

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
December 16, 2008
6:00 P.M.**

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

Guests Present: Mayor Howell, Jamie MacCombie, Bill Reilly, Nick Fabbriatore, Pete Lau, Michelle Steele, Dave Friedman, Tom Lowry, Patrick Harrison, Howard Thompson

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Bryan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Bob Cleveland gave the following report

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT – RESOLUTION 2008-13

The Personnel Committee met and conducted interviews to fill the remaining one year Council vacancy of the unexpired term of Patrick Harrison. The Committee recommends the appointment of Frederick Hessenauer to fill that term. Bob Cleveland made a motion to adopt Resolution 2008-13 appointing Frederick Hessenauer as a member of Borough Council, 2nd by Steve Frye, motion carried.

FREDERICK HESSENAUER TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Howell swore/affirmed in Mr. Frederick Hessenauer as Council member. Everyone welcomed Mr. Hessenauer.

RESOLUTION 2008-14 – DEDICATING A PORTION OF JAMES WATSON PARK

President Bryan said this is a resolution dedicating that portion of James Watson Park which borders East Third Street at the White Clay Creek as Thompson-Brown Park. President Bryan read the resolution:

Whereas, Howard C. Thompson, Edward C. Brown, Jr., and Harold K. Brown have faithfully served the Borough of Avondale in numerous capacities; and

Whereas, Howard, Ed, and Harold have given their time and energies generously and unselfishly in serving all the residents of the Borough of Avondale in various capacities over years; and

Whereas, Council recognizes that the above time was given oftentimes at the expense of other important pursuits in their lives; and

Therefore be It Resolved: that Avondale Borough Council recognizes and thanks Howard C. Thompson, Edward C. Brown, Jr., and Harold K. Brown for their integrity, for their years of dedicated service, and for their unselfish commitment to the residents of the Borough of Avondale by naming and dedicating, in their honor, that portion of James Watson Park which borders East Third Street at the White Clay Creek as Thompson-Brown Park.

Be it Further Resolved: that Avondale borough Council wishes them the best in the future.

Passed and Approved by Avondale Borough Council this sixteenth day of December, 2008.

Steve Frye made a motion to adopt Resolution 2008-14, 2nd by Bob Cleveland, motion carried. Mr. Frye presented the Resolution 2008-14 to Mr. Thompson. Mr. Thompson thanked everyone. Mr. Ed Brown and Mr. Harold Brown were unable to attend this meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2009 TAX ORDINANCE

President Bryan opened the Public Hearing for any comments on the proposed ordinance. There were no public comments and the Public Hearing was closed.

2009 TAX ORDINANCE #223

Bob Cleveland made a motion to adopt Ordinance #223, 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – GRANT APPLICATION

President Bryan opened the Public Hearing for any comments on the grant application to the Chester County Department of Community Development for Storm Water Facilities Improvements for First Avenue and West State Street. There were no comments and the Public Hearing was closed.

Bob Cleveland made a motion to ratify the grant application, 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried. Jamie MacCombie said the amount of the grant application is \$630,000.

EEMA REPORT

Bill Reilly gave the following report:

OPERATIONS REPORT FOR MAY

Wastewater Treatment Plant Flows:

Total Monthly Flow	7,285,000 gallons
Daily Flows Min.	119,000 gallons
Daily Flows Max.	396,000 gallons
Daily Flows Avg.	243,000 gallons

NEW GARDEN WEEKLY FLOWS (gpd)

WEEK	10/01- 11/5	11/05-11/12	11/12-11/19	11/26 – 12/3
ROUTE 41	43,274	40,674	41,950	39,303
RAIL ROAD	41,999	38,841	45,976	43,594
Total	85,273	79,515	87,926	82,879

WWTP Production

- 6,000 gallons of sludge was hauled from treatment plant.

Water Action Forms

- 300 Church Street
- Completed 5 (five) Pa One calls
 - 200 Chatham Street
 - 40 Gap Newport Pike
 - 109 First Street
 - 525 Pennsylvania Avenue
 - Pennsylvania Avenue between 1st and 2nd Street

WATER QUALITY REPORT:

Water System		Well #1	Gallons/Day	Well #2	Gallons/Day
Total Well #1	2,277,400	Minimum	40,100	Minimum	8,400
Total Well #2	529,400	Maximum	127,300	Maximum	27,600
Total:	2,806,800	Average	75,913	Average	17, 647
Avg. gpd	93,560				

OPERATIONS REPORT:

- We met all water qualities with no (0) violations.
- We continued the water meter upgrade program.

