

**Regular Borough Council Meeting**

**December 7, 2020**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of Souderton Borough Council, held on the above date, was called to order by President Brian K. Goshow at 7:00 p.m. Council President Brian Goshow noted that this in-person meeting is also available for Borough Council and the public to access through Zoom to monitor and make public comment. The Borough Council meeting was attended by the following members and staff:

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| President Brian K. Goshow               | Councillor Edward Huber (via Zoom) |
| Vice-President Julie Munden             | Mayor John R. Reynolds             |
| Councillor Donna Rogers                 | Junior Councillor Nick Mancini     |
| Councillor Ned Leight (via Zoom)        |                                    |
| Councillor Richard Godshall             | Solicitor Robert R. Bricker        |
| Councillor Daniel Yocum                 |                                    |
| Councillor Matt Mscichowski             | Borough Manager P. Michael Coll    |
| Councillor Daryl Littlefield (via Zoom) | Police Chief James P. Leary        |

The invocation was given by Borough Manager P. Michael Coll, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Council President Brian Goshow noted that Vice-President Julie Munden is coordinating Zoom access this evening. The meeting is being recorded and will be available to view through the Borough website.

Consideration was given to the minutes of the November 2, 2020 Regular Borough Council Meeting and the Borough Council work session and special meeting which were held on November 16, 2020 and November 23, 2020. The meeting minutes were considered separately by Borough Council as follows:

A motion was made by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, seconded by Councillor Richard Godshall, to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2020 Regular Monthly Borough Council meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, seconded by Councillor Richard Godshall, to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2020 Borough Council work session as presented. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, seconded by Councillor Richard Godshall, to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2020 Special Borough Council Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

Mayor John R. Reynolds commented that this is Police Chief Jim Leary’s last official Borough Council meeting. During his tenure of more than ten years, we saw a fractured department grow and transform to one of the best police departments. Community Oriented Policing was a major goal of Chief Leary and the transformation of

the Souderton Police Department made people happy to live in this community. Mayor Reynolds thanked the efforts and dedication of Chief Leary from the bottom of our hearts.

Police Chief James Leary noted that in the audience are Police Officer Thomas Lawson, Administrative Assistant Dianna Fields and retired Police Officer Gerald Moyer. Chief Leary commented that his success is predicated by those who are around him and it has truly been a pleasure to serve.

Police Chief Leary further noted that all Police Officers are certified and he will look forward to working through a seamless transition into next year.

Borough Solicitor Robert Bricker circulated his monthly report to Borough Council. The Borough Solicitor completed all required documentation for approval to obtain a Tax Anticipation Loan for the 2021 calendar year. The Borough Solicitor reviewed final plan for the reauthorization of the Business Improvement District. The Solicitor reviewed correspondence and reports and participated in a telephone conference concerning excessive discharge loadings from the Leidy's facility on Cherry lane. The matter will be handled by special environmental counsel Steven Miano of Hangle, Aronchick, Segal, Pudlin & Schiller. The Solicitor reviewed the conditional offer of employment for the next Police Chief and reviewed a draft of the associated Employment Agreement.

Borough Manager Michael Coll reviewed the meeting schedule. This will be the last meeting of Borough Council for the 2020 calendar year. The next meeting of Borough Council will be on Monday, January 4, 2021. Borough Council agreed to retain just one joint work session on the third Monday of each month through 2021. The Borough Manager noted that work will continue through the month on developing a recommendation for operating the Souderton Community Swimming Pool for the 2021 summer season. Quotes were received for a management services contract and a quote was received for a five year lease to operate the entire facility. The Police Chief Selection Committee will be meeting to firm up the Police Chief appointment and the employment agreement with the next Police Chief.

The Agenda for the December 7, 2020 Borough Council meeting includes formal consideration of a minor plan of subdivision for 61 Franklin Avenue, LLC concerning property at 59-61 Franklin Avenue. The plan received a recommendation for approval from the Souderton Planning Commission at their December 2, 2020 meeting. The voting period for the Business Improvement District Reauthorization Plan expired at the close of business on November 12, 2020. The Borough Manager confirmed that 47 of the 196 parcels voted against the plan; representing 23% of the total parcels, which is well below the 40% threshold to reject the proposed plan. A recommendation has been made to formally enact the advertised Ordinance to reauthorize the Souderton Business Improvement District for a five year term. The 2021 Budget Resolution and 2021 Real

Estate Tax Ordinance have been advertised for formal consideration. The last item is formal consideration of a Resolution authorizing a \$250,000 Tax Anticipation Loan from Univest Bank and Trust Company for the 2021 calendar year.

Borough Council discussed the options to operate the swimming pool for the 2021 summer season. Prior discussions of Borough Council favored a management services contract to provide lifeguard and daily management services. Councillor Edward Huber commented that he reviewed the proposal from Standguard for a complete lease of the facility. Councillor Huber suggested that the Standguard proposal is too comprehensive, preferring to go with a management services contract which will enable the Borough to retain more authority and flexibility over pool operations.

