

**CASTLE SHANNON BOROUGH
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

March 11, 2019

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

The minutes of the February 25, 2019 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 section was closed.

Real Estate Tax Collector: Ms. O'Malley reported collections of \$292,203.60 in January and February. Delinquent real estate liens are collected by Jordan Tax Service.

Council Committee Reports:

Public Relations/Communications – Mr. Heckmann stated that Bettina Jones has been hired as the Keystone Community Coordinator. The agenda contained a Cooperation Agreement between Castle Shannon Borough and the Castle Shannon Revitalization Corporation regarding that position. Mr. Warhold motioned to authorize the appropriate officials to execute the agreement; Ms. Kovach seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Building & Grounds – Mr. Hartswick presented a memorandum with a listing of road segments for the 2019 Road Improvement Program to be funded through capital funds and liquid fuel funds from PennDOT. Ms. Kovach stated that funding for road paving through the years has not increased considerably, and she listed serious concerns regarding a strategy moving forward to fund the paving of 30 road segments listed by Robert Ausman, Public Works Foreman. Mr. Heckmann noted that the borough has annually expended an additional amount over the projected amount recommended by the borough engineers for paving programs for the past seven years. Mayor Baumgarten commented that the current budget amount has been passed to provide funding for a 2019 paving program. A lengthy discussion ensued on funding road paving projects and how the road segments are selected.

Mr. Kirsch motioned to authorize the borough engineers to prepare formal estimates for the segments listed in Mr. Hartswick's memorandum, in addition to a segment of Bockstoce Avenue; Ms. Randazzo seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Public Safety/Fire – Ms. Kovach stated that a police officer will be attending the Scam Training Session at the library on April 6th from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Chief Truver ordered decals for the borough's 100th anniversary for the police cars.

The annual shred event is scheduled for May 25th at the fire hall.

Finance – Mr. Swisher reviewed check registers for March 4th and March 7th with no further questions.

Community Activities/Planning & Codes – Mr. Warhold stated that Bettina Jones will be a great asset to the community.

The CSRC Board will be meeting on March 20th. The board is seeking additional members.

The first event for the borough's 100th anniversary will be Castle Shannon Night at Linden Grove on Thursday, March 28th. This is an epic musical event featuring four bands: Soulfully Noted, Evan Dean Band, Cellar Blues Band, and Bastard Bearded Irishmen. Tickets are \$30 per person and include a buffet dinner from 6-8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased on Eventbrite.com.

Mr. Warhold and Ms. Jones will be in Harrisburg on April 8th to lobby state legislators to increase Keystone Community funding.

Ms. Kovach stated the CSRC is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on April 13th in the downtown district.

Ms. Kovach has been visiting local businesses to introduce Bettina Jones to the community. A new business called Moonstones has opened on Castle Shannon Boulevard, and the owner is very interested in participating in community events.

Library – Ms. Randazzo reported the library board met in March 7th. Five applications have been received for a vacancy position on the board.

Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held March 14th through 16th.

Ms. Randazzo publically thanked public works for their work on painting the library interior. Ms. Randazzo also thanked the administrative team and Mayor Baumgarten for sending letters to Senator Fontana and Representative Miller to support an increase in library funding in Governor Wolf's proposed budget.

Census jobs are available for the year 2020. Interested parties can google Census Jobs 2020.

Four new wifi access points were installed in the library and funded by the Friends of the Library. The suggestion box in the library had requests for additional access for electronics, and the library responded by updating the wiring for additional outlets.

MRTSA – Mr. Heckmann stated that Mayor Baumgarten was honored by the board for his many years of service to the authority. He was a founding member of the authority. Council also thanked Mayor Baumgarten for his service to MRTSA. Mr. Heckmann will be filling Mayor Baumgarten's position on the board.

ACBA – Ms. Kovach reported that municipal police use of radar legislation and storm water management funding for boroughs were issues discussed at the quarterly meeting.

In addition, a feasibility study is being completed to have earned income tax collection consolidated through the state; however, ACBA members oppose this change since Jordan Tax has an excellent collection record.

ACBA members support Governor Wolf's proposal to charge municipalities with over 2,000 residents a fee for utilizing state police services instead of paying for police services.

The lieutenant governor has been lobbying to legalize recreational marijuana. If this passes, ACBA would support a tax on marijuana to be used for designated purposes, such as infrastructure improvements.

The board also would support a tax on Marcellus Shale with designated proceeds. Pennsylvania is the largest supplier in the United States, and many other states have adopted the tax.

Manager: Mr. Ausman and Mr. Hartswick will be attending an MS4 roundtable at Tree Pittsburgh on March 14th.

Mr. Hartswick reported that public works has completed storm water inlet inspections.

Mayor: Mayor Baumgarten supports the use of radar bill; however the practical use of radar in our borough may not be feasible.

Mayor Baumgarten commended the Castle Shannon Police Department for their efforts regarding DUI enforcement, burglary and other crime solving cases, including criminal arrests.

Public Comment:

Elizabeth and Michael Wozniak, 911 Edgewood Avenue – questioned the status of remaining steps for completion of the Oakdale/Edgewood project, specifically regarding restoration of their hillside, property and driveway. The right-of-way agreement will be reviewed, and borough representatives will inspect the property for restoration issues.

Trinette Kern, 1037 Francis Drive – discussed State Representative Dan Miller's disability summit being held this week. Ms. Kern stated that many streets in the borough are not accessible for people with disabilities, specifically due to steps and parking limitations.

The public comment section was closed.

Other: Mr. Warhold plans to work with Bettina Jones on obtaining volunteers for the 100th anniversary events.

Ms. Randazzo motioned to adjourn; Mr. Swisher seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Approved as presented this 25th day of March 2019.

Thomas C. Hartswick
Borough Manager

Mark J. Heckmann
President