

**CASTLE SHANNON BOROUGH
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

May 14, 2018

The following elected officials were present: M. Heckmann; N. Kovach; T. Kirsch; 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; K. Truver, Police Chief; P. Vietmeier, Codes Official; N. Mastandrea, Junior Council Member; J. Stanton, Borough Engineer.

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

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

Mr. Hartswick and Mr. Vietmeier presented the Castle Shannon Borough 2016 Comprehensive Plan update. Mr. Heckmann opened the meeting for public comments on the plan. Ms. Trinette Kern noted that the borough is 1.5 square miles, and Mr. Heckmann clarified that this is a density calculation. Mr. Vietmeier advised that the plan is available for public inspection in the codes office. Mr. Heckmann closed the public comment and thanked Mr. Hartswick, Mr. Vietmeier, Ms. Morrow and the Planning Commission for their input into the plan.

Bid Openings: Ms. Kovach motioned to approve the sale of a 2008 Hyundai Elantra to the highest bidder, Chas and Jami Conn; Mr. Warhold seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Ms. Kovach motioned to accept the 2018 Summer Road Materials Bid Tabulation through the SHACOG Purchasing Alliance; Mr. Oates seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Real Estate Tax Collector: Ms. O'Malley reported April collections of \$1,416,818.97 and year-to-date collections of \$2,618,706.25.

Council Committee Reports:

Public Relations/Communications – Mr. Heckmann stated that the new borough website will be completed in the next few weeks. Final content is being transitioned to the site.

Building & Grounds/Public Works – Mr. Heckmann discussed upcoming animal legislation to allow dogs on leashes in borough parks.

Public Safety/Fire – Chief Truver stated that reflective tape has been installed in many crosswalks throughout the borough.

Allegheny County has made funding available for additional patrols for the onslaught of increased traffic on Route 88 due to the McNeilly Road closure.

Seat Belt Grant and DUI Enforcement programs will be starting this month.

Finance – Mr. Swisher reviewed the check registers for April 27th, May 4th, and May 11th and had no questions.

Community Activities/Planning & Codes – Mr. Warhold presented the Castle Shannon Revitalization Corporation Streetscape Design Plan. The original plan was created in 2011. The design includes herringboned patterned sidewalk pavers, Pullman benches, light fixtures, litter receptacles and bike racks.

Mr. Kirsch noted recent improvements at Myrtle Parklet of a new bench, a trash receptacle and a children's spring rider.

The annual Shred It event is scheduled for May 26th at the Castle Shannon Fire Department from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Community Day will be held May 27th, and the Memorial Day Parade will be May 28th.

The Great Castle Shannon Bank Robbery Re-enactment will take place on June 15th.

Library – Ms. Randazzo stated the Library Board met on May 10th. Staff is busy this time of year gearing up for the summer reading programs.

The library will participate with a vendor table at Community Day.

Computers were upgraded with Windows 10 through funds received from the Regional Asset Distribution (RAD). In addition, new lighting will be installed this summer.

Ms. Randazzo noted that the library conducted 645 programs in 2017, an increase from 528 in 2016.

Library staff has initiated a community outreach program by reading to students at the local schools, the See Saw Center, and hosting book discussions at Coffee Etc.

MRTSA – Mr. Swisher stated the finance committee's proposal recommends an increase in the borough's annual contribution of 24% to \$88,000 for 2019 budget.

Local Government Academy – Four representatives from the borough attended the annual golf outing.

SHACOG – The next board meeting will be hosted by Jefferson Hills.

Junior Council Person – Mr. Mastandrea stated that the high school graduation ceremony will be held June 7th. Technical upgrades are planned for the 2018-2019 school year.

Manager's Report: Mr. Heckmann stated the report from PA Soil and Rock was received for core boring tests. The report lists soil conditions and contributing factors causing the landslide on Oakdale Avenue. A temporary sewer repair was completed, and the situation was deemed as an emergency. Options for repairs included a slope reconstruction, installation of a soldier lagging wall, or installing a segmented wall of jumbo block.

Mr. Hartswick and Mr. Stanton recommend the segmented wall option. Mr. Swisher noted that this project is in the medium price range compared to the other two options. Ms. Kovach authorized the borough engineers to prepare a design for the segmented wall of jumbo block and authorized the borough manager to obtain a proposal for the project from Soli Construction; Mr. Swisher seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Mr. Stanton stated that property owners will be contacted by the borough to obtain temporary easements, construction easements, etc.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Baumgarten noted that a tree is leaning onto the road at 3473 McRoberts Road. Mr. Hartswick noted that the neighbor, Mr. Coffey and the demolition contractor are discussing removing the tree.

Mayor Baumgarten noted that council had discussed planting trees along the first base line at Hamilton Park to provide a buffer to the Castle Court construction project. Mr. Hartswick stated that a cyclone fence will be installed temporarily pursuant to Ms. Malia's request for the participant's safety at the summer recreation program.

Mayor Baumgarten read a proclamation naming May 13-19, 2018 as National Police Week. In addition, Mayor Baumgarten read a proclamation naming May 20-26, 2018 as Emergency Medical Services Week.

Mr. Heckmann noted a letter received from MRTSA commending the Castle Shannon Police Department's participation in a recent medical emergency.

Public Comment:

Michael Stout, 4223 Willow Avenue – listed yard/driveway restoration concerns from the current Columbia Gas Company line installation project on Willow Avenue. Restoration will not be undertaken until the project is complete. Mr. Heckmann encouraged Mr. Stout and his neighbors to take photos of the yard before construction to ensure restoration is completed satisfactorily by the gas company contractor.

Mr. Stout also stated that the platform is sinking at the Smith Road trolley stop, and the road is crumbling and collapsing. Mr. Stout has contacted Port Authority regarding this situation. In addition, a trashcan should be installed to limit littering at this site.

In addition, Mr. Stout stated that there is a serious rat problem along the hillside by the trolley tracks.

Trinette Kern, 1037 Francis Road – also noticed rats at the raised garden and dumpster by Gracious Living.

Jessica Balistreri, 4225 Willow Avenue – stated that water pools on the road in front of her home. Vehicles driving on the road splash water onto her yard. Additional asphalt on curbing did not help with the water drainage.

Michael Brooks, 4228 Willow Avenue - noted that several years ago, the gas company damaged his concrete and would not fix it. Therefore, Mr. Brooks was also concerned about yard restoration from the gas company project on Willow Avenue. Again, Mr. Heckmann advised residents to take photographs prior to construction.

Mr. Heckmann closed the public comment period.

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

Approved as presented this 11th day of June, 2018.

Thomas C. Hartswick
Borough Manager

Mark J. Heckmann
President