PERMIT VIOLATIONS:

No permit violations for the month.

FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING

The fire hydrants were flushed on December 18th.

WATER METER UPGRADE

Nick Fabbriatore gave the following report:

As of November 30, 2008, 134 water meters have been installed. The letter that was discussed last month was sent out by the Secretary and it had big responses. To date, we have 162 meters installed and 15 more scheduled

WATER INSPECTION REPORT – CHESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

We had a water inspection by John Gordon and we passed with flying colors. Mr. Gordon will follow up with a written report to the Borough.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jamie MacCombie gave the following report:

WATERLINE REPLACEMENT ON STATE STREET

The design has been tentatively approved by the County and it should go out to bid in January.

SERVPRO – PAVING

This issue has been resolved.

WILKINSON PROJECT

There is a pre-construction meeting to be held on December 30th at 9:30 a.m. at the construction site.

QUARRY MINING

Wilkinson is asking for a Building Construction Exemption and they need a letter to be sent to DEP with Council's approval. The exemption means that mining activities (including blasting) will be conducted both within 100 feet of Church Avenue and 300 feet of James Watson Park. All proposed activities will occur within the existing permit area, but outside the existing mining area. Mr. MacCombie said he would like to add an addendum to the letter stating that Wilkinson will send out letters to the adjacent property owners advising them of the blasting.

Bill Romanelli said in order to get a permit from DEP to blast, the property owners within 1500 square feet are sent letters and are given the opportunity to get a pre-survey done of their properties which documents inside and outside of the structures. Sali Cosford Parker said if someone has damage, will it be repaired 100%. Mr. Romanelli said yes, but DEP first has to come out and survey what damage has been done and DEP will know whether it is damage caused by the blasting or damage from something else. After some discussion, Sali Cosford Parker made a motion to give Jamie MacCombie authorization to send the letter to DEP, 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Tom Lowry gave the following report;

WILKINSON PROJECT

Wilkinson has applied for demolition permits and they were informed that there needs to be certification that the utilities have been disconnected. Wilkinson has also applied for a construction sign permit.

SERVPRO

The grading issue was resolved. Servpro submitted a very nice plan for their accessible parking and they are getting ready to move into the building.

RENTAL ORDINANCE

Issued five citations to the owner of a rental property who has not complied with the yearly rental inspection.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

APPROVE THE BILLS TO BE PAID

Pat Longen made a motion to approve the bills to be paid up to December 16th, 2nd by Sali Cosford Parker, motion carried.

APPROVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Pat Longen made a motion to approve the financial statements, 2nd by Sali Cosford Parker, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bob Cleveland made a motion to approve the minutes from November 18, 2008 and November 25, 2008 Council meetings, 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Howell gave the following report:

BOROUGH BUSINESS SIGN GRANT STATUS - \$10,000

The last Borough sign has been installed and will work on closing out the grant.

LED LIGHTS GRANT STATUS

Waiting on the grant money and for the job to go out to bid.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Sali Cosford Parker gave the following report:

The Historical Commission held its first public event last Friday and since Patrick Harrison was the mastermind behind the whole thing, she would like Mr. Harrison to report on it.

Mr. Harrison said the event took place at the Galilee Church. Mary Dugan, who is an expert of the Underground Railroad was the guest speaker. Ms. Dugan is presently the President of the Kennett Square Underground Railroad and also an author of a couple of books. As an indication that it was an interesting talk, the people that attended had a lot of questions and it was very informative and impressive.

Ms. Parker said about 15 or 20 people out of 47 attendees signed up to be involved in other Historical Commission activities.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Bob Cleveland gave the following report:

EMPLOYEE RAISE

Bob Cleveland said the Finance Committee and the Personnel Committee met and would like to recommend that Secretary and Treasurer receive one dollar per hour raise effective January 1, 2009. Sali Cosford Parker made a motion to give Becky Brownback and Sandy Masten one dollar raise per hour effective January 1, 2009, 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried.