Consideration was given to paying the bills for the month of November, 2020.

GENERAL FUND

|                                 |           |                               |             |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Univest VISA                    | \$15.95   | Sudz In A Bucket, Inc.        | \$38.50     |
| Unum Insurance Company          | 1,036.49  | Univest Insurance, Inc.       | 831.00      |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Media  | 41.75     | Univest VISA                  | 671.35      |
| Advanced Disposal               | 38,193.36 | Univest VISA                  | 15.89       |
| Airgas                          | 80.34     | Univest VISA                  | 148.29      |
| C&S Lawn and Landscape, Inc.    | 500.00    | Verizon                       | 72.84       |
| Clemens Uniform Rental          | 193.36    | Verizon Wireless              | 354.35      |
| Comcast Cable                   | 585.81    | Wise Electric                 | 417.00      |
| Commonwealth of Pennsylvania    | 35.00     | Witmer Public Safety Group    | 316.79      |
| Cope's Garage, Inc.             | 172.45    | Allan Myers                   | 357.04      |
| D. L. Beardsley, Ltd.           | 406.45    | Clemens Uniform Rental        | 171.18      |
| Delta Dental/Gettysburg Benefit | 1,096.12  | Cope's Garage, Inc.           | 1,252.61    |
| Fromm Electric Supply Corp.     | 180.30    | Davidheisers, Inc.            | 189.00      |
| George Allen Portable Toilets   | 533.00    | Hajoca Corporation            | 165.62      |
| Highway Materials, Inc.         | 3,242.84  | Independence Blue Cross       | 16,882.82   |
| James P. Leary                  | 336.59    | John R. Young & Co.           | 742.50      |
| Komatsu America Corp            | 47.82     | Landis Block & Nycecrete Co.  | 37.05       |
| Moyer Indoor/Outdoor            | 486.10    | Metlife/Brighthouse Financial | 3,256.28    |
| Nelson Wire Rope Corp           | 46.96     | Moyer Indoor/Outdoor          | 1,679.13    |
| North Penn Water Authority      | 48.60     | Nationwide Trust Company      | 2,009.16    |
| NYCO Corporation                | 105.85    | NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.      | 138.27      |
| PECO Energy                     | 72.70     | North American Benefits Co.   | 1,004.41    |
| PA One Call System              | 60.20     | Security Service Co., Inc.    | 878.01      |
| PPL Electric Utilities          | 1,602.74  | Shelly Enterprises-USLBM, LLC | 33.75       |
| PPL Electric Utilities          | 128.98    | Steven R. Coll                | 178.92      |
| Ready Refresh                   | 98.15     | Suburban Propane              | 313.88      |
| Richter Drafting Office Supply  | 190.39    | Trumbauers Lawn & Rec, Inc.   | 4.99        |
| Ryan Kochersperger              | 1,155.00  | Unum Insurance Company        | 1,036.49    |
| Styer Associates                | 355.00    |                               |             |
| Suburban Propane                | 560.49    | Total General Fund            | \$84,805.91 |

SEWER FUND

|                                 |          |                               |             |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Postmaster, Lansdale            | \$929.20 | NAPA Auto Parts               | \$12.32     |
| Unum Insurance Company          | 242.76   | North Penn Water Authority    | 95.89       |
| Bergey's Electric, Inc.         | 65.00    | PA DEP                        | 60.00       |
| Blooming Glen Quarry            | 330.00   | Perkasie Regional Authority   | 750.00      |
| Cintas First Aid & Safety       | 100.83   | PPL Electric Utilities        | 338.94      |
| Clemens Uniform Rental          | 90.46    | S C Engineers, Inc.           | 1,064.00    |
| Comcast Cable                   | 115.44   | Suburban Water Testing Labs   | 2,148.18    |
| CVX, LLC- D&M Machine           | 487.90   | USA Blue Book                 | 604.48      |
| D. L. Beardsley, Ltd            | 465.00   | Verizon                       | 76.54       |
| Delta Dental/Gettysburg Benefit | 474.40   | West Generator Services       | 1,600.00    |
| Essex Service Corporation       | 2,975.49 | Clemens Uniform Rental        | 90.46       |
| EVOQUA Water Technologies       | 3,612.15 | CVX, LLC- D&M Machine         | 2,146.90    |
| Excelsior Blower Systems, Inc.  | 259.10   | EPWPCOA, Inc.                 | 80.00       |
| Hach Company                    | 762.00   | Hart Mechanical Contractors   | 477.82      |
| Hajoca Corporation              | 161.20   | Independence Blue Cross       | 4,881.93    |
| Home Depot                      | 205.21   | Irvin G. Tyson & Son, Inc.    | 838.15      |
| J. P. Mascaro & Sons            | 732.30   | Metlife/Brighthouse Financial | 69.21       |
| Jesse Baro, Inc.                | 5,596.18 | North American Benefits Co.   | 250.60      |
| Johnstone Supply                | 54.94    | Unum Insurance Company        | 242.76      |
| Midway Industrial Supply        | 121.36   | ZEP Manufacturing Company     | 208.99      |
| Moyer Indoor/Outdoor            | 144.39   |                               |             |
| Naceville Materials             | 436.18   | Total Sewer Fund              | \$34,398.66 |

