 2006 at 6:00 p.m., 2nd by Russ Kilmer, motion carried.

COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 28, 2006 - CONTINUED FROM MARCH 21, 2006

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Pusey re-opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

THOMPSON ZONING HEARING – APRIL 12, 2006

After much discussion, Patrick Harrison made a motion to recommend to the Zoning Hearing Board that the property be granted a variance as the following: a residential home with a home occupation, and one rental apartment, the trailer remains and parking stays the same, 2nd by Russ Kilmer, motion carried.

STREETS COMMITTEE REPORT

Bob Cleveland gave the following report:

TRASH COLLECTION

Under the terms of the Borough's new Refuse Contract with Penn Container, Penn Container will only be collecting refuse that will fit in the provided container. However, Penn Container has agreed to pick up additional trash for a small service fee as long as said trash is contained in a trash bag (not an additional trash container) up to a maximum bag size of 33 gallons.

Penn container will require that a refuse sticker be affixed to each bag. These stickers will be provided by Penn Container, marked Borough of Avondale, Refuse, and sold at the Borough Office at a cost of \$2.00 per sticker.

The Streets Committee feels that this “pay as you throw” makes each resident responsible for the amount of trash discarded.

This information will be placed in the Borough Newsletter, and this program, if approved by Borough Council, will begin April 4, 2006 when the contract with Penn Container.

Fred Bryan made a motion to approve the refuse sticker, 2nd by Russ Kilmer, motion carried.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

President Pusey gave the following report:

REZONING

The Committee is planning to have a public meeting in conjunction with the Borough Council meeting in May. Committee is recommending having Tom Lowry, Jamie Mac Combie and Glenn Diehl attend the meeting to explain what we are proposing and to field questions the public may have. The “plan” will be sent to each member of Council before the public meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMERCIAL INSPECTIONS

Bob Cleveland said if the zoning on Pennsylvania Avenue is changed to Business Village and we have a business downstairs and residential upstairs, we should require that the commercial area be inspected. Glenn Diehl said as the ordinance stands, just the residential part is required to be inspected, but commercial inspections can be simply added and phased in to the rental inspection ordinance. Russ Kilmer made a motion to add commercial inspection to the rental ordinance, 2nd by Fred Bryan, motion carried.

Russ Kilmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m., 2nd by Fred Bryan, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Brownback
Borough Secretary