

**CASTLE SHANNON BOROUGH  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

December 10, 2018

The following elected officials were present: M. Heckmann; T. Kirsch; N. Kovach; W. Oates; E. O'Malley; M. Randazzo; D. Swisher; M. Warhold; D. Baumgarten. The following appointed officials were present: T. Hartswick, Borough Manager; D. Biondo, Solicitor; K. Truver, Police Chief. P. Vietmeier, Codes Official was absent.

The minutes of the November 26, 2018 Council Meeting were presented. Ms. Randazzo motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Swisher seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

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

**Public Hearing:** Mr. Hartswick presented Tax Levy Ordinance #916, fixing the tax rate for the year 2019. The real estate tax millage would increase to 9.178 mills. The increase is to fund the debt service bond. Mr. Heckmann opened the public hearing on Tax Levy Ordinance #916. Several Council Members commented that the original millage increase was higher but with transfers between existing funds, the proposed increase was able to be lowered. Mr. Heckmann closed the public hearing.

Mr. Swisher motioned to approve Tax Levy Ordinance #916; Mr. Oates seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Mr. Hartswick presented Resolution #666 authorizing a Sewer Rate Revision to \$7.27. Mr. Kirsch motioned to accept Resolution #666; Mr. Swisher seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

**Real Estate Tax Collectors Report:** Ms. O'Malley reported November collections of \$4,120.94 and year-to-date collections of \$3,048,736.85. Delinquent taxes will be processed after the first of the year. Keystone Oaks School District advised her that they need their list by January 4, 2019.

**Council Committee Reports:**

**Public Safety/Fire** – Ms. Kovach attended the ACBA general membership meeting. The guest speaker was a retired police captain who discussed the topic of de-escalation.

Chief Truver reported that he and the Mayor attended a program with Keystone Oaks School District about a new initiative run through the Attorney General's office called "Safe to Say." This program is designed around teaching school-age children how to report when they're feeling unsafe.

Pennsylvania State Police arrested the burglar who robbed businesses this past summer on Mt. Lebanon Blvd and Route 88. CSPD was instrumental in identifying the suspect's vehicle through our surveillance cameras.

ATF agents arrested the suspect who stole guns three years ago on Shady Run Avenue. Lt. McKeown was instrumental in assisting with this arrest.

**Finance** –Mr. Swisher reviewed the check registers for November 27<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> and had no further questions.

Mr. Hartswick presented the 2019 Capital and Operational Budget. Ms. Randazzo motioned to approve the adoption of the 2019 Capital and Operational Budget; Mr. Swisher seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

**Community Activities/Planning & Codes** – Mr. Warhold announced the Annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the downtown area. Ms. Kovach reported that Mrs. Claus will be at the Shannon Sweet Stop for photo opportunities. There will be a mini tree lighting at 4:00 p.m. outside of Gracious Living. A total of 16 businesses will participate this year.

The Shannon Sweet Stop has begun selling homemade soups, along with seasonal ice creams on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

Mr. Warhold commented that we are working on a five year plan with Pennsylvania Downtown Center.

**Library** – Ms. Randazzo reported that the library board met on December 6<sup>th</sup>. They have finalized the library budget, worked on by-laws and performed the Library Director’s review.

The Library has been participating in several fundraisers. Thirty Enjoy books have been sold so far, with a profit of \$11 per book. The recent Panera fundraiser brought in \$155.24.

Representative Dan Miller held a town hall meeting on November 28<sup>th</sup> at the library.

The library will be a stop on the Cookie Walk; families will be able to make a craft.

Funds have all been received from the Love Your Library campaign; our share looks to be around \$800.

**MRTSA:** The board passed the budget.

**ACBA** – Ms. Kovach attended the general membership meeting and the new board was sworn in.

**Manager:** Mr. Hartswick presented a request from a resident for a refund of \$897.93 for sewage usage. The resident had a break in their water line that caused a significant increase in rates on their water bill. The line has been fixed but since the water did not go into the sanitary system, the resident is asking council to consider a refund.

Motion to provide the refund was made by Ms. Randazzo; Mr. Warhold seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

**Mayor:** Mayor Baumgarten noted that 2018 has been a banner year for the police with DUI arrests and more crimes solved than in the past. Part of this is due to the installation of cameras in town and the diligent investigative work by Lt. Brian McKeown. The Mayor publicly commended Lt. McKeown for his work.

**Public Comment:**

Trinette Kern, 1037 Francis Road – asked Chief Truver when Officer Dixon can make a visit to the senior residents at Gracious Living. The Chief told her to call him to set that up.

Mr. Heckmann closed public comment.

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

Approved as presented this 14th day of January, 2019.

---

Thomas C. Hartswick  
Borough Manager

---

Mark J. Heckmann  
President