

January 11, 2024

A regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Trainer was held on the above date at the Trainer Municipal Building, 824 Main Street, Trainer, PA with President John Gaspero calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and followed by a moment of silence.

ROLLCALL

PRESENT

Mayor Marilyn Maher, President John Gaspero, Councilpersons, Joe Maher, Robin Rokicka, Tracey Tucker, Vickie Padgett, Michael Carter, Manager Mark Possenti, Engineer Mike Kozlowski, Solicitor Chris Boggs

ABSENT

Vice President John Mathews

MINUTES

The minutes of the December Council meeting were motioned for approval by Councilperson Carter to accept and seconded by Councilperson Maher. No opposition. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

It was motioned by Councilperson Maher and seconded by Councilperson Carter that the correspondence for December be accepted and any necessary action taken. No opposition. Motion carried. Questions and comments from audience on correspondence: None
Any matters that need Councilmanic action: None

*Guest speaker Chris Sklaney spoke in regards to Metro Superfund Site spoke in regards to the status of the superfund clean-up site located at 200 Price St. EPA has link on their site for more information. The site is still on the National priority list and is still being worked on. They will keep Borough updated. The property was recently sold,, new owners plan to build a warehouse on the property.

PUBLIC GENERAL AND AGENDA QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Agenda states a two-minute time limit for residents/taxpayers to speak.
Chuck Miles asked about a tree that fell in the park and damaged the Pavilion.

MANAGER/FINANCE – Mark Possenti

Stated he will be renewing the application for the RACP grant, The local share account grant was applied for and waiting to hear from them, started the grant application from the state ARF asking for 2 million.

- Called for a motion to authorize the shut-down including utilities and board-up of Community Center at 1002 Chestnut
- Called for a motion to authorize the turning off of alarm and utilities except for water and electric at 824 Main St. bldg.

- Called for motion to authorize approval of PSAB boot camp classes for elected officials
- Called for a motion to authorize approval of appraisal of Community center to get ready to sell.
- Called for a motion to authorize electronic pick-up for April 13 and Sept. 14 (600.00 per event)
- Called for a motion to approve the paid December expenses for General, Recreation and Liquid Fuels Funds in the amount of \$100,363.55 which were provided for inspection. Expenses are filed in the Secretary's office where they can be requested to view.
- Called for a motion to approve the paid Payroll for the month of December in the amount of \$202,110.17 which was provided for inspection.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marilyn Maher – Mayor

Stated all is good with the police department.

Announced Person of the Year for 2023 is Donnie Peer. Mayor Mahe said a few words about Donnie and presented him with a certificate.

John Gaspero – President

- Announced Committee appointments (see attached)
- Called for a motion to appoint 2 members to the Civil Service. John Mathews and Mike Outing have agreed to be members.
- Called for a motion to appoint a resident to the Council Vacancy Board. Marcia Kline agreed to be appointed.
- Called for a motion to appoint Recreation Board members. Members have not changed, no new members added.
- Called for a motion to appoint a Deputy Tax Collector. Mark Possenti will be reappointed.
- Called for a motion to approve the Borough emblem decal

John Mathews – Municipal Services/ Public Safety

Was absent. President Gaspero called for the following motions:

- Called for a motion to authorize the purchase of 130 new street signs at a cost of \$3,664. Can be paid from Liquid Fuels acct.
- Called for a motion to authorize the purchase of posts and caps for street signs at a cost of \$3542. Can be paid from Liquid Fuels acct.
- Called for a motion to authorize the installation of 3 street lights on Township Line Rd. not to exceed a cost of \$5,000. Can be paid from Liquid Fuels acct.
- Called for a motion to authorize new highway truck. The truck is not to exceed \$40,000 and will be paid over a 3-year lease.

Joe Maher – Ordinance/Zoning- Environmental

Read the Code office report for December.

Robin Rokicka – Buildings

Stated that Project Hope was getting up and running along, starting a free thrift shop along with the food pantry.

Tracy Tucker – Public Outreach/Newsletters

Discussed about an email from Lower Chi fire marshal in regards to EMS.

Asked for a motion to appoint another resident to the EAC. Marie and Felicia Bowman are interested in the positions.

Vickie Padgett – Recreation/Parks

Stated that the Rec Board elected officers and started on the calendar and budget of upcoming events.

Michael Carter – Fire/Property Maintenance

Read monthly fire report for December.

