

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, April 2, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President Stewart Wenrich. After the Pledge to the Flag, Regina Shade called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

Stewart Wenrich
Bruce Light
Barbara Kutz
Lawrence Schmidt
George Butkus (absent)
James Zerr (absent)
Elizabeth Sloan

Other officials present were: Mayor Clarence Noecker, Charles Fitzpatrick, Borough Solicitor, James Oxenreider, Chief of Police, David Schlott, Jr. ARRO Consulting, Michael Hart, Public Works Director, and Regina Shade, Borough Secretary/Treasurer, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

Mr. Wenrich requested a moment of silence for the people of the Armed Forces and for Fire and Police Departments who keep us safe.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Kutz made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 5, February 25, March 5, and March 25th meetings; seconded by Mr. Schmidt. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

VISITORS:

The first visitor to address Council was Mr. Michael Setley. Mr. Setley is with Concord Public Finance. He has met with Council on a number of financial items. Mr. Setley stated he had met with a small group of Council people (Mrs. Kutz and Mr. Schmidt), Mayor Noecker as well as Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Shade, Mr. Hart, and Police Chief Oxenreider. This was to discuss funding for two (2) projects. That evening he also met with Mr. Fitzpatrick and Mr. Schlott in relationship to the sewer project. Mr. Setley is looking for authorization to explore bank financing for two (2) projects. He feels that the committees are in agreement with this as well. One (1) would be a combination of capital costs that the Borough expects to incur with regards to the Queen Street project as well as recouping capital costs that had occurred in 2008 and early 2009 that were paid from the General Fund. Some of the proceeds of this loan might be used to pay operating expenses, it is not financing to fund operating expenses. What has happened was a number of capital expenditures have been made out of general operating funds that probably should have been financed at that time. This is to recover a portion of that money to replenish the General Fund and in addition, fund the expected expense of the potential Queen Street project. Mr. Setley stated he had a handout and explained what some of the sheets were all about. He explained the first few sheets reflect the borrowing of up to a million dollars. This is not a situation where we will borrow it and get a million dollars upfront. You will draw it down as needed. If you need it you draw down on it; if you don't need it, you don't touch it. If you were to borrow the entire amount and

VISITORS (cont'd) :

repay it over twenty (20) years, it would cost the Borough about .26 mills or about \$52,000.00. He again stated it is not for sure you will be drawing down a million dollars. If you draw down half that money, the impact to the Borough would be half that amount. You are not committing yourself to borrowing at this point; you are authorizing Mr. Setley to go out and get bank proposals. They would be back on April 22nd or May 7th to discuss the findings. The second piece is to put funding together for the sewer project. At this point, we do not know how much the Borough will be "on the hook for". There is an application for a low interest loan at PENNVEST; and other paperwork was submitted for an H2O grant. We are hoping we get a lot of money but in order to move ahead with the bidding process, the contractors want to make sure we have money so we can pay them. This is what we would refer to as a bond anticipation note or a grant anticipation note. This is short term financing where the Borough would borrow the money for a three (3) year period expecting that the interest would be paid out of sewer revenues or out of proceeds of the loan till we know what the long term financing will be. This is just an interim measure at this point. We will need to do this anyway because even if PENNVEST agreed to pay the whole thing we would have a cash flow problem as it is reimbursement financing so we will have to pay them and then get the money. Ms. Sloan stated she was okay with the sewer piece however on the other item, she questioned the amount. Mr. Setley explained that would be the maximum amount. She stated until Borough Council appropriates it and/or draws it down we are not paying anything on it. He continued we should have some time when the loan closes which will probably be some time the middle of this year till the end of 2010 to draw down as much or as a little as we like. Then come 2011 we will begin paying it back. Ms. Sloan questioned if the window was a year to draw on it. Mr. Setley said a year and half. Ms. Sloan questioned Mr. Schmidt what funds we were making up for. She went on to question if this was the money from last year when we were looking to loan \$400,000.00 however we only did \$250,000.00. Mr. Schmidt stated partially; however this goes back further. He continued that we don't have a capital budget so when we bought the fire rescue, the truck for the Public Works Department, the pole building we were taking the money right out of our operating General Fund. What we are doing now is replenishing the General Fund for the money spent and allowing us to repay those items over a longer period of time to which Mr. Setley agreed. Mr. Wenrich asked Mrs. Kutz her thoughts and recommendation. Mrs. Kutz recommended that we proceed with getting this ASAP. We need to get the ball rolling so we can work on future projects. Mr. Setley stated you are not locking yourself in at this point. Mrs. Kutz stated her concern is with Queen Street; that needs to be done now. The interest rates are lower at this time also. Ms. Sloan requested that we get proposals for \$500,000.00 and \$1,000,000.00 as she would like to look at the differences (i.e. interest rates). She feels this would help us make the ultimate decision. Mr. Setley said this would be roughly half. Mr. Setley said it was like 3/10th of a mill for a full million and it is like .15mills for a half million. Mr. Setley is recommending the full million as you don't have to draw it all. If you get a draw down loan for a half a million and it turns out you need \$700,000.00, you will pay guys like him to go out and do this all over again. If you get it in place for a million dollars, you just take what you need and pay accordingly. Mr. Light questioned if we could save money by selling our sewer plant and get out of the whole sewer business. We are going to go in debt for \$5,000,000.00. This way if we sell the plant we can take that money and put it into the bank. There will be a savings on the sewer alone. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated we do have a Corrective Action Plan in place for expansion and upgrade of the system. He doesn't believe whether we sell the system or not, that does not impact the need to upgrade the system. We still need to do that.

