

Borough of New Stanton
Borough Council
Via Teleconference
September 15, 2020
Minutes of Meeting

Attendance

Council members: Todd Bartlow, Joshua Bennett, Linda Echard, and Scott Sistek, Edwina Zack and Mayor Raymond Strosko. Also: Borough Solicitor John Campfield, Borough Engineer Emil Bove and Borough Manager Jeffrey McLaughlin. Absent: Tom Theis.

Call to Order

Acting President Linda Echard called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Prayer

Jeff recited a prayer.

Moment of Silence

A Moment of Silence was held in memory of Mayor Ronald Echard

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

Approval of Minutes of September 1, 2020

Todd made a motion seconded by Edwina to approve the September 1, 2020 meeting minutes Motion passed with Edwina, Linda and Todd voting yes and Scott and Josh abstaining.

Guests

Alex Brown, a borough resident and Nancy Kukurin a borough resident and also representative of Kukurin Contracting were in attendance.

Opportunity for Public Comment -- Items Not on the Agenda

There was no public comment.

Council Additions to Agenda

There were no council additions to the agenda.

Opportunity for Public Comment -- on Agenda Items Only

There were no comments.

Agenda

Linda said that in order not to hold up a guest that was present for the Shrader Hollow Culvert bid opening, it was decided to start with that agenda item first.

1. Shrader Hollow Culvert Bid Opening

Jeff opened and read aloud the bids that were received:

	1	2	3	4
Bidder Name	KGD CONTRACT., INC.	PROTOCOL, LLC	NAGY CONST. & ASPHALT PAVING	KUKURIN CONT. INC.
Bid Bond	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
References	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
PW Verification Form	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Non-Collusion Affidavit	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bid	\$97,850.00	\$110,549.30	\$131,500.00	\$143,341.00

	5	6	7	8
Bidder Name	QUIGLEY DEV. INC.	RJF DEV. CORP	JET JACK, INC.	J.F. SHEA CONST., INC.
Bid Bond	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
References	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
PW Verification Form	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Non-Collusion Affidavit	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bid	\$143,745.00	\$145,550.00	\$154,185.00	\$158,937.00

	9	10	11	12
Bidder Name	CURRY & KEPPLE, INC.	MURIN & MURIN, INC.	PLAVCHAK CONST. CO	LIGONIER CONST.
Bid Bond	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
References	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
PW Verification Form	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Non-Collusion Affidavit	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bid	\$166,357.40	\$183,580.00	\$199,675.00	\$225,000.00

Todd made motion seconded by Scott, to award the Shrader Hollow Culvert replacement contract to the apparent lowest responsible bidder, KGD Contracting, Inc. contingent upon review by Emil Bove and John Campfield of all bid documents and determining the responsibility of the bidder; if there is a problem, the award will be granted to the second low bidder Protocol, LLC. Motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kukurin logged-off from the meeting.

2. M/V on Minimum Municipal Obligation for Borough Pension Plan

Todd made a motion seconded by Josh approving the 2020 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the borough pension plan. Motion passed unanimously.

3. M/V on to Renew Commercial Choice Real Estate Contract

Todd made a motion seconded by Scott to renew the contract with Commercial Choice Realty for another 6 months. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on Fire Truck Loan

Jeff stated that before taking out the fire truck loan, the borough has to receive permission from the state to raise the borough debt ceiling as per the Local Government Unit Debt Act. He stated that the Debt Statement (which outlines the amount of debt the borough has held over the last 3 years), the Borrowing Certificate and advertisement of the ordinance incurring the fire truck debt needs approved. He stated that that these forms along the proposals received from the 2 private lenders S&T Bank and First Commonwealth Bank were e-mailed to council for their review.

Jeff reviewed the two bank proposals. He stated that the First Commonwealth loan is lower at 2.9% than S&T's at 3.07%, but First Commonwealth only guaranteed the rate for 60 days from September 1, 2020 (The borough asked that lenders provide a 90-day guarantee which S&T provided). Jeff stated that he was concerned that the borough would not be able to close within 60 days given the need to adopt the ordinance and receive approval from the state. First Commonwealth's reset ceiling is 3.40% and S&T's reset ceiling is 7%. First Commonwealth also added a fee of \$1,000. The only fee which S&T is charging is for documents.

