

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, January 3rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James Pachuillo. After the Pledge to the Flag, Regina Shade called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

James Pachuillo
Edward Oswald
George Butkus
Christiana Stallone (absent)
Gary Cirulli
Denise Stine
Steven Suruskie

Other officials present were: Mayor Francis Butkus, Charles Haws, Borough Solicitor, David Schlott, Jr., ARRO Consulting, Michael Hart, Public Works Director, Police Chief Lee Schweyer, and Regina Shade, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

Mr. Pachuillo requested a moment of silence to remember all of those in the Armed Forces, and our first responders.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 12/6/12 seconded by Mr. Cirulli. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Mrs. Stallone); motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no visitors.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mrs. Shade read the resignation letter from Mr. Paul Roth. He is currently our Fire Marshal, but will be stepping down on April 1, 2013 after serving the Borough for 32 years. Mr. Butkus made a motion to accept Mr. Roth's letter with regret; seconded by Mr. Suruskie. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried. Mr. Oswald made a motion to authorize a luncheon be held in his honor as well as a plaque be given to him for his years of dedication and service; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Mr. Cirulli made a motion to pay the bills; seconded by Mr. Oswald, AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into executive session at 7:05 p.m. for personnel matters.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 7:50 p.m. No action will be taken at this time.

WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

For the month of December they had a total of 62 calls. There were 673 calls for the entire year. Seven (7) of the calls from December were in Sinking Spring. Mrs. Stine questioned if they had someone who would be willing to be the Borough's fire marshal to which Mr. Weidner feels they could help us.

MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL:

Mr. Juzyk gave the report for December, 2012. He stated there are some issues with the televising cameras that might need to be addressed. There is an armored cable and there is some wear and tear and some nicks in the cables itself. He will need to get in touch with the local representative and have him give us his thoughts on how to proceed. W.G. Malden performed some troubleshooting on the effluent flow meter. They traced it to a faulty sensor. They replaced the sensor and now have good readings. Hirneisen Electric replaced all three (3) chemical feed pump drives damaged during the September lightning strike. Mr. Butkus questioned Mr. Juzyk how far up the nicks in the cable were. He said there was also some wear on the insulation of the cable itself. He stated they were about 80 to 90 feet from the end of the cable. The best option might be to clip off at that end. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Pachulo questioned if Tom Cat's sample site is okay. Mr. Juzyk stated they do have a new sample site but he just got the results back and they are over limit.

SEWER ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING – DAVID M. SCHLOTT, JR.:

Mr. Schlott stated the contract for the cleaning and televising of the sanitary sewer lines was first. They submitted for payment number one (1) in the amount of \$60,369.12. ARRO reviewed the work and they recommend the payment. Mrs. Stine made the motion to release the \$60,369.12; seconded by Mr. Cirulli. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried. The docket renewal application was submitted to the Delaware River Basin Commission. They also submitted the shared operating costs to the contributing municipalities for 2013. The cost will be \$5.04 per thousand gallons. Mr. Butkus asked when we balance out the estimates for 2012; he thought it was around March. Mrs. Shade stated no it is more like June.

REVITALIZATION:

Mr. Pachulo stated he received the letter stating they have started a business alliance. They are creating a new entity with a governing body that will go hand in hand with what they are trying to create with the Main Street.

100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE:

Mr. Brian Hoffa stated he was glad to be back after an illness. He did not have too much to report. There is a meeting in a few weeks where he is hoping to be putting together an official

100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE (cont'd):

agenda. He hopes to be able to distribute that at the next meeting and start getting it into the newsletter. On March 10th they are hoping to have a community wide breakfast to kick off the anniversary. Mr. Pachuillo stated if they need anything of Council just ask.

WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:

Mrs. Shade stated it was said at the last Council meeting they will be attending the meetings just like the other departments do. Council made this request of them. Mr. Butkus said after talking with Mr. Miller after the last meeting, they were unsure if they would be able to have a rep there for this meeting, but they are working on getting someone to attend.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

POLIC CHIEF – LEE SCHWEYER:

Chief Schweyer stated we had a forcible rape in the Borough. An arrest has been made. Chief Schweyer said we are having a rash of car break ins. People need to lock their vehicles.