VISITORS (cont'd) :

Mrs. Kutz said we have already committed to it. Mr. Fitzpatrick agreed; we have gone out for bids. While the proposal could be acted upon by Borough Council he does not think that impacts what Mr. Setley was saying about needing to borrow money to fund the sewer project. It needs to be done at this point. Mr. Schlott said we are under obligation since we are the permittee to do the upgrades. As well in the event we should sell the plant and those assets, the sewer rates will be based on the new owner establishing the rates. A brief discussion ensued as to the cost of the sewer rates if this should happen. Mr. Fitzpatrick along with Mr. Schlott stated this work must be done regardless of who owns the system. Mr. Wenrich stated if you look at your sewer bill the average monthly sewer bill is \$33.00. This comes to a dollar a day. This is very good. We can't use the system plant as a money maker. Mr. Schmidt stated we are getting off the track to which both Mr. Wenrich and Mr. Fitzpatrick agreed. Ms. Sloan had one (1) more question. She wondered if cost wise would it cost anymore money to go out and get bids for \$500,000, \$1,000,000 or \$1,500,000.00. Mr. Setley stated if you look at the estimated cost it really doesn't cost us too much more to go out for the \$1,000,000. Mr. Setley explained that if you cut the cost down to \$500,000 that does not cut down on the upfront costs at all. Mr. Schmidt questioned why would you want to do that? Mr. Schmidt stated he doesn't understand why she was asking that question. He went on to say that Mr. Setley stated if we go for the million dollars and don't use it, there is no problem. Mr. Setley said again if we go for the lower amount and find out you need more, you are going to be repaying the same lawyer fees, etc. as you did when you went for the lower so in essence, it will be a duplication. Mrs. Kutz made a motion to authorize Mr. Setley to begin the process of soliciting proposals for a \$1,000,000 drawdown loan as needed; seconded by Mr. Schmidt. Mr. Light questioned if we need an answer that evening. Mr. Wenrich stated we have a motion and a second on the floor. Mr. Light again asked the question must we vote on this tonight; will it change what he has in front of him now. Mrs. Kutz wanted to move forward with this. Mr. Setley stated you never have to do any of this. Mr. Schmidt stated we are delaying the projects. He continued he does not know why you would want to delay anything. Mr. Light stated this is the first time he looked over the numbers and everything. Mr. Setley said whether he is back at the end of April or beginning of May, if Borough Council does not like the numbers you just vote it down. All we are doing now is getting the information. Mr. Wenrich asked for a roll call vote. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0; motion carried. Mrs. Kutz made a motion to authorize Mr. Setley to begin the process of soliciting proposals for a \$5,500,000.00 loan for the expansion/upgrade of the sewer plant; seconded by Mr. Schmidt. Mr. Wenrich requested a roll call vote. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0; motion carried. Mr. Setley thanked Council and stated he will be in touch.

The next visitor was Mr. Bernie Campbell. Mr. Campbell stated at the last meeting Mr. Butkus asked Mr. Campbell if he preferred to rent his home or to own it. Mr. Campbell chuckled and told him at that time due to the economic situation he would probably prefer to rent it. Mr. Campbell did some research and found a Borough very similar to our size in New Jersey. In 1999 they authorized their consultants to do a study of their water and sewer systems. He called them since that was over 10 years ago, and told them why he was calling. They told Mr. Campbell that they sold their water system; they held onto their sewer system but someone else leased it so they were not responsible for the maintenance or operating expenses. They told Mr. Campbell if they had to do it all over again, they would have sold both. Currently, they would like to sell the sewer system however they can't find a buyer for it. The New Jersey regulations have gotten so tight they