The monthly principle and interest for S&T would be \$2,884.87 and \$2,857.76 for First Commonwealth, including adding the \$1,000 fee to the principle. This is a difference of \$27.11 a month.

Scott made a motion seconded by Todd to approve the debt statement, borrowing certificate, the letter to DCED and all other LGUDA documents, as well as to advertise the debt ordinance to be considered at the October 6, 2020 meeting contingent upon review by John Campfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Todd made a motion seconded by Scott to authorize three council members to sign off on the debt statement, borrowing certificate all of the other necessary LGUDA documents needed for the purchase of the fire truck. Motion passed unanimously.

5. M/V to Purchase 2 Lawn Tractors

Jeff reviewed the three quotes that were solicited and received:

Vendor	Per Tractor	Total for 2 Tractors
Middletown Tractor	\$ 5,936.24	\$ 11,872.48
West Central Equipment	\$ 6,959.00	\$ 13,918.00
R. Brown Supply Co. Inc.	\$ 6,929.10	\$ 13,858.20

Todd made a motion seconded by Edwina to purchase two John Deere lawn tractors from the low bidder Middletown Tractor in the amount of \$11,872.48. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion Regarding Halloween/Trick-or-Treat

It was decided not to hold the parade this year because of COVID-19, but to still allow for Trick-or-Treat for those residents that want to participate.

Scott made a motion seconded by Todd to hold Trick-or-Treat on Halloween, October 31st from 5 PM until 7 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **M/V on Proclamation Regarding May Ronald Echard, Resolution 2020-950**

Jeff read the resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-950

WHEREAS, RONALD L. ECHARD was a longtime resident of the Borough of New Stanton; and

WHEREAS, RONALD L. ECHARD served as Mayor of the Borough of New Stanton from January 2, 2018 to September 5, 2020; and

WHEREAS, RONALD L. ECHARD, was a dedicated Mayor, known for his caring of others; his involvement in his church and civic organizations; and his love of and dedication to his wife, **LINDA**, and his daughter, **ELIZABETH**; and

WHEREAS, RONALD L. ECHARD, was known for his gentle demeanor and respect for others; and

WHEREAS, RONALD L. ECHARD, passed from this life on the 5th day of September, in the year of 2020;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, and it is hereby resolved by the Borough Council of the Borough of New Stanton, in a Meeting duly assembled that we, on behalf of the Borough Council thereof, and the officials and the residents of the Borough of New Stanton, do hereby publicly express our sympathy to his wife, Linda; his daughter Elizabeth; relatives and the many friends of our departed "**RON**"; and we extend to his departed soul our earthly and humble blessings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, and it is hereby further resolved that we, individually and for the residents and friends of the Borough of New Stanton, do hereby extend our heartfelt thanks to you, "**RON**", for the long, faithful and unselfish services which you have rendered to this Borough, and particularly the residents of the Borough of New Stanton, and for your help in making this Borough a better place to live; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, and it is hereby further resolved that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting as a monument to **RONALD L. ECHARD**; and further that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to his wife, Linda; and his daughter, Elizabeth, with our sympathy and blessing.

THIS RESOLUTION HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NEW STANTON THIS 15th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY.

BOROUGH OF NEW STANTON

Todd made a motion seconded by Edwina adopting Resolution 2020-950 in honor of Mayor Ron Echard. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Resignation of Scott Sistik from Council

Jeff stated that the borough received a letter from Scott Sistik stating that he is resigning from council.

Todd made a motion seconded by Josh accepting Scott Sistik's letter which states that he is resigning from council. Motion passed with all voting in favor with the exception of Scott who abstained.

Note: Scott did not vote on the remaining motions, because he was no longer on council.

9. Filling Office of Mayor

Todd made a motion seconded by Josh adopting Resolution 2020-951 appointing Scott Sistik to the office of Mayor until the first Monday in January 2022. Motion passed unanimously.

Todd stated that with the last opening on borough council, several people came forward. He mentioned that Alex Brown was one of those that expressed interest. Alex Brown stated that he is still interested.

Todd made a motion seconded by Edwina to adopt Resolution 2020-952 appointing Alex Brown to council until the first Monday in January 2022 contingent upon the receipt of all necessary paperwork. Motion passed unanimously.

Additional Opportunities for Public Comment

There were no additional comments.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

Todd made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM. There were no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey McLaughlin
Secretary