

**MINUTES OF SEVEN VALLEYS BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 6, 2022**

The meeting was held at the Seven Valleys Fire Hall, 35 Main Street, and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Stiles, followed by the pledge to the flag.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Zachary W. Stiles - President  
Gregory W. Kinard – Vice President  
Gregory Bonas  
Deborah J. Ferree  
John J. Neal  
William H. Stiles, II

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT**

Gary Landis

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Douglas J. Wagner – Mayor  
Cheryl D. Bahn – Secretary  
Todd A. Zeigler – Asst. Secretary & Treasurer  
D. Michael Craley – Solicitor  
Samantha Craley, Assistant Solicitor  
Jeffrey Koons – Zoning Officer

Number of Visitors in Attendance – 5

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING HELD May 3, 2022**

- Motion by Neal, seconded by Ferree, and unanimously carried to approve the May 3, 2022, meeting minutes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Michael Runkle, 125 Main Street, indicated that he was present to learn about the plans for the 111 Main Street property (Oliver).
- Lisa Heath, 113 Main Street, stated that she was present to also learn about plans to place a dwelling at 111 Main Street.
- Beverly Kunkle, 62 Maple Street, informed Council that vehicles continue to park along the street and partially across the sidewalks along her block of Maple Street. Zoning Officer Koons will investigate.
- Rene Kinard, representing Carpenter’s Workshop, inquired about the possibility and the process to subdivide 57/59 Church Street, on which stands a church building and a residential dwelling. The church portion of the property is tax exempt and the dwelling unit (currently a rental) is taxed; however, both are situated on one (1) parcel. Council advised Mr. Kinard to contact an engineer or surveyor to determine lot configuration and whether it is possible to meet ordinance requirements.

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- Charles Meissner, 25 Cherry Street, asked Council who is responsible for the trees along Cherry Street since they are in the street right-of-way. He believes that the Borough is responsible for their removal. Solicitor Craley explained that the trees are located on his property and that they are his responsibility to maintain. He further explained that the right-of-way exists to allow the Borough to widen the street, if ever needed, and that the trees are on his property and not within the improved street (portion of the right-of-way).

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- No report.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- No report.

**ZONING/UCC/CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

- Zoning Officer Koons reviewed the May report with the Council (report is on file).
- Mr. Koons reported that he received a complaint regarding early morning noise generated from Immaculate Grounds Property Maintenance, Cherry Street, and that he sent a letter making them aware of the complaint and that it is a violation under Chapter 75 of the Borough Code (Nuisances). He stated that it appears that they have complied, but he also noted to Council that there is nothing in the Code that limits the hours of noise/disturbance of the peace. Solicitor Craley suggested that Council may want to consider something should this happen again.
- It was noted that 52 Main Street was issued a violation notice for an “abandoned” camper, as well as a tree growing out of the backside of the sidewalk (blocking the walkway) and overgrown vegetation. Bahn stated that this property was before the District Court for violating the PA UCC because of the deteriorating condition of the front porch. She wanted Koons to be aware and hopes that this is not overlooked. Koons reported that the property owner is working on these issues.
- Ferree stated that there is overgrown vegetation at 103 Main Street at the rear of the property. Mr. Koons will investigate.
- Ferree also reported overgrown vegetation at the rear of 97 Church Street. Koons will investigate.
- Concern was expressed about a swimming pool at 64 Church Street (corner of Park Street) that does not have a fence around it. The threshold for requiring a fence is whether the pool can hold 24” of water. Koons will investigate.
- (William) Stiles questioned that status of the Michael Snow property (21 Mason Avenue); specifically, is he operating an auto repair business. Koons indicated that to the best of his knowledge he is not. It was confirmed that when he converts the property over to a business the residential dwelling must be removed. Koons will research the status of his building permit through Middle Department Inspection Agency (MDIA). The question is whether the building permit has expired.
- Zeigler reported that he received a telephone call from Donald Oliver, owner of 111 Main Street, who informed him that his former wife, Brenda Oliver, was no longer pursuing the placement of a mobile home on the property. He asked what the process was to return the sewer EDU to the Borough. Zeigler advised him to have Ms. Oliver contact the sewer authority

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to request that she be refunded her fees and that the sewer EDU be returned to the Borough. Mr. Oliver indicated that he would contact Ms. Oliver and explain the process.

- The question of mailing certified letters for all code violations was raised by Zeigler. He stated that numerous certified letters are mailed and never claimed, being returned to the Borough, and that each certified letter cost close to \$8.00 to mail. He asked if the certified letters should be mailed only to serious violations and all zoning violations, and start with regular first-class mail for violations such as overgrown grass, junk, etc. Following a period of discussion, and input from Solicitor Craley, it was the consensus of the Council that certified letters be mailed only for zoning ordinance violations and urgent/serious code violations.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**WEED SPRAYING (ALONG STREETS)**

- It was reported by Zeigler that his last communication with Dave Forbes was that he was expecting delivery today of a part needed for his sprayer, and that he plans to spray tomorrow, June 7<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion on options and other possible persons/businesses to provide this service to the Borough.

**CRACK SEALING**

- Zeigler stated that this concern was raised a couple of months ago and that he placed it on the agenda as a follow-up. The Street Committee will investigate when they look at the stormwater culverts on Maple Street and Union Church Road.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PENN WASTE – EARLY START TIMES**

- At the request of Penn Waste, it was the consensus of Council to allow Penn Waste to start an hour early (at 5:00 a.m.) on days that the forecast is for temperatures to reach 90 degrees or above, provided Penn Waste informs Wagner and Zeigler the day before so that notice can be distributed via social media and email.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**MAY 2022**

- Motion by Kinard, seconded by (William) Stiles, and unanimously carried to approve, accept, and file the financial report for audit, and authorize the Treasurer to pay regular bills.

**2021 AUDIT REPORT**

- Zeigler informed Council that the 2021 audit report has been completed, but that he has not yet received the report. He anticipates that it will arrive this month and that he will distribute it upon receipt.

**WAGE INCREASE – RODNEY BARSHINGER**

- The current rate of pay for Mr. Barshinger to hand deliver the Borough newsletter is \$7.50. A motion was made by Kinard, seconded by Bonas, and unanimously carried to increase his hourly rate to \$10.00 per hour.

**REPORTS**

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

- Zeigler reminded everyone of the upcoming quarterly meeting of the York County Boroughs Association, which will be held on June 23, 2022.

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**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- No report.

**LIEN COLLECTION REPORT**

- No report.

**YCSTSA REPORT**

- The Council was provided with the written monthly Sewer Authority report.
- Wagner questioned one item in the report that mentions the dumping of gray water (from food use) into the sanitary sewer connection at the fire hall. It is unclear if this would be for functions related to the fire company or if it would be for Todd & Amy Howdyshell's private (bar-b-que) business using fire company property. The sewer authority tabled the item pending more information. This issue will be monitored.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- Assistant Solicitor Craley informed Council that the PA State Police have begun to post police reports online, and that for Seven Valleys they have January & February 2022 online. She conveyed the statistics to Council.
- Kinard shared information he learned regarding the prohibition of door-to-door solicitation. While a municipality cannot prohibit door-to-door soliciting because the courts have ruled such solicitations are a first amendment protection, a municipality can require registration, etc., but that individual property owners can post their property prohibiting solicitation. Solicitor Craley confirmed this to be accurate.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. by President Stiles. The next regular Council meeting will be held on **Thursday, July 7, 2022**, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd A. Zeigler  
Assistant Secretary