

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, February 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James Pachulo. After the Pledge to the Flag, Regina Shade called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

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

Other officials present were: Mayor Francis Butkus, Charles Haws, Borough Solicitor, Thom Ludgate, Ludgate Engineering, 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. Pachulo requested a moment of silence to remember all of those in the Armed Forces, and our first responders.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Oswald made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 1/3/13 and 1/23/13 seconded by Mr. Cirulli. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1 (Mr. Butkus); motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Patrick Konopelski addressed Council about his business, Konopelski Katering, as well as Willow Glen Park. He is requesting that the Borough eliminate the \$2,000.00 public gathering application fee. In order to keep these events going he was considering hiring his own off duty policeman/fire police/security guard personnel. He feels no other Borough business is impacted by this Ordinance just his business. He went on to say the Ordinance from Spring Township is identical with the exception; there is no fee. He would like to work together with the Borough on their Centennial events. He again asked Council to eliminate the \$2,000.00 fee. Mr. Oswald agreed with Mr. Konopelski. A brief discussion ensued as to have him pay any costs that might be incurred as opposed to paying the \$2,000.00 upfront. It was discussed that some type of fee be charged because it does take time for Mr. Hart to do what he needs to do. He would pay a minimum cost and put a provision if he goes over, he will need to pay that amount. Mr. Konopelski is in agreement with that. Mr. Oswald made a motion to authorize our Solicitor to redo the Gathering Ordinance and make any changes necessary and bring to the next meeting; seconded by Mrs. Stallone. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried.

Mrs. Lisa Gantner of the Recreation Board was next to address Council. The Easter Egg Hunt is March 23rd at 10:00 a.m. They are again doing it with the fire company. The fire company does a lot. They have passed out letters to past leaders asking if they are interested in returning this year as leaders. They are to let them know by March 1st. This will leave enough time to advertise

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT (cont'd):

if needed. They are looking at having six (6) people. They would like playground to start Monday, June 17th and end Friday, August 9th. The hours will be the same as last year. It is eight (8) weeks. Council was fine with the dates and times.

Mr. Ward Moatz was next to address Council. He would like a stop sign erected. There is a speed limit of 25 mph. He said the cars fly up Huron after coming off Martin's Road. He would like Council to consider placing a stop sign at the corner of Huron and Maria. Mr. Pachuilto stated we did discuss this at the workshop meeting and it was turned over for a study as we can't just put stop signs up. They must meet certain criteria. Ludgate is doing the study. We just received the accident reports from the police department. That is a key component for the study. Mr. Suruskie asked how long we are looking at to get some answers. Mr. Ludgate stated a few weeks. A brief discussion ensued as to the criteria needed to put a stop sign in. Mr. Cirulli suggested perhaps placing a police officer there until a decision is made on the stop sign might be a deterrent. Chief Schweyer stated they can do that. Mr. Hart will paint speed lines as well.

COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no communications.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into executive session at 7:25 p.m. for personnel matters.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 8:15 p.m. Mrs. Stallone made a motion to hire a part time police clerk, Cheryl William, at a rate of \$12.00/hr. while on a 90 day probationary period then increasing her rate of pay to \$13.00 after the probationary period; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried. Mr. Oswald made a motion to hire the law firm of Siana, Bellwoar, and McAndrew for the purpose of reviewing our Standard Operating Procedures for the police department to tighten them up at a cost of \$1,000.00; seconded by Mrs. Stallone. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried.

WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

For the month of January they had a total of 67 calls. Twelve (12) of the calls were in Sinking Spring. We had no fire loss for the month of January. He stated they were awarded a grant from the Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$52,465.00. They will use this to upgrade some of their vehicle rescue equipment. He handed out the annual report.

MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL:

Mr. Juzyk gave the report for January, 2013. He said they did encounter some high flows on the 31st due to the storm. They placed the plant into storm mode. They were in compliance the entire time. Currently they are back to normal. They have the Envirosight camera reel and cable being worked on by A&H Equipment. The electric unit heaters in the dumpster room and the chlorine building have malfunctioned. The motors for both are on order through MBR. Selective Insurance has wrapped up the claim for the lightning strike. Mrs. Shade stated we have received the check. A discussion ensued as to how long he should keep the records of the pretreatment process. Mr. Juzyk stated he feels the seven (7) year mark is perfect.

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

Mr. Schlott apologized for not having a report. We did receive an application for payment from Sewer Specialty Services. The amount is \$24,603.50. This is for the work that was done primarily in January. He recommended we pay it. Mrs. Stine made the motion to pay the bill; seconded by Mr. Oswald. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried. There are a few items that need to be completed but the majority of the work is done. They will be back the week of the 18th. They are well within the time frame needed. The letters went out to the contributing municipalities in regards to the Chapter 94 Reports.

REVITALIZATION:

Mr. Ludgate stated they did meet with the DEP and nothing has really changed. They are looking at least between one (1) and three (3) funding applications from BOSS 2020.

100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE:

Mr. Brian Hoffa stated our actual anniversary is March 10, 2013 and we will be 100 years old. He passed out a list of events that are planned throughout the upcoming year. On March 10th we will be starting the celebration with a community breakfast. Mrs. Lisa Gantner is in charge of this event. It will be at the Sinking Spring Social Quarters. The time is 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. She asked for Council to come out and help kick this off around 10:00 a.m. It will be put up on the Facebook page. The paper for the banners was distributed as well. We will be getting 45 banners; 44 will be hung up on Penn Avenue and the other banner will be put in the archives for the Borough. The cost of the banners is \$52.25 apiece. They are double sided. We have a few businesses that are interested in possibly sponsoring a banner. We have about half the baskets sold. Mrs. Stine made a motion to pay for the banners out of the General Fund; seconded by Mrs. Stallone. Ayes – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried. People or businesses can sponsor (buy) a banner. They decided on the yellow/gold banner color.

WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:

There was no one at the meeting. Mrs. Shade stated it was said to add them to the agenda every month as they would be attending. Mrs. Stine stated she will talk with Mr. David Miller to see if they will be having someone attend the meetings as previously discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Western Berks Ambulance agreement was next on the agenda. Council was okay with the changes. There was no change to the millage rate. Mr. Haws had no issue with the changes they were seeking. Mrs. Stine made the motion to sign the agreement for the year 2013; seconded by Mr. Cirulli. AYES – 5, NAYS – 1 (Mr. Oswald), ABSENT – 1; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

POLICE CHIEF – LEE SCHWEYER:

Chief Schweyer stated he received correspondence from the Animal Rescue League. They are asking for \$1,000.00. Chief Schweyer did call them about perhaps giving \$500.00. He has heard nothing as of yet so he is asking this be tabled. Chief Schweyer stated he received \$1,500.00 from the VFW so we can purchase a rifle for the car. He is asking Council to accept the check and permission to send a thank you note to which Council agreed. Chief Schweyer asked for a brief Executive Session at the end of the meeting for a personnel matter.

COUNCILWOMAN – CHRISTINA STALLONE:

Mrs. Stallone stated she spoke to Mrs. Shade at length that afternoon. She, Mrs. Shade, and Mr. Hart will be meeting once a week.

BOROUGH SECRETARY/TREASURER:

Mrs. Shade stated we need to ratify the purchase of the server. The cost currently is \$11,211.00. Mrs. Stallone made a motion to purchase the server at a cost of \$11,500.00; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried.

COUNCILWOMAN – DENISE STINE:

Mrs. Stine was asking for permission to allow the library to run an ad for a new person. The person they just hired has resigned already. Mrs. Stallone made the motion to allow the library to run an ad for a new person; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried. Mr. Oswald questioned if Councilpeople can work for the Borough; he thought if there was over a certain number or residents you could not. Mr. Haws didn't believe that would be a problem, however he will check into it.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – MICHAEL HART:

Mr. Hart stated he has quotes for the replacement of the heating system at the garage. It is currently "dead". They can't get it running. He spoke to four (4) different contractors and received three (3) quotes. The cheapest quote is from Alltemp for a total of \$16,495.00. That is the lowest. It is 400,000 BTUs. This includes installation. It will be gas. This does not include the removal of the tank. We will take care of the removal at some point in the future. Currently, we will make

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

sure that it is secure so we can get heat in the building. Mr. Pachuillo said he knew it wasn't budgeted but can we afford it. Mr. Hart stated he didn't think we had much choice. Mr. Pachuillo said he understood but perhaps we will have to forego something else. Mr. Cirulli made a motion to authorize Mr. Hart to move ahead with Alltemp at a price of \$16,459.00; seconded by Mrs. Stallone. Mr. Suruskie asked if smaller companies might be able to do that type job at a lower cost. Mr. Hart said not really as they need to supply plans for this as well. The gas line is free from UGI. Mr. Pachuillo stated a little company doesn't have the ability to get signed and sealed plans. This is a commercial building so there are a lot more things that need to be done to pass the State inspection. AYES – 5, NAYS – 1 (Mr. Suruskie), ABSENT – 1; motion carried. The only heat they currently have is from a kerosene torpedo heater that they run during the day while they are there. Mr. Hart informed Council that he went through a Labor & Industry five (5) year permit audit that day. Everything worked wonderful and there were no findings against the Borough. The report was fine. Mrs. Stallone said the street department did great through all the little snowstorms we had. The streets were in pristine condition. Mr. Hart stated he will pass on the comments to the rest of the road crew. Mr. Cirulli asked if we had salt to which Mr. Hart stated we are low however it has been ordered. The State has a backlog; we are on the list. We have enough to do at least two (2) heavy rounds of salt and perhaps 1/3 light one. He has 75 tons ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into executive session at 9:02 p.m. for personnel matters.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 9:05 p.m. Mrs. Stallone made a motion to accept the resignation of part time police officer, Kevin Chase; seconded by Mr. Cirulli. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried. Mrs. Stine made a motion to find a replacement for that position; seconded by Mr. Cirulli. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1; motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:**General Account**

Opening Balance – December 31, 2012	\$226,116.68
PLGIT	9,118.12
Invest	40,184.42
Recreation	
General	64,273.26
McDonald's Escrow	4,002.30
100 th Anniversary Acct.	5,000.00
Fleetwood Bank Acct.	4,246.15
Deposits as of January 31, 2013	106,062.26
Checks Written	107,972.04
Payroll	110,413.95
PENNVEST auto debit	2,785.50
To be Paid	<u>26,934.92</u>
Balance as of February 7, 2013	\$210,898.78

TREASURER'S REPORT(cont'd):**Sewer Account**

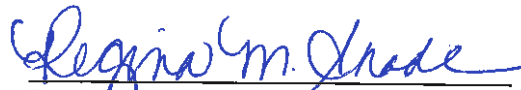
Opening Balance – December 31, 2012	\$754,744.32
PLGIT	61,427.25
Invest	322,633.90
Deposits as of January 31, 2013	122,435.06
Checks Written	138,945.92
PENNVEST auto debit	15,243.07
To be Paid	<u>1,309.21</u>
Balance as of February 7, 2013	\$1,105,762.33

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Cirulli made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



 Regina M. Shade
 Borough Secretary/Treasurer