

**CASTLE SHANNON BOROUGH
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

August 13, 2018

The following elected officials were present: M. Heckmann; T. Kirsch; N. Kovach; B. Oates; M. Warhold; D. Baumgarten. Council Members M. Randazzo, D. Swisher and Tax Collector E. O'Malley were absent. The following appointed officials were present: T. Hartswick, Borough Manager; D. Biondo, Solicitor; K. Truver, Police Chief; P. Vietmeier, Codes Official. K. Simms Strnisa of Simms Strnisa Court Reporting was present to record the public hearing section of the meeting.

The minutes of the July 23, 2018 Council Meeting were presented. Ms. Kovach motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Oates seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Mr. Heckmann opened the public comment section for agenda items. Being none, the public comment section was closed.

Bid Openings: Mr. Hartswick presented the SHACOG Solid Waste, Recycling and Leaf Collections bid tabulations. Mr. Kirsch motioned to award the five year contract to Waste Management beginning January 1, 2019; Mr. Warhold seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Public Hearings: Ms. Strnisa swore in members of the audience for the conditional use hearing for Steel City Billboards. Mr. Dwight Ferguson, Mr. James Fowkes and Mr. Mitch Fowkes attended the meeting as representatives for the applicant. Mr. Ferguson presented information regarding the LED digital billboard sign and described compliance with the current ordinance, zoning regulations, traffic provisions, and sight distance. Mr. Fowkes discussed the 8 second timing loop for advertisements in addition to the sign lighting brightness. Mr. Fowkes also gave a brief listing of their advertising clientele and discussed the availability for the sign to display community events and alerts.

Russell McKibben, 1456 Highland Villa Drive – As secretary for the Planning Commission noted that the minutes of the meeting regarding Steel City Billboards have not yet been approved by the commission. Mr. McKibben stated that Steel City Billboards presented a very thorough and complete conditional use application submission. Mr. Ferguson added that the planning commission held a public meeting, and the commission members unanimously approved the conditional use.

Mr. Vietmeier confirmed that the conditional use hearing was advertised for two consecutive weeks, and notice of the hearing was posted at appropriate sites. Mr. Oates motioned to continue the hearing for 30 days and keep the record open for additional information to be submitted; Ms. Kovach seconded; all in favor.

Mr. Heckmann presented Ordinance #913 – Removal and protection of trees in major and minor land developments to control problems of air and noise pollution, soil erosion, aesthetic depreciation, maintain maximum tree cover, and make Castle Shannon a healthier and safer place to live. The public hearing was opened. Mayor Baumgarten stated that the borough is 95% developed, and only two properties exist in the borough that could be developed in the future. Mayor Baumgarten believes the ordinance is discriminatory against potential developers, and he would veto the ordinance if passed by council.

Mr. McKibben replied that the ordinance is “boiler plate” and is used throughout the commonwealth by many municipalities. Mr. McKibben urged council to adopt the ordinance. Mr. Heckmann added that an urban forester was consulted to understand the environmental impact regarding the creation of this legislation.

Mr. Warhold questioned who would be involved in the tree removal/protection of new developments. Mr. Heckmann answered that the developer would be required to present a site plan to identify the trees of significance and the ones to be removed. Ms. Kovach commented that this legislation is rather late in being adopted since the Castle Woods/Hamilton Road project is well underway. Mr. Heckmann closed the public hearing. Mr. Oates motioned to adopt Ordinance #913; Ms. Kovach seconded. The following vote was taken: Mr. Oates, Ms. Kovach and Mr. Heckmann voted yes; Mr. Kirsch opposed; Mr. Warhold abstained. Motion passed 3-2. Due to the mayor’s veto power, a majority of five votes is needed to pass the legislation. Mr. Biondo advised that Mayor Baumgarten must return his written objections to council, and five members of council must vote to adopt the ordinance for it to pass at the next council meeting.

