

**AVONDALE BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
September 23, 2008**

**Members Present:** Fred Bryan, Bob Cleveland, Patrick Harrison, Steve Frye, Sali Cosford Parker  
**Absent:** Glenn Allen & Pat Longen

**Guests Present:** Jamie MacCombie, Dave Friedman, Pete Lau, Nick Fabbriatore, Bill Reilly, Glenn Diehl

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Bryan called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

**BUILDING CODE UPDATE - PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

Steve Frye gave the following report:

This proposed ordinance is getting rid of outdated Ordinance #185, which adopts the BOCA Code, 1999 Edition and other codes that we presently do not use. Most of the stuff that Tom Lowry enforces comes from the 2003 International Property Code, and we need to update the Borough's records and adopt it.

Glenn Diehl said he believes the Borough adopted the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) and this repeals all the other codes automatically. A whole series of codes are all in place when you adopt the UCC. Some time ago when we discussed the Property Maintenance Code, we wanted to put the 2006 Property Maintenance Code in place, but after we looked at it, we found it was better to keep the 2003 standards. Mr. Diehl said he doesn't know why this matter came up again, but will speak to Tom Lowry about it.

**RESOLUTION – FEES FOR PLAN APPLICATION FEES AND ESCROW AMOUNTS**

Steve Frye made a motion to adopt Resolution #2008-10, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Cleveland. Jamie MacCombie said the escrow money is basically to reimburse the Borough for time the engineer and solicitor spend reviewing applications. For example, with Wilkinson's 58 lot subdivision, \$1,000.00 is not going to cover the cost of reviewing the application. Mr. Frye withdrew the motion. After some discussion, Glenn Diehl and Jamie MacCombie will come up with a resolution with the adequate fees.

**AGREM BYLAWS**

This matter was tabled until the next Council meeting.

**GIS SEMINAR**

Bob Cleveland said there is a GIS Seminar being held on November 17<sup>th</sup> and he thinks the Secretary should attend. The cost is \$50.00 if sent in by November 10<sup>th</sup> or \$65.00 at the door. Bob Cleveland made a motion to approve \$50.00 for the Secretary to attend the GIS Seminar, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Frye, motion carried.

Jamie MacCombie said the County has a GIS program to assist members in getting their programs going. This program is very cost effective program

**COUNCIL ADJOURNED FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CAME BACK FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:45 P.M. AND PRESIDENT BRYAN BROUGHT THE MEETING BACK TO ORDER.**

**EAST PENN RAILROAD LETTER**

Patrick Harrison made a motion to accept the last version of Glenn Allen's letter and send copies to Chris Ross, Joe Pitts, the Governor, and the County Commissioner's, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Cleveland. Sali Cosford Parker said she thinks the letter is good and well intentioned if it were coming from a private individual, but it is not, it leaves something to be desired since it is coming from Council. We are dealing with busy people and to get their attention you need to address them in a certain professional way to get a professional response. The letter is too emotional and the information that the recipient needs is buried instead of upfront and the letter should be re-drafted to sound more official or professional. Patrick Harrison-yea, Steve Frye-yea, Sali Cosford Parker-nay, Bob Cleveland-yea, Fred Bryan-yea, motion carried with a 4-1 vote.

There was discussion regarding whether to send the letter now or wait until the railroad cars show up again in an unsecured area. Sali Cosford Parker made a motion that the letter be undated and ready to send the day the train cars show up again in an unsecured area, and a picture is to go with the letter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Frye, Patrick Harrison-nay, Bob Cleveland-nay, Fred Bryan-yea, motion carried with a 3-2 vote.

**TRASH REMOVAL**

Council discussed and decided not to make any changes to the existing trash removal ordinance.

**GIS CONSORTIUM PROGRAM**

Bob Cleveland made a motion to approve the Borough to join the GIS Consortium Program sponsored by the County at a cost of \$5,000.00 for 160 hours for a period of 12 months, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Frye, motion carried. The Secretary will check to see if the GIS Seminar approved earlier by Council is included in this program. If the seminar is part of the program the Secretary will not attend.

Steve Frye made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sali Cosford Parker, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Brownback  
Borough Secretary