MONROE ENERGY

Adam Gattuso informed of the refinery flare during the Jan. 9 storm. Stated the refinery lost partial power and the flare was large because it was doing its job acting as a safety valve. The incidents are still being investigated. There were no injuries caused.

TAX COLLECTOR

Total tax and trash fees collected for the Month of December were \$25,849.05

- Called for a motion to approve a real estate tax deposit of \$22,674.05 into the General Fund.
- Called for a motion to approve a trash fee deposit of \$3,175.00 into the General Fund.

ENGINEER

Mike Kozlowski: Read monthly report (attached)

- Called for a motion to adopt Resolution 24-1097 2024 CDBG Grant.
- A to U proposal in the amount of \$46,678. 00 to replace approximately 30 feet of the damaged downstream portion of the pipe. Water testing showed increase of potassium in the water. Will keep monitoring. No action to be taken at this time.
- Proposal from the contractor for painting markings in front of the new speed humps for \$850 apiece for 4 humps. Council will take care of this through public works dept. since they would have to maintain anyway.
- Consider renewing A to U's contract for year 3 for the period from March 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025 or go out to bid.
- Consideration of attached proposal from A to U Services, Inc. for dye testing and TV videos of the sanitary laterals and main at 3618 and 3622 12th streets to investigate sink holes.
- Stantec 2024 Municipal Fee Schedule

SOLICITOR

Chris Boggs

Stated they are working on the next meeting with the fire dept. and Marcus Hook Borough.

ORDINANCES

- None

RESOLUTIONS

- A motion was made by Councilperson Maher to adopt Resolution 24-1097 2024 CDBG application and seconded by Councilperson Carter. No opposition. Motion carried.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

- Motion made by Councilperson Maher to authorize the shut-down including utilities and board-up of Community Center at 1002 Chestnut and seconded by Councilperson Carter. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to authorize the turning off of alarm and utilities except for water and electric at 824 Main St. bldg. and seconded by Councilperson Maher. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Tucker to authorize approval of PSAB boot camp classes for elected officials and seconded by Councilperson Carter. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Maher to authorize approval of appraisal of Community center to get ready to sell and seconded by Councilperson Carter. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to authorize electronic pick-up for April 13 and Sept. and seconded by Councilperson Maher. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Tucker to approve the paid December expenses for General, Recreation and Liquid Fuels Funds in the amount of \$100,363.55 and seconded by Councilperson Maher. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to approve the paid Payroll for the month of December in the amount of \$202,110.17 and seconded by Councilperson Rokicka. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to appoint John Mathews and Mike Outing to the Civil Service and seconded by Councilperson Maher. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Maher to appoint Marcia Kline to the Council Vacancy Board and seconded by Councilperson Rokicka. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Maher to appoint Robin Rokicka, Doug Locke, Terry Millard, John Gaspero and Michele Holloman as Recreation Board members and seconded by Councilperson Rokicka. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to appoint Mark Possenti as Deputy Tax Collector and seconded by Councilperson Maher. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to approve the Borough emblem decal and seconded by Councilperson Rokicka. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to authorize the purchase of 130 new street signs and seconded by Councilperson Maher. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to authorize the purchase of posts and caps for street signs and seconded by Councilperson Maher. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Maher to authorize the installation of 3 street lights on Township Line Rd. and seconded by Councilperson Carter. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to authorize purchase of new highway truck and seconded by Councilperson Rokicka. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Maher to appoint Marie Bowman and Felicia Bowman to EAC and seconded by Councilperson Carter. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to renew A to U's contract for year 3 for the period from March 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025 and seconded by Councilperson Rokicka. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to accept the new rates from Stantec for 2024 which reflects a 5% increase and seconded by Councilperson Rokicka. No opposition. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilperson Carter to authorize A to U for dye testing and video in the area of 12th street to investigate sink holes issue and seconded by Councilperson Rokicka. No opposition. Motion carried.

NEW COUNCILMANIC BUSINESS

None

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Chuck Miles, Ridge Rd. – Asked for more info on the Delco Greenway grant that was awarded for HJ Park and what it will be used for.

Rafael Hernandez, Main St. – Stated there has been a light on at 824 Main St. at night.

Asked engineer about a report on the discolored water with potassium levels and would like to further report at the next EAC meeting.

Asked about how the clean-up and run-off of the flooding Amtrak property and Main St. bridge were being handled.