Council Committee Reports:

Public Relations/Communications – Mr. Heckmann stated staff is being trained for the new website.

Announcement of chairperson for the 100th anniversary celebration will be forthcoming. Volunteers are encouraged to call the borough administration office.

Public Safety/Fire – Former Castle Shannon K9 Officer "Riad" passed away on August 7, 2018. "Riad" served alongside Sergeant Jim Fleckenstein with distinction and honor from 2008-2016. After he retired in August 2016, he continued to live with Sgt. Fleckenstein and his family. We thank him for his service, and we offer our condolences to the Fleckenstein family.

Mayor Baumgarten is Card #8 in the police trading card program.

Chief Truver requested authorization to sell two surplus Tasers to reserve deputy sheriffs with proper certification for \$50.00 each. Ms. Kovach motioned to authorize the sale; Mr. Kirsch seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Community Activities/Planning & Codes – Mr. Warhold stated the first meeting of the 100th anniversary committee will be August 15th. The committee is hoping for a year-long calendar of events.

The Castle Shannon Revitalization Corporation board will meet on August 15th.

State Representative Dan Miller will host a pop-up office at the Community Library of Castle Shannon on Thursday, August 16th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Kovach announced that Bark-on-Park will be held Friday, August 17th from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The event will include many crafts, animal service providers, a dog cooling station, a dog photo booth, the Evan Dean Band, a farmer’s market table, and several food specials. ALOCSAN will provide dog waste supplies. Gracious Living is making cool bone broth tea for the dogs.

Other CSRC events are: CSRC Fall Festival - September 15th; CSRC Golf Outing - September 21st; Saw Mill Run Stream Clean-up (with possible tree planting) – October 27th.

Pension Reports: The agenda contained the 2nd quarterly statements for the police and non-uniformed pension plans.

MS4 - Mr. Heckmann thanked residents for attending the second storm water public meeting. Council expects to make decisions by this fall to impact the 2019 fiscal budget.

Public Comment:

Susan Hill, property owner of 1001 Columbia Drive – reported that this property experienced severe flooding twice this year due to storm water runoff from the Mt. Lebanon Golf Course. She stated that Mt. Lebanon representatives responded that it is a Castle Shannon/homeowner issue. Ms. Hill would like a meeting with both borough representatives to find a joint resolution. Mr. Kirsch stated that the storm water pipe from Mt. Lebanon connects to the same size piping in Castle Shannon, and Mr. Kirsch added that water also comes in through the floor of his basement due to the saturation level. Ms. Kovach noted that Myrtle Avenue Elementary School also experienced over \$400,000 in damages from storm water runoff from the golf course. Mr. Heckmann asked Ms. Hill to remain after the meeting to schedule an onsite visit with Public Works Foreman Bob Ausman.

Susan Walsh, 1304 Prospect Avenue – discussed future recycling restrictions due to the fact that China will no longer take recycling from the United States. Ms. Walsh listed her disappointment that glass and plastics numbered three through seven can no longer be recycled. Mr. Heckman explained the contamination of recycling (food left in containers and grease in pizza boxes) prompted the recycling restrictions. A joint educational program for residents will be conducted through SHACOG.

Elizabeth Wozniak, 911 Edgewood Avenue – stated she has seen minimal progress for the Oakdale project and has lost an additional two feet of her driveway to the landslide. Mr. Heckmann replied that easement agreements have been received to allow the contractor access to the site for preparation work. The project will take 4-6 weeks to complete. Roadways will be cut this week and additional equipment will be mobilized.

No other comments were received; therefore the public comment section was closed.

Other: Mr. Heckmann encouraged residents to investigate the Cleargov.com website to view information on borough financial statistics for enhanced public transparency.

Ms. Kovach invited residents to attend the Bark-on-Park street event.

Ms. Kovach motioned to adjourn; Mr. Oates seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Approved as presented this 27th day of August, 2018.

Thomas C. Hartswick
Borough Manager

Mark J. Heckmann
President