

May 17, 2017  
Kutztown, PA

A regular meeting of the Kutztown Borough Council was called to order at 7:32 p.m. in the Kutztown Train Station by the President, Mr. Kevin Snyder, with other members of Borough Council present: Mr. Derek Mace, Mr. Edwin Seyler, Ms. Peggy Devlin and Mr. Richard Diehm. Mr. Scott Piscitelli and Mayor Sandra Green were absent. Mr. Keith Mooney, Borough Solicitor; Mr. Gabriel Khalife, Borough Manager/Treasurer; Ms. Gina M. Wiand, Borough Secretary/Public Relations and Marketing Director; Maxatawny Township representative Steve Wilson; Kutztown Area Transport Services representatives Phil Salamone and Rodney Freeman; Kutztown University student interns Daniel Steinberg and Joe Ritzko; residents James Marshall, Karen Feridun and Jim Schlegel; and Mr. Ron Devlin and Mr. Val Lacis, reporters for the Reading Eagle, were also present.

President Snyder asked if there was anyone who wished to address Council before proceeding with the agenda. There were no public comments.

Kutztown University student interns Joe Ritzko and Daniel Steinberg presented their findings from a research project they conducted, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, using mathematical equations to determine if the Borough can utilize the methane gas produced in the sludge digestion process as a fuel source. While they determined that this can be done, the next step is for the Borough to determine if the cost of equipment and installation would be cost effective in the long term.

Mr. Ritzko and Mr. Steinberg will continue their internship, throughout the summer, to hypothesize various processes and equipment, in the plant, to determine

# 11773

resources and includes water impacts from shale gas in the Pennsylvania community of Dimock.<sup>3</sup>

WHEREAS, there is significant evidence that shale gas development has an adverse effect on public health, property interests, agriculture and on our air, water, and land;<sup>4</sup>

WHEREAS, neither Pennsylvania nor the Delaware River Basin Commission has conducted a comprehensive assessment of the cumulative and long-term impacts of hydraulic fracturing and related shale gas development activities on the water resources of the Basin;

WHEREAS, the absence of such an assessment prevents the appropriate management of and avoidance of degradation from the harms associated with shale gas development, including risks to public health, property values and the clean air and water upon which all citizens and businesses depend;<sup>5</sup>

WHEREAS, the shale gas industry has received unprecedented exemptions from our nation's most important environmental and public health laws including the Safe Drinking Water Act, Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act;

WHEREAS, after exhaustive study, New York has enacted a ban on high-volume hydraulic fracturing in the state;<sup>6</sup>

WHEREAS, a vitally important cumulative impact is the climate effects of shale development in the Watershed. Natural gas is primarily methane, a greenhouse gas 86 times more efficient at trapping heat than carbon over a 20 year time frame<sup>7</sup> and its effects persist for hundreds of years<sup>8</sup>. The well documented vented and fugitive losses from natural gas systems contribute to atmospheric warming; current technology and practices have not controlled these releases. The emissions from shale gas development are so great that it is projected that their release from the build out of Pennsylvania's Marcellus shale will prevent the achievement of global warming goals in the state, accelerating climate change.<sup>9</sup> Climate change impacts on the basin's water resources include changes in precipitation and runoff that increase flooding and drought, impairment of habitats and water quality (including salt water intrusion to Delaware Estuary water supplies) and sea level rise.<sup>10</sup>

WHEREAS, the Delaware River Basin Commission has in place a moratorium that currently prohibits natural gas development in the Delaware River Basin;

WHEREAS, the Borough of Kutztown supports the continuation of these prohibitions; and WHEREAS, the Borough of Kutztown considers that the weight of evidence shows that natural gas development cannot be done safely and/or without degrading the exceptional water quality of the Delaware River;

# 11775

<sup>6</sup>[http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/materials\\_minerals\\_pdf/findingstatehvhf62015.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/materials_minerals_pdf/findingstatehvhf62015.pdf);

[http://www.health.ny.gov/press/reports/docs/high\\_volume\\_hydraulic\\_fracturing.pdf](http://www.health.ny.gov/press/reports/docs/high_volume_hydraulic_fracturing.pdf); <http://mdehn.org/resources/public-health-study-of-fracking/>

<sup>7</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). 2013. *Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.*

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2017/01/03/1612066114.full>

<sup>9</sup> PSE Healthy Energy, "Lifecycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions Associated with Projected Future Marcellus Development", 2017.

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/climate-impacts/climate-impacts-water-resource>

Passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Mace, seconded by Mr. Seyler, Resolved, To approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of the following items:

- ) Review and accept the Minutes of the April 18, 2017 Borough Council meeting.
- ) Review and accept the Borough Community Development Report for April, 2017.
- ) Ratify approval for the payment of bills and necessary transfers of funds which, have been provided to Borough Council in the Accounts Payable G/L Distribution Report, including payment dates from April 14, 2017, through May 11, 2017, as summarized below:

General Fund	\$175,321.33
Refuse and Recycling Fund	\$35,740.94
Fire Protection Tax Fund	\$250,000.00
Water Fund	\$50,663.35
Electric Fund	\$298,978.73
Sewer Fund	\$105,773.37
Telecommunications Fund	\$56,049.47

Passed by unanimous vote.

Under Borough Planning Commission, there was nothing to report.

Under Environmental Advisory Commission, there was nothing to report.

Under Community Development and Public Safety Committee, the Monthly Police Report for April, 2017 was submitted.

The following fines were collected:

# 11777

Off of the agenda, a motion was made by Mr. Seyler, seconded by Mr. Diehm, Resolved, To approve the request from the Kutztown Community Choir, to use the Brick Pavilion on June 19, 2017, for their annual picnic, and to waive the rental fee. Passed by unanimous vote.

Under Personnel Committee, a motion was made by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Seyler, Resolved, To approve the Contract for Professional Services, with Sheila Sacks, for graphic design services. Passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Diehm, Resolved, To hire Isaiah Schwartz as a lifeguard, at a rate of \$8.79 per hour, contingent upon passing all pre-employment requirements. Passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Diehm, Resolved, To accept the resignation of Library Clerk Carolyn Wasser. Passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Diehm, Resolved, To change Megan Waidelich's position from part-time Library Page to part-time Library Clerk Level I, effective May 13, 2017, at an hourly rate of \$10.85. Passed by unanimous vote.

An Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters was not needed.

Under Finance and Electric Committee, a motion was made by Ms. Mace, seconded by Mr. Seyler, Resolved, To award the bid for the sale of 21 Used Pole-Mount Transformers to, T&R Electric, in the amount of \$2,200.00. Passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Ms. Mace, seconded by Ms. Devlin, Resolved, To enter into easement agreements, regarding underground electric, for the following properties: 501 Highland Avenue, 509 Highland Avenue, 519 Highland Avenue, 531 Highland

# 11779

Planning Commission	Two Member Vacancies
Zoning Hearing Board:	Two Alternate Vacancies
Housing License Appeals Board:	One Member Vacancy
	Three Alternate Vacancies
Telecommunications Advisory Commission:	One Member Vacancy

A motion was made by Ms. Devlin, seconded by Mr. Mace, Resolved, To adjourn the Council meeting upon vote. Passed by unanimous vote. The meeting ended at 8:06 p.m.

Prepared and Attested by: Gina M. Wiand  
Borough Secretary

Kevin Snyder and Gina Wiand hereby ordered payment of the expenditures listed in the Accounts Payable G/L Distribution Report, including payment dates from April 14, 2017, through May 11, 2017, in accordance with Section 1106 of the Borough Code, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

---

Kevin J. Snyder

---

Gina M. Wiand