

**CASTLE SHANNON BOROUGH
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

October 28, 2019

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

The minutes of the October 14, 2019 Council Meeting were presented. Ms. Randazzo motioned to approve the minutes; Ms. Kovach 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 2019-2020 Winter Road Materials bid results. Mr. Oates motioned to approve the bids; Mr. Kirsch seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Ms. Kovach motioned to award the Elm Street Emergency Repair bid to Michael Facchiano Construction Inc. for \$133,736.00; Mr. Oates seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Real Estate Tax Collector: Ms. O'Malley reported September collections of \$10,660.70 for an annual total 2019 collection of \$3,363,922.17, which is a 94% collection rate. Delinquent real estate letters will be mailed this week.

Council Committee Reports:

Public Relations/Communications – Mr. Heckmann stated that November 5th is election day and encouraged residents to vote.

The Saw Mill Run Fall Stream Cleanup was a successful event. In addition, the Halloween Parade hosted by the library was held last weekend and attended by many council members and elected officials.

Public Safety – The police blotter listed another incident regarding theft from an open vehicle. Residents are urged to keep their vehicles locked.

Community Activities/Planning & Codes – Ms. Kovach reported that Small Business Saturday for the downtown businesses is scheduled for Saturday, November 30th. In addition, a cookie walk is planned in Lebanon Shops on December 5th.

On November 15th, Krista Hurley, Branch Manager of Dollar Bank, and Bettina Jones, Keystone Community Coordinator, will conduct an entrepreneur tour of students from Keystone Oaks High School through the Castle Shannon business district.

Library – Ms. Randazzo commended Christina Walters, Childrens Librarian, for arranging her first Halloween Parade at the library. It was a very nice event.

The library board will meet on November 7th.

Borough Council and Hello Neighbor will hold a community potluck lunch at the library on Sunday, November 24th from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

MRTSA – Mr. Heckmann reported that the 2020 budget will not include an assessment increase to the borough.

SHACOG – Mr. Oates discussed the recognition ceremony held by SHACOG for the Tree of Life responders, which included Officer Kiefer from our police department and two EMT's from MRTSA.

Mr. Oates also discussed a Red Cross Joint Emergency Response Site proposal that was presented at the SHACOG board meeting.

Mr. Kirsch noted that although the borough usually purchases vehicles through the SHACOG bid, due to lack of inventory and recalls, Chief Truver was able to purchase a K-9 vehicle through the CoStars program at a reduced price.

PENSIONS – The agenda contained the third quarter 2019 reports for the police and non-uniformed plans.

Manager: Mr. Hartswick presented two resolutions regarding demolition of three properties in the borough, i.e. 971 Arch Avenue, 1488 Blossom Hill Road and 3133 May Street.

Mr. Kirsch motioned to adopt Resolution #676 to apply for CDBG funding of \$29,750.00 for the demolitions; Ms. Randazzo seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Mr. Kirsch motion to adopt Resolution #677 – a Slums and Blight Resolution for three properties; Ms. Randazzo seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Mr. Hartswick discussed a Pennsylvania H2O grant application for a possible joint venture with Baldwin Township to mitigate storm water runoff in the Glen Shannon/Killarney Drive/Armstrong Park area. Mr. Heckmann added that the borough continues to explore engineering solutions to the storm water situation in the Killarney Watershed, and the borough is taking the lead on this recent project proposal with Baldwin Township. Mr. Heckmann thanked Mr. Hartswick for exploring this grant opportunity.

Mayor: Mayor Baumgarten thanked Lt. Lane for attending this council meeting.

Mayor Baumgarten discussed the many award ceremonies in which our police department and officers have been recognized: Officer Kiefer at the SHACOG Tree of Life ceremony and Top Gun Awards; Lt. McKeown at the Amen Corner ceremony.

Mayor Baumgarten also commended Officer Majors and his K-9 partner Dixon for taking the time to brighten the day of a special paraplegic and other residents at Baptist Homes.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Biondo reported that two ordinances will be advertised for the November 11th council meeting.

Public Comment:

Paul Salvayon, 528 Glen Shannon Drive – thanked council for the restoration of his driveway due to a recent manhole construction. Mr. Salvayon added that Soli Construction did an excellent job. Mr. Salvayon also offered his assistance in contacting elected officials in support of the H2O grant.

Annie Shaw, 528 Glen Shannon Drive – asked council to reconsider enacting an ordinance to permit raising chickens in the borough.

Mr. Heckmann closed the public comment section.

Other: Mr. Kirsch noted that public works had completed repairs on the municipal center gym ceiling a few years ago; however, vandalism or carelessness has again damaged the ceiling tiles. In addition, children have been climbing on the roofs of equipment and damaging the basketball equipment at Myrtle Avenue Parklet.

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

Approved as presented this 11th day of November 2019.

Thomas C. Hartswick
Borough Manager

Mark J. Heckmann
President