ADJOURNMENT

President Gaspero called for a motion to adjourn at 8:11pm; Councilperson Carter made the motion to adjourn. Councilperson Maher seconded the motion. No opposition. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Orlando
Borough Secretary

ENGINEER REPORT

- **Erosion Ridge Road**
MOR acknowledged they have additional stone to install in grass areas per their correspondence with John Mathews.
- **MS4 Program**
We will prepare a proposal for the design and present to Council upon responses from pending submissions regarding Grant Opportunities listed below.
Grant Opportunities
We submitted the Watershed Restoration and Protection Program (WRPP) grant application on May 30, 2023 with a total project cost of \$352,889 and the Borough's 15% match of \$52,933. The Program representative advised awards have been re-scheduled to January, 2024.
Discolored water discharge Storm Outfall
A to U submitted a proposal in the amount of \$46,678. 00 to replace approximately 30 feet of the damaged downstream portion of the pipe (attached). We will discuss at the January 11th Council meeting.
MS4 permit cycle (March 2023 through March 2025)
When finalized, DEP to advise of pending DEP updates to the PRP and the new MS4 permit cycle.
- **PennDOT SR 3006 Ridge Road from Yates Ave. to Baker Street**
The asphalt repaving and temporary re-striping is complete. PennDOT's contractor, Allan Myers, advised the permanent re-striping per the Road Diet is in progress and scheduled for completion by next week of 12/11/2023. We are awaiting confirmation from the contractor if the striping is complete.
- **Community Center**
We submitted the documents and plans relative to Sewage Planning to PA DEP with our letter dated 11/14/2023.
- **4401 Ridge Road**
We reviewed the draft Land Development agreement from the Solicitor and offered our comments. We also offered our comments to the Solicitor for the Financial Security agreement and the Stormwater Operations and Maintenance Agreement. We sent our letter dated 10/31/2023 based on the revised submissions and have been corresponding with the project engineer.
- **Flooding Main Street near Amtrak Railroad Tracks**
Amtrak provided property ownership for part of the area near their railroad tracks and advised they will be providing additional information. Funding to assist with addressing this issue was requested in the PA Small Water and Sewer Application submitted in December, 2022. The program representative advised anticipated awards have been re-scheduled to January, 2024. **The program representative advised unfortunately the grant was not awarded to the Borough. Attached is a list of the awarded projects. The representative advised the program is very competitive with over 1,000 applications submitted and approximately 50% awarded.**
- **PY 2023 CDBG Projects**
 - \$59,609 for Right-of-Way improvements on Anderson Street, 10th Street to 12th Street.
 - \$58,599 for Storm Sewer Improvements as a match for the PA Small Water and Sewer Program application. Awards for the application are expected to be announced in January, 2024. **Per above, since the grant was not awarded, we discussed with the OHCD options for using the CDBG funds for Storm Sewer Improvements. We will discuss with Council at the January 11th Council meeting.**

We are preparing the design and bid documents for the Anderson Street project.
- **PECO Gas Main Replacement Projects**
We requested PECO offer a contribution for re-paving one-half width of roadways for the Borough to consider for repaving roadways in a Road Program in 2024 based on PECO's schedule for gas main replacements as follows. We will advise of their response.
 - Sunset St. - W. 13th St. to Township Line Road: PECO replaced the gas main at this location.

- Langley St. from W. 9th St. to W. 12th St.
- Price St. from W. 9th St. to W. 10th St.
- Sunset St. from W. 9th St. to W. 10th St. We will request a contribution for the full width of roadway since this was re-paved during the 2021 Road Program.

PECO also advised in 2024 they will replace a gas main along W. 9th St. (PennDOT SR 3006) from Langley St. to Sunset St.

The Borough Ordinance says per Section 226-27 except for emergencies, excavations are not permitted in streets that have been built or overlaid within the previous five years, unless the applicant agrees to mill and overlay the full width of the excavated section with 1 1/2 inches of superpave wearing course.

- **Speed Humps**

PennDOT recommends conducting a study to monitor impact of speeds and volumes pre/post installation of the speed humps.

- **2023 County Aid and Road Program**

We drafted the PennDOT completion report and will process upon receipt of the canceled checks from the Borough. We sent PennDOT details to Council for painting approach lines.

We sent to Council a proposal from the contractor for painting markings in front of the new speed humps as follows:

Spelling of the word "Hump" - Lettering 4' Tall recommended by the contractor.

