

**AVOCA BOROUGH**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 11TH, 2021 – COUNCIL MEETING**

**MEETING MINUTES**

The regular monthly meeting of Avoca Borough Council was held on Thursday, March 11th, 2021 with Council President, John D. Boone, presiding. The work session began at 6:35p.m. The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 7:45p.m. and Pledge of Allegiance was said by Bob Dommermuth.

Council members in attendance: Mike Fuller, Stanley Waleski, Gary Halagarda (via phone), Frank Marriggi, Joe Satkowski, Bob Dommermuth, Sam Diaz, John Vols (via phone) and John Boone.

Also in attendance: Mayor Robert Mullen, Atty. Matthew Boyd, Chief David Homschek, Engineer Paul Pasonick and Secretary Kelly O’Brien.

Please note, there was an executive session held prior to the work session for the purpose of discussing litigation & policy updates.

Motion by Joe Satkowski, second by Sam Diaz to accept the minutes of the February 2021 Council meeting as presented. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Frank Marriggi, second by Stan Waleski to pay all bills presented with monies available. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Sam Diaz, second by Mike Fuller to accept new correspondence as presented. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Frank Marriggi, second by Joe Satkowski to accept the February police report prepared by Chief Homschek and read aloud by Mayor Mullen. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Mike Fuller, second by Frank Marriggi to waive the 2021 Amusement Tax for all Borough establishments with entertainment machines due to being closed because of COVID-19 guidelines still in place. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Mike Fuller, second by Sam Diaz to renewal the Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance Policy at an annual renewal cost of $679. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Stan Waleski, second by Mike Fuller to authorize the 2021 member contribution to the Northeast Land Bank in the amount of $1500. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

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**MEETING MINUTES – PAGE 2**

Motion by Mike Fuller, second by Sam Diaz to extend the 2021 sewer maintenance fee discount period until 6/30/21, followed by the base period and penalty period until the end of the year. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Stan Waleski, second by Frank Marriggi to rescind the Avoca Borough Employee COVID-19 travel policy. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by John Vols, second by Joe Satkowski to purchase a 16x36 Mesh Mate for the garage Salt Shed at a cost of $75. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Gary Halagarda, second by Stan Waleski to approve a quote from Biros Utilities to rent a portable toilet with hand sanitizer for the flats baseball field during the baseball season at $80 per unit, per month. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Frank Marriggi, second by Sam Diaz a Resolution authorizing John D. Boone to sign and Kelly O’Brien to attest PennDots Agent Authorization Form for highway occupancy permits. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Motion by Frank Marriggi, second by Mike Fuller to ratify a purchase of 3 bulletproof life vests for the Chief, Sergeant and Full Timer Officer. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES

Engineers Report was prepared and presented by Paul Pasonick. See attached.

Police report was prepared by Chief Homschek and read aloud by Mayor Mullen. See attached.

In other Borough matters:

Mark Keisinger and George Parker, Mr. Keisinger’s land surveyor, discussed the Keisinger South Street property amongst Council & Borough Engineer Paul Pasonick. It was stated that easements need to be put in place regarding the property due to sewer pipes traveling underneath Mr. Keisinger’s land before the Borough can abandon the “paper road” are of Hawthorne Street and essentially let Mr. Keisinger take ownership of the parcel. Atty. Boyd & Paul Pasonick will follow up with Mr. Parker regarding the easements.

Frank Marriggi stated that our street department gentlemen along with Mr. Bill Boggetti did great work fixing the sewer pipe issue at the Community Center and thanked them for their time & work.

Stan Waleski complimented the Street Department on the great job they have done all season long, as it was a busy one with snow fall.

John Vols discussed that he would like to see no overnight parking in the current borough building parking lot, since no overnight parking is allowed in other borough owned/leased parking lots. He feels no one should be parking in the lot for an extended amount of time, aside from employees. After a bit of discussion, it was left that Chief Homschek will gather a list of names/vehicles who Council will consider letting continue parking in the lot, closest to the side of the stone wall/homes and further discussion can resume at the next Council meeting.

Bob Dommermuth voiced his displeasure at not being informed of the accident that occurred between a borough plow truck and a police department vehicle and the sewer pipe issue at the community center, despite being on both the road/streets committee and the sewer committee.

Motion by Frank Marriggi, second by Joe Satkowski to adjourn meeting at 8p.m. Voice Vote: Nine ( 9 ) YES