

CASTLE SHANNON BOROUGH MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

July 8, 2019

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

The minutes of the June 24, 2019 Council Meeting were presented. Ms. Randazzo motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Oates seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Mr. Heckmann opened the public comment section for agenda items.

Paul Salvayon, 528 Glenn Shannon Drive – presented photographs of damages from the rain storm on July 6th. The stormwater manhole in his driveway overflowed and washed away the sub-base of his driveway. The constant flooding is undermining his driveway. Mr. Salvayon requested that the borough install a precast sealed manhole and replace the concrete from his driveway. He will submit a cost estimate to the borough for the driveway. Mr. Heckmann stated the manhole will be assessed for possible replacement. Mr. Salvayon noted that the beehive grates installed in Baldwin Township did help keep large debris contained.

Kelli Derbish, 783 Killarney Drive – reported that she has sewage infiltration in her basement once again through her floor drain and asked for a status update on the Killarney project. Mr. Heckmann stated the line of credit has closed, and the installation of six additional storm inlets are included in a scope of work. In addition, \$250,000 was earmarked in the 2019 budget for a joint project with Baldwin Township. The borough plans to hire a contractor to camera and clear 5,000 feet of storm/sewer lines to determine if the lines are compromised. The engineers will then assess design requirements after the line review and prepare bidding documents. Ms. Derbish suggested the borough install backflow valves on the first five houses that frequently flood.

The public comment section was closed.

Real Estate Tax Collector – Ms. O'Malley reported June collections of municipal taxes of \$134,500.57. Year to date total is \$3,284,831.47, which is a 91% collection rate. In addition, Keystone Oaks School District bills were mailed today.

Council Committee Reports:

Public Relations/Communications – A Futures Forum will be held at the library on July 31st at 6:30 p.m. The current topic is related to an Active Allegheny Grant and access from neighborhoods to borough amenities, i.e. parks, library, other facilities, etc.

Building & Grounds – Public Works has been on call to assist with flooding issues and residual clean-up of storm damages.

The 2019 Ford dump truck is being outfitted with plow and decals.

Two instances of vandalism have occurred in the kitchen at Riehl Park. Security measures are being reviewed. Mr. Heckmann requested that nearby residents contact the police department with any information.

A staff Community Day meeting was held to review the event. A full committee meeting will be scheduled. The consensus is this was a fantastic event and the fireworks were spectacular.

Public Safety – Mr. Heckmann thanked all first responders (MRTSA, CSPD, CSVFD and Public Works) for their help during the recent rain storm.

Community Activities/Planning & Codes – Mr. Warhold and Ms. Kovach reported that the Party-on-Park for July 19th will have several children’s games, a “Touch a Truck” event, a performance by the Evan Dean Band, a farmer’s market, plant exchange, bike decorating and parade, and a variety of specials at local businesses.

Library – Ms. Randazzo noted that the summer is a very busy time for the library. The summer reading program for children and adults is in full swing. The free lunch program is well attended, and a picnic table and tent were installed outside for the program.

Heather Weleski’s outreach reading program at Alvern Gardens and Myrtle Avenue Parklet is being enjoyed by the local children.

Members of the Bhutanese community enjoyed participating in the June Party-on-Park with traditional dances and food.

Friends of the Library will hold an informational meeting on August 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Other events outside of the library include Books n’ Brews at Spoonwood Brewing on July 30th at 7:00 p.m. and Coffee & Friends at Coffee Etc. on August 7th at 10:00 a.m.

State Representative Dan Miller will hold a pop-up office at the library on August 16th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Ms. Randazzo wanted to publicly thank Representative Miller for his support in obtaining increased funding for libraries in the state budget. State funding for the libraries has not increased since the 2007-2008 budget, and a \$5 million increase has been approved.

MRTSA – Mr. Heckmann stated that summer is referred to as “Trauma Season” due to accidents from speeding vehicles, heat strokes and fireworks. Mr. Heckmann asked residents to take the time to thank the paramedics for their work, participation and support at community events.

Manager: Mr. Hartswick reported that the Oakdale restoration project is completed, except for driveway sealing which is scheduled for this week.

The 2019 Roadway Improvement Programs will begin on July 15th with a completion date of August 29th. Contract was awarded to A. Folino Construction.

Mayor: Chief Truver stated that the bike patrol program was discontinued many years ago because of the borough’s topography; however an e-bike demonstration is available at the police department. A few police officers are interested in participating in a bike patrol program.

Mayor Baumgarten visited the Killarney Drive and Sleepy Hollow areas of the borough after the severe rain storm on July 6th to review damages. It is disconcerting that this type of storm seems to be occurring more frequently, and the resulting flooding is devastating for many residents and businesses.

Local police use of radar bill has been passed by the Senate and is in the House Transportation Committee.

Public Comment:

Trinette Kern, 1037 Francis Drive – stated that borough resident and former American Legion #490 Commander Jerry Kaschak has passed away. Jerry is donating his collection of early photographs of Castle Shannon to the borough.

Bryan Munnell, 909 Edgewood Avenue – questioned the status of installation of a cyclone fence on his property from the Oakdale Project. Mr. Hartswick answered that the fence will be installed per our original plans.

Kelli Derbish, 783 Killarney Drive – noted that there is a collapsed drain on Glenn Shannon Drive. Public Works will investigate and report to Baldwin Township.

Other: Ms. O’Malley thanked the public works department for transporting the tax bills from the borough building to the post office for mailing.

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

Approved as presented this 22nd day of July 2019.

Thomas C. Hartswick
Borough Manager

Mark J. Heckmann
President