STREET AND STREET LIGHTS COMMITTEE

Bob Cleveland gave the following report:

- A load of salt was ordered and it has been received.
- The issue with Servpro has been resolved and the Committee appreciates it very much.

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE REPORT

Bob Cleveland gave the following report:

1. Michelle mentioned at the last meeting that it will cost \$1,638.00 to repair the blower for the sludge holding tank and it will cost \$1,409.00 for a new chlorine scale. The Committee met and recommend to Council to approve these two items. Bob Cleveland made a motion to repair the blower for the sludge holding tank at a cost of \$1,638.00 and purchase a chlorine scale at a cost of \$1,409.00 for a total of \$3,050.00, 2nd by Steve Frye, motion carried.
2. Back on September 16th, Pete Lau said that they would start identifying the shut offs and get a map in progress. Mr. Cleveland asked if this was progressing. Nick Fabbriatore said that it is progressing, but EEMA believes that it would be better to finish the water meter upgrade and then continue full force with the location of the shut offs. Mr. Cleveland said his understanding was that when the meters were being upgraded, EEMA would be locating the shut offs. Mr. Fabbriatore said the water meters take a lot of time to install and he believes it would be more productive to wait until all the new meters were installed.

PARKS/ENVIRON & COMPOSTING COMMITTEE**PARK SIGN**

The sign for the Thompson/Brown Park has been ordered.

HOUSING COMMITTEE

Sali Cosford Parker gave the following report:

The Housing Committee had a productive meeting with our Code Officer, Tom Lowry. We had some good discussions on how to move forward with overcrowding while we wait for our Solicitor to get the new definitions done. The Housing Committee is asking for Council's help in moving the definitions up the Solicitor's priority list. The Housing Committee was formed on June 17th and the Solicitor was asked for these definitions shortly after that.

In the interim, the Committee thinks there are some things that can be done. We can get evidence of over crowding; pictures of too many cars, cars parked everywhere, etc. If we submit this stuff, Tom Lowry can act either by writing a letter or showing up at the door step. We need to do something now and Mr. Lowry is prepared to do something now, but we need to give him the tools to do that.

The Housing Committee, through the recommendation of Mr. Lowry, would like to recommend that the inspection check list from Ordinance #213 be modified to include egress windows in all bedroom sleeping areas which will help control attic sleeping areas and this is something we think we can do fairly quickly.

Mr. Lowry said in order to add the definitions to the Zoning Ordinance, you will need to advertise, send to the Chester County Planning Commission for their comments and have a Public Hearing regarding over crowding issue. Jamie MacCombie suggested putting something in the newsletter by Mr. Lowry regarding the overcrowding issue.

NEW BUSINESS**AVON GROVE LIBRARY BOARD**

Ms. Parker said that Patrick Harrison is Avondale's representative to the Avon Grove Library and she would like to recommend to Council that Mr. Harrison remain on the Avon Grove Library Board even though he does not live in the Borough. Mr. Harrison does a good job there and is well received. Bob Cleveland asked if the Library Board has any issues with this. Ms. Parker said no, and they are in favor of it. Ms. Parker made a motion that Patrick Harrison remain as Avondale's representative on the Avon Grove Library Board, 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried.

SOFTWARE – DIGITIZING

Ms. Parker said she is digitizing all the ordinances and one of the important things after they are digitized is having them indexed. There is a piece of software that cost \$395.00 and she would like to bring it to the office and do a demonstration. This software indexes every single word from any kind of document which will enable us to find anything and everything on any subject that has come up in Avondale. Ms. Parker said she would like to pursue this with whichever committee she needs to go through. Council agreed that it is the Property and Equipment Committee that Ms. Parker needs to address this issue with.

BOROUGH RECORDS

Ms. Parker said the Borough does not have a safe place to store the Borough's Records and feels that we should find a safe place. This matter will be discussed with the Property & Equipment Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Bryan made the following announcements:

- The Water & Sewer Committee meeting, Planning Committee meeting and Council meeting are canceled for December 23, 2008.
- There will be a brief executive session after this meeting to discuss legal matters.

Steve Frye made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m., 2nd by Pat Longen, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Brownback
Borough Secretary