

**CASTLE SHANNON BOROUGH  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

July 12, 2021

The following elected officials were present: M. Heckmann; M. Randazzo; R. Astor; N. Kovach; J. Maloney; B. Oates; D. Swisher; D. Baumgarten; E. O'Malley. The following appointed officials were present: D. Biondo, Solicitor. K. Truver, Police Chief; P. Vietmeier, Codes Official; L Miller, Acting Manager and A. Lyda, Junior Council Representative were absent.

The minutes of the June 28, 2021, Council Meeting were presented. Ms. Randazzo motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Swisher seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

**Public Comment – Agenda Items:** Mr. Heckmann opened the comment section. Being none, the comment section was closed.

**Real Estate Tax Collector:** Ms. O'Malley reported real estate tax collections of \$145,530.37 in June for a total year-to-date of \$3,681,741.57.

Ms. O'Malley also reported that Jordan Tax is waiting on information from the Keystone Oaks School District regarding their millage increase before tax bills can be prepared.

**Council Committee Reports:**

**Public Relations/Communications** – The Rec Share program is a subsidy the borough provides to residents who wish to purchase a season pass at the Dormont Pool. Mr. Heckmann was pleased to report that registrations have increased 16% from 2019 thus far. In future years, the borough hopes to expand this program to other locations.

Council plans to host a meeting at the Community Library of Castle Shannon on Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to discuss possible parking changes in the downtown district. Most of the changes will take place north of Willow Avenue from Everyday Eclectic to Kimmie's and adjacent streets. Everyone is welcome to attend. Changes are proposed to parking permits, timed usage, and parking enforcement.

The listing for the MRTSA Executive Director is out. Mr. Heckmann urged qualified individuals to visit the website for more information.

A draft has been received for the Six Parks Master Plan. The plan was grant funded. The committee will meet this Thursday to review the plan and make amendments if necessary. The formal document will be presented to council for their consideration for future investments.

**Building & Grounds/Public Works** – Mr. Maloney motioned to authorize the advertisement for the sale of a 2002 Case backhoe as is with a minimum bid of \$20,000; Mr. Oates seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

Mr. Maloney reported that Public Works has been televising sewers on Maple and Orr, cutting back brush on roadways, and installing a drain at the municipal center to prevent landscaping washouts.

Mr. Maloney advised council that the police driveway should be scheduled for paving in 2022. In addition, the railroad tie retaining wall around the concession area should be replaced.

A swing set was purchased for Prospect Park and will be installed by public works this month.

**Public Safety** – Mr. Astor stated that borough representatives and fire department members continue to meet to discuss cooperation opportunities.

The CSVFD will be leasing property in their parking lot for an ATM machine. Parking revenues have still not rebounded from the COVID epidemic.

Chief Truver advised that National Night Out was posted on the website today. On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, residents are asked to keep their lights on and sit on the porch. In Castle Shannon, we encourage residents to do this every day and to report any suspicious vehicles, activities, or persons.

**Finance** – Mr. Swisher reviewed the check registers for June 29<sup>th</sup> and July 8<sup>th</sup>. One invoice was discussed, and Mr. Swisher had no further questions.

**Community Activities/Planning and Codes** – Ms. Kovach reported on July 31<sup>st</sup> The Evan Dean Band and School of Rock will be performing at the CSVFD. A location for the fireworks display will be confirmed this week.

Ms. Kovach announced that on August 20<sup>th</sup> a Bark on Park event is being planned from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. CSYA will be selling food at this event. Entertainment is also planned.

Mr. Heckmann noted that CSYA has been holding tournament games at the municipal center, and he is happy to see this activity return to normal.

A Planning Commission hearing is scheduled for Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup> for the installation of an ATM at the Castle Shannon Volunteer Fire Department's parking lot.

Mr. Vietmeier stated that the owner of 1000 Killarney would like to open a pizza shop.

A minor subdivision is planned for 3471 McRoberts Road.

Mr. Swisher asked Mr. Vietmeier about the chicken ordinance being represented to the planning commission. Mr. Vietmeier presented Ms. Shaw's letter to the planning commission members; however, the consensus was that the members were not in favor of altering the ordinance. Mr. Heckmann advised council members to message him directly if they would like the ordinance revisited.

**Library** – Ms. Randazzo announced that programming has resumed in person for both adults and children. There are many options for Storytime and school aged programs. Bookworm Babies (infants up to 18 months) on Mondays, Time for Tots (toddlers 18 months – 36 months) on Wednesdays; and Preschool Storytime (ages 3 years to 5 years) on Thursdays. All programs run from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The summer reading program is underway with a bingo concept for children and an online program for adults.

The infamous Crafternoons for adults is back starting Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. This is a very popular program with the senior citizens.

Six staff members completed CPR/AED training.

Mr. Heckmann urged residents to make time to meet the new Children's & Youth Coordinator, Miss Amber. She will be visiting the Summer Recreation Program at Hamilton Park this week.

**SHACOG** – Mr. Oates announced the annual golf outing is July 15<sup>th</sup> and the next board meeting will be August 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Manager:** Mr. Heckmann reported a new job listing for the borough manager position will be out in the next few weeks. Information will be shared with the public.

Council adopted Resolution #700 – To Reimagine Appalachia and support a federal Appalachian climate infrastructure plan.

Council received the streetscape bid specifications. Mr. Swisher thanked Mr. Hohman for working with him, and the specifications will have revisions for the inclusion of maintenance bonds and new electrical infrastructure. Mr. Astor motioned to approve the streetscape bid specifications contingent upon the inclusion of a maintenance bond in the bidding requirements and including additional electrical engineering infrastructure for lighting and security; Ms. Kovach seconded; all in favor; motion carried.

**MS4** – The borough continues to seek contract agreements from two property owners to pursue Growing Greener funding for the pollution reduction project on Saw Mill Run. If the grant is awarded, this project would be fully funded by grant dollars.

**Mayor's Report:** Mayor Baumgarten attended the FBI National Academy Associates conference. Members are graduates of the prestigious FBI National Academy program with 16,000 members representing all 50 United States and over 8200 law enforcement agencies from 194 countries worldwide. They are the strongest law enforcement leadership network in the world. The mayor was very impressed with the men and women of this organization. Four of the borough's police officers are graduates from this academy. During the gala, Mayor Baumgarten had the honor and privilege of giving the oath of office to the new president of the FBI National Academy Associates Inc. - Police Chief Kenneth Truver. Council congratulated Chief Truver on his accomplishment.

**Keystone Oaks:** School tax forms will be forthcoming, and a tax increase is expected.

**Public Comment:** No comments were received.

**Other Business:** Mr. Maloney stated that it has been an action-packed month for CSYA in July. The 10U tournament finished this evening. Mr. Maloney thanked all the volunteers from the grill to the announcing to the scoreboards. Another tournament is planned tomorrow for the 10U Slow Pitch Girls Softball that will run through the weekend. The 12U Boys Baseball will be the end of July. Many visitors to the games comment favorably on the nice facilities.

Ms. Randazzo stated that a resume has been received for a vacant position on the library board. The board will review the resume at their next meeting.

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

Approved as presented this 12th day of July 2021.

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Loretta J. Miller  
Acting Manager

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Mark J. Heckmann  
President