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| **Mayor**  Robert Mullen  **Solicitor**  Atty. Matthew G. Boyd  Ufberg & Associates  **Chief of Police**  David Homschek  **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**  Dennis O’Brien  Michael Fuller  Kyler Kovaleski  Jim Emlaw  Jonathan Gedrich  Bob Dommermuth  Gary Halagarda  Alan Kiesinger |

**AVOCA BOROUGH**

**Thursday, July 11, 2024 – Council Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Avoca Borough Council was held on Thursday, July 11, 2024, with Council President, Holly HOMSCHECK, presiding. The work session began at 1845HRS. The regular meeting was called to order at 1855HRS, and Pledge of Allegiance was said by Mayor Robert MULLEN.

Council Members in attendance: Holly HOMSCHEK, Gary HALAGARDA, Dennis O’BRIEN, Jonathan GEDRICH, Kyler KOVALESKI, Jim EMLAW and Mike FULLER. Bob DOMMERMUTH and Alan KIESINGER were absent.

Also in attendance: Mayor Robert MULLEN, Attorney Jordan DEMPSEY, Police Chief Dave HOMSCHEK, Borough Engineer, Paul PASONICK and Secretary, Sandra VAN LUVENDER.

Motion by Mike FULLER, second by Jim EMLAW to accept the minutes from last month’s meeting. Voice Vote: (7) Seven Yes

Motion by Kyler KOVALESKI, second by Dennis O’BRIEN to pay all bills presented with monies available. Voice Vote: (7) Seven Yes

Motion by Gary HALAGARDA, second by Dennis O’BRIEN to accept new correspondence as presented. Voice Vote: (7) Seven Yes

Motion by Mike FULLER, second by Jim EMLAW to accept police report prepared by Chief HOMSCHEK and read by Mayor MULLEN. Voice Vote: (7) Seven Yes

Motion by Dennis O’BRIEN, second by Jim EMLAW to authorize PennEastern Engineers, LLC and PennEastern Architects, LLC to provide professional services for the 2024 LSA Grant – Little League Club House Improvements Project.  Services include providing the required surveying, engineering and architectural services for preparing contract documents, technical specifications and construction plans for the project.  Services also include periodic inspections, construction management and assistance with the grant administration. Voice Vote: (7) Seven Yes

Motion by Gary HALAGARDA, second by Jonathan GEDRICH to accept recommendation of Penn Eastern Engineering to award work at Avoca Community Center to lowest bidder, Panzitta Enterprises, Inc. Total bid $88,100 – base bid $85,600, addendum #1 $2,500. Roll Call Vote: (7) Seven Yes

Motion by Jim Emlaw, second by Kyler KOVALESKI to updateVerizon laptop plan – unlimited data $39.99 per device. Voice Vote: (7) Seven Yes

Motion by Kyler KOVALESKI, second by Dennis O’BRIEN to approve driveway permit 747 Spring Street Avoca - Paul PASONICK did approve. Voice Vote: (7) Seven Yes

Motion by Jonathan GEDRICH, second by Kyler KOVALESKI to renew Avoca Borough Worker’s Compensation Insurance through Joyce Insurance/Risk Strategies – expiring rate $15,330, renewal rate $15,035. Voice Vote: (7) Seven Yes

Motion by Mike FULLER, second by Dennis O’BRIEN to table working with the Benefit Group (Frank LISK) to obtain cost effective Health Care coverage through Geisinger pending confirmation that the change of medical insurance does not violate the current contract with the Avoca Borough Police. Roll Call Vote: (6) Six Yes – Holly HOMSCHEK abstained.

**Audience:**

Fire Chief, Tom MATTHEWS asked who will be conducting the apartment inspections that were listed in the Ordinance that was just passed (Ordinance 6 of 2024). Chief MATTHEWS again spoke of the fire department members doing the inspections to offset the cost of a paid fireman during daytime hours. President HOMSCHEK asked Secretary VAN LUVENDER to work with Therese WRUBEL to start compiling a list of all of the apartments in town. President HOMSCHEK also advised that Joseph JONES had reached out to the Borough regarding Code Enforcement and the Borough was planning to meet with him to discuss. More information to follow on the inspections.

**Street Department**: Michael VOLCH and Stan SPAGNUOLO present.

**Council Members:**

Councilman, Mike FULLER reported that the Farmer’s Market has started. It was a slow start but very hot on opening day. He thanked those who assisted in setting up the Market.

**Engineer:** Avoca Borough Engineer’s Report (dated July 11, 2024) prepared by Paul PASONICK. (See attached)

**Police:**

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

Motion by Jim EMLAW, second by Dennis O’BRIEN to adjourn the meeting at 1917HRS.