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| **Mayor**Robert Mullen**Solicitor**Atty. Matthew G. BoydUfberg & Associates**Chief of Police**David Homschek**Secretary**Kelly O’Brien**Treasurer**Jennifer Davitt**Engineer** PennEastern Engineers, LLCPaul Pasonick | Borough of Avoca950 Main St.Avoca, Pa 18641Secretary@AvocaBorough.comTelephonesSecretary: 570-457-4947 Fax: 570-451-1750Police Department: 570-457-4011 Street Department: 570-451-0625 | **Council** **President**Bob Dommermuth **Vice President**Gary Halagarda Michael FullerJoe Satkowski Jr.Jim Emlaw Stanley Waleski Holly Homschek Dennis O’BrienAlan Kiesinger  |

**AVOCA BOROUGH**

**THURSDAY October 13, 2022 – COUNCIL MEETING**

**MEETING MINUTES**

 The regular monthly meeting of Avoca Borough Council was held on Thursday, October 13, 2022 with Council President, Bob Dommermuth, presiding. The work session began at6:35p.m. The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 6:45p.m. and Pledge of Allegiance was said by Holly Homschek.

 Council members in attendance: Jim Emlaw, Mike Fuller, Gary Halagarda, Holly Homschek, Alan Kiesinger, Dennis O’Brien, Joe Satkowski, Stanley Waleski and Bob Dommermuth.

 Also in attendance: Mayor Robert Mullen , Atty. Matthew Boyd, Chief David Homschek and Secretary Kelly O’Brien (via phone). Paul Pasonick was absent.

 Motion by Stan Waleski, second by Dennis O’Brien to accept minutes from last months meeting.

 Motion by Mike Fuller, second by Holly Homschek to pay all bills presented with monies available. Voice Vote: Eight ( 8 ) YES

 Motion by Joseph Satkowski, second by Dennis O’Brien to accept new correspondence as presented. Voice Vote: Eight ( 8 ) YES

 Motion by Joseph Satkowski, second by Dennis O’Brien to accept the August 2022 police report prepared by Chief Homschek and read aloud by Mayor Robert Mullen. Voice Vote: Eight ( 8 ) YES

 Motion by Alan Kiesinger, second by Holly Homschek to donate $100 to Pittston Area Baseball Booster Club. Voice Vote: Eight ( 8 ) YES

 Motion by Alan Kiesinger, second by Stan Waleski to make donation pledge to Pittston Library -$100 per year (3 year) Voice Vote: Eight ( 8 ) YES

 Motion by Holly Homschek, second by Allen Kiesinger to approve driveway permit for 402 Packer Street per Engineer recommendations. Work completed by Fortini Paving on 10/20/2022. Voice Vote: Eight ( 8 ) YES

 Motion by Holly Homschek, second by Mike Fuller to approve driveway permit for 709 Grove Street per Engineer recommendations. Voice Vote: Eight ( 8 ) YES

 Motion by Dennis O’Brien, second by Joseph Satkowski approve proposed Employee Retention/Performance Bonus for 2022 (ARP allotted funds) to be paid on 11/15/2022 $6000 for each full time police officer, assuming negotiation & MOU reached with union, & $4,000 for full time borough workers and secretary. Voice Vote: Seven (7) YES Holly Homschek Abstain

 Motion by Dennis O’Brien , second by Mike Fuller to direct Atty. BOYD to negotiate and execute a MOU with FOP if terms are reached on the payment of a retention bonus.

 Motion by Joseph Satkowski second by Holly Homschek to repeal original ordinance establishing a sole appointed Borough Treasurer, effective 01/01/2023. Voice Vote: Seven (7) Yes – Two (2) No (Mike Fuller, Stan Waleski)

 Motion by James Emlaw, second by Dennis O’Brien to direct Atty. BOYD to prepare and advertise a new and or amended ordinance, combining the positions of Borough Secretary & Borough Treasurer into one role, effective 1/1/2023. Voice Vote: Seven (7) Yes – Two (2) No (Mike Fuller, Stan Waleski)

 Motion by James Emlaw, second by Dennis O’Brien to accept (3) three year contract for garbage collection by JP Mascaro. Roll call vote – all yes

 Mike Fuller suggested that some or all funds received from Sewer Authority check be given to the Avoca Ambulance – discussion to follow.

Avoca Borough Engineer’s Report (dated 10/13/2022) prepared by Paul Pasonick. See Attached

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