

**BOROUGH OF STOCKTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED:**

**REGULAR MEETING
MAY 11, 2020**

The May Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Stockton was called to order by Mayor Timothy Nemeth at 7:05 pm on May 11, 2020. The meeting was held online using Zoom technology due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Nemeth read the "Sunshine Statement" indicating the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Ms. Michele Hovan called the roll. The following members of Council were present: Mr. Paul Bergquist, Mr. Adam Juncosa, Mr. Aaron Lipsen, Mr. Michael Mann, Mr. Nic Messina and Mr. Donald Vandegrift. Borough Administrator/Clerk Hovan, Borough Attorney Michael Butlet and Deputy Clerk Christine Rosikiewicz were also present. There was 1 member of the public present.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. There being no comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Bergquist, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried.

Minutes:

The meeting Minutes for the April 13, 2020 Regular Meeting were tabled for approval until the June meeting.

Resolutions: Ms. Hovan explained the following resolutions, as listed below and filed in the Borough Clerk's office. Resolution Nos. 2020-37 through 2020-40, we adopted on motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Mann and carried unanimously.

2020-37	Extension of Grace Period for 2 nd Quarter Taxes
2020-38	Authorization to Mail Estimated Tax Bills
2020-39	Temporary Emergency Appropriations
2020-40	Acceptance of Credit/Debit/E-check Payments for Tax/Utility Payments

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Messina, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstain: None

Request for Adjustment – Water/Sewer Charges – Prallsville Mills

Mayor Nemeth stated that the Prallsville Mills was asking for relief from an excessively high water/sewer bill even though they stated the use was down considerably. Mr. Juncosa said that the use did seem excessive and that even if a hose was left on constantly, it wouldn't generate such high readings. Considerable discussion ensued regarding sources of potential leaks or reasons for the high reading. Ms. Rosikiewicz said that the Water Operator checked the reading again after the issue was raised. In response to a question raised by Mr. Lipsen, Ms. Rosikiewicz confirmed that bills were sent out during the first week in April. In response to another question, Ms. Hovan said that it is a long-standing policy to not adjust bills due to the impact on other users and that years ago, even pool credits were discontinued because the entire customer base shares in the costs of the utility. After additional discussion and upon recommendation by Mr. Juncosa, Ms. Rosikiewicz was asked to direct Mr. Greg Ent to re-inspect the meter to determine that it is

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functioning correctly and if possible, work with the property owner's plumber to help diagnose the issue.

Claims for Payment – the claims for payment, as attached, were approved on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Bergquist and carried unanimously.

Roll Call: Ayes: Bergquist, Juncosa, Lipsen, Mann, Messina, Vandegrift
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstain: None

Discussion – Weight Limits on Certain Streets (Possible Introduction of Ordinance No. 20-03)

Mayor Nemeth said that there is a truck issue in town with trucks failing to maneuver properly and damaging property, including on Broad Street and Church Street and that the Borough does not have a restriction for trucks on local roads currently. He said that one reason that so many trucks turn onto Broad might be because their GPS systems fail to recognize the type of street is actually is and that it and other cannot handle tractor trailers due to the street characteristics. Mr. Juncosa questioned the weight limit specified and there was an ensuing conversation regarding moving trucks, school buses, local deliveries, etc. After continued dialogue, it was decided to introduce the ordinance as written, with council members considering the matter before public hearing and if necessary, amend or re-introduce. On motion by Mr. Juncosa, seconded by Mr. Vandegrift and carried, Ordinance No. 20-03 was introduced.

Mayor Nemeth opened the meeting to the public. Mr. Eric Trautman, Hopewell Fire Company President, reported that the Fire Store order was missing a signature and Ms. Hovan said she was unaware of any issue. Mr. Trautman said that he would reach out to the Fire Chief for more information. He also reported that their loan for the new truck was approved although the delivery timeline was delayed due to the pandemic.

There being no further questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Vandegrift, seconded by Mr. Messina and carried.

Liaison Reports:

Mr. Messina reported on an experience at the hospital and its practices during COVID-19.

Mr. Juncosa said that his brewery was making hand sanitizer that he would bring some to Borough Hall.

Mr. Vandegrift said he wanted to proceed with the parking lot improvements at the park and there was discussion regarding price and layout. In response to a question by Mr. Lipsen asking if the "L" was still in play, Mr. Vandegrift replied that it was not and that the landscape architect determined the layout. Mr. Lipsen asked if this is how it now works, that we proceed without final approval. Mr. Vandegrift said he thought the issue was resolved. Mayor Nemeth added that he thought it was. Discussion continued and Mr. Lipsen said that he suggested the area be widened and asked it was measured to see if it would work. He said there were six trees that

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could be removed, three of which were ash and dead anyway to make the lot larger. After additional discussion, Mr. Juncosa asked if the planner could be consulted again to see if more spots could be squeezed in. Mr. Vandegrift said that he would follow up on the quotes and the questions.

Ms. Hovan said that she would confirm the planned date of the special meeting for budget introduction, that the May 18th date listed may not be possible.

Mayor Nemeth announced that the next meeting, after the special budget meeting, would be held on June 8, 2020 at 7pm, likely also on Zoom. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm on motion by Mr. Messina, seconded by Mr. Mann, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan, RMC
Borough Clerk