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| **Mayor**  Robert Mullen  **Solicitor**  Atty. Matthew G. Boyd  Ufberg & Associates  **Chief of Police**  David Homschek  **Interim Secretary**  Sandra Van Luvender  **Treasurer**  Jennifer Davitt  **Engineer**  PennEastern Engineers, LLC  Paul Pasonick | Borough of Avoca  950 Main St.  Avoca, Pa 18641  [Secretary@AvocaBorough.com](mailto:Secretary@AvocaBorough.com)  Telephones  Secretary: 570-457-4947  Fax: 570-451-1750  Police Department: 570-457-4011 Street Department: 570-451-0625 | **Council**  **President**  Holly Homschek  **Vice President**  Gary Halagarda  Michael Fuller  Joe Satkowski Jr.  Jim Emlaw  Stanley Waleski  Bob Dommermuth  Dennis O’Brien  Alan Kiesinger |

**AVOCA BOROUGH**

**Thursday August 10, 2023 – Council Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Avoca Borough Council was held on Thursday August 10th, 2023, with Council President, Holly HOMSCHECK, presiding. The work session began at 1857HRS. The regular meeting was called to order at 1924HRS, and Pledge of Allegiance was said by Jim EMLAW.

Council Members in attendance: Gary HALAGARDA, Stanley WALESKI, Holly HOMSCHEK, Dennis O’BRIEN, Jim EMLAW and Joseph SATKOWSKI. Those absent included: Mike FULLER, Bob DOMMERMUTH and Alan KIESINGER.

Also in attendance: Mayor Robert MULLEN, Attorney Matthew BOYD, Police Chief Dave HOMSCHEK, Engineer Paul PASONICK and Interim Secretary, Sandra VAN LUVENDER.

Motion by Joseph SATKOWSKI, second by Holly HOMSCHEK to accept the minutes from last month’s meeting. Voice Vote: (6) Six Yes

Motion by Gary HALGARDA, second by Stan WALESKI to pay all bills presented with monies available. Voice Vote: (6) Six Yes

Motion by Stan WALESKI, second by Holly HOMSCHEK to accept new correspondence as presented. Voice Vote: (6) Six Yes

Motion by Joseph SATKOWSKI, second by Dennis O’BRIEN to accept police report prepared by Chief HOMSCHEK and read by Mayor MULLEN. Voice Vote: (6) Six Yes

Motion by Gary HALAGARDA, second by Holly HOMSCHEK to renew service contract with Aircon Service Company (heat/air) $1525.00 for the year. Voice Vote: (6) Six Yes

Motion by Gary HALAGARDA, second by Joseph SATKOWSKI to approve Change Order #1 for increasing Pennsy Supply’s contract by $18,310.00 (from $116,502.50 to $134,812.50) for Street Improvement Project. Roll Call Vote: (6) six Yes

Motion by Gary HLAGARDA, second by Holly HOMSCHEK to approve Pay Application #1 to Pennsy Supply for $134,812.50 for Street Improvement Project. Roll Call Vote: (6) Six Yes

Motion by Stan WALESKI, second by Holly HOMSCHECK to appoint Sandra VAN LUVENDER from Interim Secretary to Avoca Borough Secretary. Voice Vote: (6) Six Yes

Motion by Gary HALAGARDA, second by Holly HOMSCHEK to make necessary appointment for Board of Appeals (Property Maintenance Code). Roll Call Vote: (6) Six Yes

Motion by Stan WALESKI, second by Jim EMLAW to grant dispensation request by UGI in part, and to deny other part of request.  Specifically, the motion sought to grant dispensation to UGI from performing work to the ADA ramps, as those ramps are already scheduled to be replaced/repaired under current work projects, but to deny all dispensation for all other requirements, including restoration of pavement (curb to curb) for (2) two blocks of UGI work area.   Roll Call Vote: (6) six NO

Motion by Stan WALESKI, second by Holly HOMSCHEK to adjourn the meeting at 2021HRS.

Voice Vote: (6) Six Yes

**Street Department**:

Stan SPAGNUOLO was present at the meeting.

**Audience:**

* Avoca Borough Sewer Inspector, Robert BEJESKI Sr. and his son, Robert BEJESKI Jr. were present at the meeting. BEJESKI Sr. commented that he has been reviewing the current Avoca Borough sewer ordinance and he feels that there could be some items updated in the ordinance. Items noted thus far:

-Section 401: can the pipe be 4”, rather than 6” from curb, if single family – multi-family should still be 6”

-Permit form to be given to applicant and then returned when work is complete

-Section 428: lateral repairs and issues are the responsibility of the homeowner.

BEJESKI Sr. to review ordinance and suggested changes to be presented to council.

* Frederick (RJ) HALL, UGI Utilities representative was present at the meeting regarding the UGI request for dispensation on a McAlpine Street gas line installation project. HALL explained that customers at 1109, 1111 and 1114 McAlpine Street inquired about gas service to their homes. UGI was asking for dispensation for paving curb to curb and repairing ADA ramps after the pave cut was made, as a cost cutting measure.

**NOTE**: McAlpine Street Storm Sewer Project began in Spring 2023 by Stafursky Paving Company Inc. on McAlpine Street between Grove and South Streets. This project is nearing the end and they will be completing the final paving portion of the project soon. UGI was advised in June 2023 that this project was under way, and they could reach out to Stafursky to see if something could be coordinated.

**Engineer:**

Avoca Borough Engineer’s Report (dated August 10, 2023) prepared and read by Paul PASONICK. (See attached)

**Police:**

The Police Report was prepared by Chief David HOMSCHEK and read by Mayor Robert MULLEN. (See attached)

Avoca Patrol Officer, Jonathon ALAIMO, was also present at the meeting.