POOL FUND

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

|                                 |             |                                 |              |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Telford Borough Authority       | \$43,300.00 | County Line Landscape Nursery   | \$4,155.20   |
| Arrow Tree Service, LLC         | 2,800.00    | Hajoca Corporation              | 285.18       |
| Sherwin Williams                | 182.88      | Landis Block Nycecrete Co       | 1,134.35     |
| TRM Telford Recycling Materials | 845.00      | Shelly Enterprises-USLBM, LLC   | 680.88       |
| Allan Myers                     | 5,437.22    | Sherwin Williams                | 73.31        |
| Blooming Glen Quarry            | 110.00      | TRM Telford Recycling Materials | 850.00       |
| Commonwealth Precast, Inc.      | 1,784.00    | Total Capital Reserve Fund      | \$104,938.02 |

LIQUID FUELS FUND

|                        |             |                               |             |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Allan Myers            | \$50,236.12 | Signal Control Products, Inc. | \$42.00     |
| PPL Electric Utilities | 824.21      | P. K. Moyer & Sons, Inc.      | 32,750.00   |
| PPL Electric Utilities | 5,545.48    | Total Liquid Fuels Fund       | \$89,397.81 |

A motion was made by Councillor Richard Godshall, and seconded by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, to approve the payment of bills for the month of November, 2020 as presented. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Richard Godshall, and seconded by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, to approve the payment of recurring bills for the month of December,

2020 as presented. Borough Manager Michael Coll clarified that the recurring bills will also include all 2020 Budgeted contributions to Generations, Meals on Wheels, North Penn Goodwill, Souderton Ambulance and the remaining payment to Souderton-Telford Main Streets. The motion was approved.

President Goshow opened the meeting for public comment as follows:

Daniel Houser, 436 Central Avenue, Souderton expressed appreciation for all of the work that Borough Council and staff accomplished through the year.

Karen Peterson, 18 N. Hunsberger Lane, Souderton expressed appreciation to Borough Council for preparing a balanced budget and considering the comments made at the last meeting. There is money in the budget for improved virtual meetings, Borough Council needs to act on these improvements. Karen Peterson understands the contractual obligation for increases in police salaries and appreciates the effort of the Borough Manager in reducing and freezing his salary. Borough Council should take steps to preserve and expand the bag program for trash disposal. Karen Peterson further commented that a tax increase is not in the best interest of the Borough. Even a small increase, coupled with increases in the School and County tax rates, will burden the households.

Harry Boardman, 105 N. Main Street, Souderton commented that 2020 was a very difficult year for everyone. Our local businesses are open, please continue to support them and we all hope for a better year to follow.

Following up on the comments of Harry Boardman, President Brian Goshow noted that the Broad Theater has opened and he and his family recently enjoyed a family night out at the theater. Work continues on the Broad Street Italian Restaurant which is planning to open in the beginning of next year.

There being no further public comment, President Brian Goshow moved to the business portion of the agenda beginning with the minor plan of subdivision for 61 Franklin Avenue, LLC..

A motion was made by Councillor Richard Godshall, and seconded by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, to approve the minor plan of subdivision as prepared for 61 Franklin Avenue, LLC, by Cowan Associates, dated July 8, 2020 and last revised November 27, 2020, including the documented waivers and a reduction in street trees from the required 7 to 3 trees, for property located at 61 Franklin Avenue in the Borough of Souderton. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Donna Rogers, and seconded by Councillor Julie Munden, to enact Ordinance No. 20-748-02, amending and restating in its entirety

previous Ordinance No. 15-719-02, establishing a Business Improvement District in the Borough of Souderton through December 31, 2025. Prior to the vote Councillor Daniel Yocum read a letter that he wrote to the Business Improvement District lending his support to the organization as they move forward. Councillor Richard Godshall expressed appreciation to the representatives of the BID for their work on the reauthorization plan. There being no further comment the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councillor Richard Godshall, and seconded by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, to adopt Resolution No. 2020-12 establishing the annual Budget of the Borough of Souderton for the calendar year 2021. The motion was approved. Councillor Richard Godshall expressed appreciation to Borough Manager Michael Coll for his efforts in developing and implementing the budget.

A motion was made by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, and seconded by Councillor Richard Godshall, to enact Ordinance No. 20-749-03 establishing the Real Estate Tax Rates for the Calendar Year 2021 and providing for discounts and penalties on the payment of taxes. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Richard Godshall, and seconded by Councillor Matt Mscichowski, to adopt Resolution No. 2020-13 authorizing the execution of a \$250,000 Tax Anticipation Note for the 2021 calendar year. Councillor Daniel Yocum stated that he will abstain due to his employment with Univest National Bank. The motion was approved by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstention by Councillor Daniel Yocum.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Michael Coll, Secretary