Word "Hump" - 8 Total for the Sum of \$850.00 or

Approach Lines - 100 LF in Length - 8 Total for the Sum of \$850.00

We recommend the approach lines either painted by the Borough or by the contractor for \$850.

- **Safe Streets and Roads Program**

With Council forming a committee, Council may want to begin planning for potential project (s) for the next application round due in 2024.

- **Amtrak - Brill Substation to Landlith Interlocking (Pennsylvania) - Section 106**

The project involves replacement of overhead electrical transmission lines and structures along Amtrak's Right-of Way. The FRA will keep the Borough informed regarding project progress and information.

- **Monroe Energy- Pipeline Project**

We sent our letter dated 12/20/2023 per review of the revised Stormwater Permit Application plans and discussions at the 11/16/2023 meeting at Henry Johnson Park with Monroe Energy representatives and Borough representatives where we discussed options for Monroe to consider including providing new trees including at the new park benches, repaving Henry Johnson Parkway from the area to be repaved to connect to Township Line Road, and new speed hump(s).

- **Delco Green Ways Grant – Henry Johnson Park Improvements**

We submitted the application on 9/29/2023 requesting \$249,717.75 in grant funds with a \$25,000.00 match using Borough funds. Awards are anticipated in late Fall, 2023.

- **Miscellaneous Items**

- Inlet at Price Street and 4th Street: we requested PennDOT repair the inlet and are awaiting their response.

- **DCNR C2P2 Grant for access / improvements to waterfront off Price Street**

Possible ideas for a community waterfront park area discussed with a grant representative. DCNR advised they could help the Borough purchase the property or pay for a permanent easement and pay up to 50% of the appraised value of the land and 50% of professional costs such as surveys, appraisal, etc. Monroe Energy owns the property. The access will be through property owned by others with one of the access routes being through Monroe's property. An agreement between the Borough and Monroe and any other potential property owners would be needed for the Borough to use and/or purchase the property. Per Chief Priscopo, Monroe Energy supports the project and he mentioned he will pursue an agreement between Monroe and the Borough.

- **200 Price Street Development**
We reviewed the sketch plan and discussed with the project engineer. We are reviewing the Land Development submission.
- **PennDOT District 6-0 Vulnerable Road User Project – Tier 1 and Tier 2: Post Road & Price Street**
The project engineer advised PennDOT has earmarked federal funding for pedestrian signal upgrades at this intersection. The proposed upgrades are for replacement of old pedestrian traffic signal heads and pushbuttons with new countdown pedestrian signal heads and pushbuttons (where applicable). We provided information regarding other projects at this intersection including PennDOT D12 Project 1 SR0013 with proposed improvements including striping and bike lanes and the projects in Marcus Hook Borough and Chester City that include removal of the island within the intersection.
- **PY 2024 CDBG**
As authorized at the December 14th Council meeting, are preparing and application for Right-of-Way improvements. Applications are due 1/5/2024. We sent to Council a project overview that may be used for getting support / support letters from representatives. The Resolution will be presented for approval and signature at the January 11th Council meeting. **We submitted the application on 1/5/2024.**
- **East Coast Greenway**
Per the inquiry of Councilman Maher, we contacted an East Coast Greenway (ECG) representative who advised additional work in the Borough is not planned at this time however they are seeking additional funding for more projects in Pennsylvania. We sent them a plan of Henry Johnson Park including the proposed bicycle path we included in the Delaware County Planning Department Transportation Improvements Program. We will advise Council of ECG updates.
- **Price Street – 2nd Street (SR 0013) ADA Design – Pedestrian Study**
The project engineer performed a study and is requesting the Borough's concurrence on banning the pedestrian crossings of Price Street/2nd Street (State Route 13, formerly known as State Route 291) at the intersections with Union Street, 3rd St, 2nd St, and Irving St. They are proposing no Pedestrian crossing signs to be installed within the state ROW for the banned crossings under this project. As discussed at the December 6th Caucus meeting, we informed the project engineer the Borough is opposed to banning the pedestrian crossings.
- **W. 9th Street (SR 3006) - grass strip in center / turning lanes**
Councilman Gaspero inquired if it would be possible to have a grass strip with plantings within a portion of the center / turning lane (s). We are following-up with information from PennDOT.
- **Annual Maintenance Contract**
The year 1 contract period for A to U Services was effective on March 31, 2022 with options to renew Years 2 and 3. With the year 2 period ending February 29, 2024, we recommend Council consider renewing A to U's contract for year 3 for the period from March 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025. If Council desires to go out to bid, we will coordinate a bid schedule with Council.
- **Settlement in Grass Strip and edge of Roadway 12 th Street near Price Street**
As requested by the Code Enforcement Officer, we observed the settlement at the site at 3618 and 3622 12th Street. The cause of the settlement is unknown, however, we requested the Chester Water Authority (CWA) check their water services and main to ensure their pipes are intact and may not causing the settlement. The Code Enforcement officer and the CWA advised the CWA excavated the area and tested their pipes and found no leaks. We requested A to U Services check the site and they advised there is a possibility the settlement may be caused by leaking from the sanitary sewer laterals near the areas of settlement. The sanitary sewer laterals are the homeowners responsibility. Per A to U's suggestion, we requested they provide a proposal for dye testing and TV videos of the sanitary laterals and main and will send to the Borough upon receipt. **Attached is a proposal from A to U. We will discuss with Council at the January 11th Council meeting.**

