

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 25, 2008**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Glenn Allen, Russ Kilmer, Bob Cleveland, Steve Frye, Patrick Harrison
Absent: Fred Bryan & Pat Longen

GUESTS PRESENT: Mayor Howell, Glenn Diehl, Jamie MacCombie, Pete Lau, Michelle Steele, Dave Freidman, Bill Reilly

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Vice-President Glenn Allen brought the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

ZONING HEARING BOARD AND CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATIONS RESOLUTION
SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT FEES RESOLUTION
BUILDING PERMIT FEE RESOLUTION

Glenn Diehl gave the following report.

Reviewed the fees and some of the sections do not have all of their parts. For example: Under “new construction including additions” it states “\$600.00 Dollars for the first five hundred square feet. \$200.00 dollars for each additional square foot with a minimum charge of \$600.00”, this can not be right. Mr. Lowry works on an hourly basis and does not get part of the fees. The function of these fees is to pay our costs. The costs have two components, Mr. Lowry’s cost and our administrative costs that we are entitled to. The Borough is not allowed to make money on the permit fees; we are just allowed to cover the costs.

Right now we have three resolutions to deal with three different components of costs. The zoning cost, the subdivision and land development costs, and the building code which is under the Uniform Construction Code. It is a good idea to have a resolution for each of the ordinances because there are different regulations that apply to each one and we need to have one fee schedule for all three of the resolutions so it can be easily referred to. There are some fee changes that go up \$5.00 and some that go up 50%. We have to make sure the fees are not too high. If the building permit fees are not right and defensible there are going to be issues.

The Subdivision and Land Development resolution lists the escrow amount of \$1,000.00, but we actually have a separate agreement for the plan reviews such as Wilkinson and the Presbyterian Church. When the Borough gets billed for the plan reviews, the Borough pays out of the escrow account and then the applicant gets billed. When you get in a plan review process you need enough money in the escrow account to cover the first month and the second month. This draft resolution needs some modifications.

Mr. Diehl said he can not pick the numbers, but he can fix the English and identify the places where there are things left out, Mr. Lowry needs to do the numbers. Mr. Lowry needs to identify the things he does and the costs that that are associated with the jobs. It is Council’s job to make sure that the fees pay for everything and it is fair. Mr. Diehl said the resolutions that Mr. Lowry drafted was not a waste but there are some questions on some of the items and various hikes in the documents. Mr. Kilmer asked who is going to make the determination if we are or are not making enough money to pay the costs. Mr. Allen said he thinks it should fall under the Finance Committee. Mr. Diehl said you should ask the accountant if the income covers the cost of Mr. Lowry’s fees. Russ Kilmer made a motion that the Finance Committee get together and give Glenn Diehl some direction, 2nd by Steve Frye, motion carried.

WATER LEAK

Russ Kilmer made a motion to give EEMA the authority to spend up to \$5,000.00 to find the leak(s) based on the four options they have given Council, 2nd by Patrick Harrison, motion carried.

BOROUGH'S ENGINEER REPORT

Jamie MacCombie gave the following report

WILKINSON PROJECT

Met with Wilkinson and they are requesting that a letter be sent by the Borough to get approval from the District Mining Operations to lower the grade at the Quarry from 290' to 300' MSL. Mr. MacCombie said a letter has been drafted and he doesn't have any objections to their request because what they plan to do, and would be a good thing for the Borough, is provide a secondary access. This would still need approval from the DEP and the Chester County Conservation District. Bob Cleveland made a motion to approve Jamie MacCombie to send the letter, 2nd by Patrick Harrison, motion carried.

CHAPTER 94 REPORT

The Chapter 94 Report will be completed by Friday and submitted to DEP by the deadline of March 31st.

MUSHROOM EXPRESS

Glenn Allen said that Mushroom Express sent a letter requesting a 60 day extension to June 17, 2008 and we need Council's approval to accept the extension. Russ Kilmer made a motion to give Mushroom Express a 60 day extension to June 17, 2008, 2nd by Bob Cleveland, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS**CHANGE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 26, 2008**

Glenn Allen said there was a change to the minutes from February 26, 2008 e-mailed to everyone and we need approval from Council to make that change. Russ Kilmer made a motion to change the minutes from February 26, 2008 to add three words "or something else" under the Police Addendum section, third paragraph, second line, after Garden, 2nd by Bob Cleveland, Patrick Harrison, Steve Frye-nay, Glenn Allen-yea, motion carried with a 4-1 vote.

VOAD TRAINING

Council approved the training date for May 13th from 6-9 p.m. at the Borough Hall. Mayor Howell said we need at least 10 people.

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE

Russ Kilmer made a motion that #1. Julia Coleman pays \$100.00 a month of arrears, plus keeps her current bill up to date, and the Secretary to write a letter to Ms. Coleman. #2 the Committee will meet with Ms. Brison-Norman to see what problem she is having and how much she can pay a month. #3. The Committee has the right to make the decision as to what Ms. Brison-Norman's payments should be, 2nd by Patrick Harrison, Russ Kilmer-yea, Steve Frye-yea, Bob Cleveland-nay, Glenn Allen-yea, motion carried with a 4-1 vote.

Russ Kilmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m., 2nd by Patrick Harrison, motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Brownback
Borough Secretary