COUNCILMAN – STEVEN SURUSKIE:

Mr. Suruskie questioned if there is anything that could be done about people parking in their front yards. Mr. Hart stated no. A brief discussion ensued. Chief Schweyer and Mr. Hart will look into this further and if something can be done, they will do it.

COUNCILMAN – GEORGE BUTKUS:

Mr. Butkus stated the Recreation Board will not be meeting in January; February will be there next meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – MICHAEL HART:

Mr. Hart stated his yearend report was in the binder for Council's review. At the last Council meeting, Council requested that Mr. Hart look at the street paving process. He did and feels four (4) streets could use total replacement of the asphalt. The worst is South Hull Street from Penn Avenue to the railroad crossing. We can't pave that street yet as we need the utility work to be completed. The next would be Park Avenue. It will be from Ruth to the dead end. For 2014, Mr. Hart suggested we redo Park. Then in 2015 we could do South Hull because the utility companies know about it and they are planning on doing their work. The other two (2) streets are

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – MICHAEL HART (cont'd):

Elizabeth from Mull to Oberlin and, then Spring Crest Boulevard. Mr. Suruskie questioned if the amount it is traveled on matters. Mr. Hart said no. There is a lot of base damage in the upper part and left untreated it will start falling apart. A discussion ensued. Mr. Suruskie asked for that portion how much it would cost to repair it. Mr. Hart stated \$230,000.00. Mr. Pachuilto stated that is why for years we have been asking for a minimal increase so we can do what we need and then put it into the following year's budget. Mr. Pachuilto stated we should move forward if everyone is in agreement and put this into the 2014 budget. A brief discussion ensued. Mayor Butkus asked how long in advance you give landowner's about replacing curbs if they need to be replaced. Mr. Hart said a year. On Park there are only two little spots, Mr. Hart said. Mr. Suruskie questioned if we see we didn't have a bad winter and we have money there, can we do the project this year or must we give them a whole year. Mr. Hart said it is best to give them the year. Mrs. Shade stated before we do anything else we need to look at the rental properties throughout the Borough. Any monies that we have, she believes we need to look into establishing that Ordinance. We are putting together a beautiful Main Street Project; we are celebrating our 100th Anniversary and if you go a block or two in from Penn, it looks horrific at places. Mrs. Shade said Mr. Hart is correct but the property owners need a year to repair their properties. She questioned if we don't give them a year are we going to regret that latter. Another discuss ensued.

TREASURER'S REPORT:**General Account**

Opening Balance – November 30, 2012	\$ 97,766.98
PLGIT	9,117.19
Invest	40,184.96
Recreation	
General	64,268.64
McDonald's Escrow	4,002.03
Buckeye Escrow	87,734.00
100 th Anniversary Acct.	5,000.00
Fleetwood Bank Acct.	4,246.15
Deposits as of December 31, 2012	274,896.21
Checks Written	227,633.60
Payroll	74,946.36
Wex Bank (Fuel) auto debit	282.60
PENNVEST auto debit	2,785.50
To be Paid	<u>19,418.24</u>
Balance as of January 3, 2013	\$262,149.86

Sewer Account

Opening Balance – November 30, 2012	\$923,495.84
PLGIT	61,420.55
Invest	322,635.13
Deposits as of December 31, 2012	138,601.42
Checks Written	291,907.83
PENNVEST auto debit	15,243.07
Returned ACH	56.03

TREASURER'S REPORT (cont'd):

To be Paid	<u>84.59</u>
Balance as of January 3, 2013	\$1,138,861.42

Mrs. Stine made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mr. Cirulli. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried.

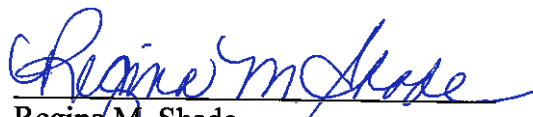
VICE PRESIDENT – EDWARD OSWALD:

Mr. Oswald made a motion to allow Officer Travis to use his sick time beginning in May for paternity leave for a period of four (4) weeks; seconded by Mr. Cirulli. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Cirulli made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Regina M. Shade
Borough Secretary/Treasurer