- **Stantec 2024 Municipal Fee Schedule**

The Stantec team is very thankful to Trainer Borough Council and representatives for re-appointing Stantec as the Borough's Engineer for 2024 through 2025. Stantec is very honored and pleased to continue serving Trainer Borough Council and representatives in the Trainer Borough Community. We request Council's consideration for Stantec's 2024 Municipal Fee Schedule showing our hourly rates for professional services that have been adjusted from the 2023 rates. The 2024 and 2023 Municipal Fee Schedules are attached for reference.

Monthly Report – December 2023
Charles Remaley – Code Enforcement

Building Permits Issued - 7

Commercial – 0
Residential - 5
Street Opening – 2

Certificates of Occupancy Permits Issued -9

Sales - 2
Conditional Sales -0
Rentals - 7
Re inspection – 0

Contractor License Issued – 18

Total for 2024 -20

Zoning Permits - 1

Residential – 1
Commercial –0

Portable Structures - 0

Property Maintenance Violation

3542 W 12thSt. – Bulk trash out on curb, from a clean out.

630 Main St. – Insect infestation.

218 Wilcox St. – Unsafe structure notification.

4222 Post Rd. – Boat & Trailer blocking Public Right of Way.

4222 Post Rd. – No occupancy permit for Rental Unit.

4106 W 5th St. – Sewer back up, raw sewage in rear yard.

Citation Warnings

3542W 12th St. – Excessive trash from clean out placed out for
Residential Pick-up.

1302 Meadow Lane – Excessive trash on property.

2024 Trainer Borough Committees

Ordinance/Zoning – Environmental:

Chair: Joe Maher Vice-Chair: Vickie Padgett Member: Tracy Tucker

Oversight of planning and zoning regulations and policies; reviews and recommends action on applications for Subdivision and Land Development, Conditional Use, Special Exceptions, and Variances; oversight of Borough building and housing codes; reviews major building permits; Council liaison with the Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board.

Responsible for updates from the EAC, coordinating environmental clean-up programs for the community.

Public Safety – Municipal Services:

Chair: John Mathews Vice-Chair: Michael Carter Member: Vickie Padgett

In conjunction with the Mayor, oversight of the Police Department and police-related activities, including departmental policies, traffic control and parking issues. Civil Service Commission.

Oversight of Public Works operations, including annual street repaving and maintenance of the Borough's storm and sanitary sewer systems; oversight of Borough trash operations.

Building:

Chair: Robin Rokicka Vice-Chair: John Mathews Member: Joe Maher

Regulate and govern the conditions and maintenance of all Borough owned property, buildings and structures.

Community Relations/ Newsletters:

Chair: Tracy Tucker Vice-Chair: Joe Maher Member: Robin Rokicka

Oversees all the communication going out from the Borough Office to the residents of the Community. To develop and implement programs that leverage and maximize borough resources. Review newsletter and coordinate delivery.

Recreation/Parks:

Chair: Vickie Padgett Vice-Chair: Tracy Tucker Member: Michael Carter

Responsible for assisting with the development of Borough recreational programming and acts as the liaison to the Borough Recreation Board; oversight of the Borough's parks.

Fire Safety – Property Maintenance:

Chair: Michael Carter Vice-Chair: Robin Rokicka Member: John Mathews

Council liaison with Trainer/Marcus Hook Fire Department

Regulate and govern the conditions and maintenance of all residential property, buildings and structures, by providing standards to ensure structures and properties are safe, sanitary and fit for use and occupation.