VISITORS (cont'd) :

just can't find a buyer. He just wanted to let Council know what he found. He stated he does come to Council and takes what they say to heart that is why he decided to do some research on this issue. He is not saying this is the right thing to do but it might be something we should look into because perhaps in ten (10) years it might be too late. We might be in the same situation they are; we want to sell it but the regulations won't allow it. The one (1) thing these gentlemen explained to Mr. Campbell is that the rates and the rates going up are something that should be negotiated and placed in the contract. How much rates can rise and when the rates can rise can be placed into the agreement. This is the give and take on the value you receive for the assets they are buying. Their recommendation is if they had the chance to sell their sewer system, they would do it. He gave a copy of his findings to Mrs. Shade. He stated he realizes this is just one (1) case study but it is one (1) more than he had looked at before coming to the last meeting. He also stated that this municipality is about the same size as we are; around 4,000 people. The other item was on the Revitalization Project. He continued from the financial team, he is working on the financial impact the revitalization would have on the Borough. They are crunching numbers and hopefully by the next Council meeting he will be able to give a full report on the economic impact. He is also considering the Boscov property as the "kick start" of the revitalization project. He continued we are talking about budgets here and the best way to increase the Borough's confers is to bring more people into Sinking Spring. He feels the Revitalization Project is the best way or at least one (1) of the best ways to do that. He thanked Council for their time.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mrs. Shade read a letter from Friendly's Restaurant explaining about a water leak they had in their parking lot. They were looking for exoneration for at least part of the sewer as the water never did end up in the sewer system. It was for about an eight (8) month period. They included a copy of the paid bill for the work along with pictures of the leak being repaired. Mrs. Shade stated Ms. White had done some investigative work on this and she reported her findings as well. She felt that we should give them a credit of \$3,178.80 which is half the overage. Ms. Sloan stated we would basically be splitting the lose with them because it was so long till they notified us. Mr. Schmidt stated we have done this in the past however we have only done this when PA American has issued them a credit. Mrs. Shade stated they actually did use the water it leaked into their system so PA American won't be issuing them a credit; however it did not enter is our sewer system. She went on to explain it was similar to the credit we gave for the gentleman's leakage that he stated his neighbor turned on (outside faucet) while he was away. PA American did not give him a credit; however we did issue him a credit as it went into his backyard not the sewer system. A brief discussion ensued on to what size leak it was. Mrs. Kutz made a motion to reimburse Friendly's a credit in the amount of \$3,178.80; seconded by Ms. Sloan. Ms. Sloan would like a letter back asking for a full discharge letter from Friendly's. Mrs. Shade stated it will be a credit to their account not a physical check. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated you should authorize Mrs. Shade to write a letter stating this is the adjustment. AYES – 5, NAYS -0; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to pay the bills; seconded by Ms. Sloan. AYES -5, NAYS – 0; motion carried. Mrs. Kutz stated we need to congratulate Mrs. Shade on getting the \$1,000.00

APPROVAL OF BILLS (cont'd):

down payment back from the Reading Phillies. Mrs. Kutz stated hopefully at some time in the future we shall be able to have an event like we had at the stadium. Mr. Wenrich along with Ms. Sloan thanked Mrs. Shade also.

REVITALIZATION PROJECT:

Mr. Jim Pachuillo stated they had not had a meeting since the last time Council met. However in listening to Borough Council talk about the finances and knowing these are hard economic times he thought about ways this Committee could help with the financial situation. He went on to say to keep costs down, they will be going down to one (1) meeting a month as opposed to the two (2) they currently have. He stated they will combine the two (2) meetings into one (1). If a subcommittee needs to meet they are secure in themselves that the consultants really will not be needed. They can bring that back to the main Committee then. He stated the Revitalization Committee is generating money by just having meetings. One (1) meeting a month we average about (15) fifteen people in attendance. Mr. Loth has these people sign in. By signing in that allows us to credit everyone an hour at least for being at the meeting. The credit is about \$50 per person per meeting; so at (15) people at a meeting for an hour that will get us \$750.00 for that meeting. For the year 2008 we earned about \$18,000.00; this mean this goes toward "matching funds" for any grants we are hoping to receive. Some grants stated you must match what you are asking for. Mr. Pachuillo stated he did not know how to use the power point equipment and questioned if Mr. Hart could give him a lesson on how to use it. Mr. Hart will work with him.

MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL:

Mr. Peter Juzyk gave the report for March, 2009. Mr. Juzyk stated they had an issue with their printer that was purchased in October of 2007 by the Borough. Lynx took a look at the unit and there were a few issues with it. The estimate of the repairs was about \$600.00. Mr. Juzyk stated he spoke to Mrs. Shade and Mrs. Shade said she would contact Council. She got back to Mr. Juzyk and it was decided to replace the printer. The new printer was installed that day and they are up and running. There were some sewer connections to the Mt. Home Road sewer line made during the month. He was not sure if all the connections were made. He did verify that flow was being received by that pump station. Miller Environmental would like to receive a written notice to proceed to begin operation and maintenance of the Mt. Home Road pump station. Mr. Schlott will speak to Mrs. Shade and we shall get it done. The Borough did receive a check from Zurich Insurance for the light pole. During the sewer committee meeting, Mr. Butkus had requested a breakdown of the sampling and analysis of influent waste stream into the Borough's collection system. He attached the costs. If everything is tested for it would come in just shy of \$475.00 per sample. The discussion at that time was that the cost of this would be paid by whatever municipality is flowing that into us. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Schlott stated with the permit renewal, once the expansion permit went to the DEP in then went to the Delaware River Basin Commission for their approval. They generally approve it with one (1) stipulation. That stipulation is the total dissolved solids going through the treatment facility not exceed 1,000 milligrams per liter. He explained why this needs to be looked at. Ms. Sloan stated that this is basically to protect the Delaware River Gap. Mr. Schlott stated it was. This will be done once a week or perhaps every

MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL (cont'd):

other week. Mr. Schlott stated he believes it will need to be tested once a quarter for the new permit however in the beginning we shall need to establish a baseline. Ms. Sloan made a motion to test the total dissolved solids weekly for a two (2) month period and then dropping it down to once a month for an additional two (2) months; seconded by Mrs. Kutz. Mr. Schlott stated we need a phosphorus level as well. At some point we are going to be doing some jar testing. Ms. Sloan amended her motion to add phosphorus testing every other week as well as TDS every week for two (2) months and then dropping down to once a month for an additional two (2) months; seconded by Mrs. Kutz. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0; motion carried. Mr. Juzyk stated nothing unusual was observed during the month of March. Mr. Wenrich questioned how the flow was the other week when we had all the rain. Mr. Juzyk stated they had elevated a bit but they didn't reach the one (1) million gallon mark. There was no damage to the plant either, he reported. Mrs. Shade stated she transferred the title and Mr. Hart is in possession of a municipal plate for the trailer.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICES:**POLICE CHIEF – JAMES OXENREIDER:**

Chief Oxenreider had no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY – LAWRENCE SCHMIDT:

Mr. Schmidt stated the safety committee will be meeting sometime in the next month to review the updated landlord ordinance. As Council has been extremely busy with other things he placed this item on hold for a few months.

LIBRARY/TASK FORCE MERGER – ELIZABETH SLOAN:

Ms. Sloan had nothing to report.

RECREATION, SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE – BARBARA KUTZ:

Mrs. Kutz stated the Easter Egg Hunt was this coming Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and encouraged everyone to bring their children. It is at the fire company. She continued that Mr. Schmidt's wife put a lot of time into getting the eggs ready for the hunt. The finance committee had met the day before. She went on to say that Mrs. Shade came up with many cost saving ideas that were reviewed at their meeting. It was agreed that the cost of our server which will be in the area of \$12,000.00 shall be divided up by all four (4) funds. That will bring the cost down to \$3,000.00 a piece. The General, Sewer, Library and Fire will be contributing. Mr. Hart had made a request for electric and heat into the pole building. This will be deferred till next year or the following. This will save us another \$50,000.00. The playground leaders will be cut down to four (4) this year as opposed to the five (5) we have had in the past. This could save us about \$3,000.00. We placed \$35,000.00 into the recreation budget for a roof at Brookfield Manor playground. We are going to place this on hold for another year or two. Mr. Pachuillo brought up about their savings. We are going to be dividing up the supplies to the other funds as well. We give the Library \$35,000.00 a year and we are going to be dropping it back to \$30,000.00 for the year. That will save us

RECREATION – BARBARA KUTZ cont'd:

\$5,000.00 a year. This will save us about \$103,000.00 this year.

MAYOR NOECKER:

The Mayor stated the overtime we have spent so far this year in the police department was \$15,716.00. The police department has requested going to twelve (12) hour days. The Chief had some good supporting documentation that it would be a benefit. We are currently at ten (10) hour work days. The Mayor was very much opposed to this for some time because he was not sure of some figures. However after yesterday hearing some figures he is willing to go along with a twelve (12) hour per shift with certain specifications plus a contract drawn up by our solicitor. It must be feasible for both sides. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated what was discussed was to have a trial basis; a twelve (12) hour day which would last for a period of three (3) months. Unless it was extended it would automatically go back to the ten (10) hour workday we are currently working. This would give both sides the ability to see if it is beneficial. Mr. Schmidt said you were going to put something together so Mrs. Shade could draft a letter. Council will have to authorize the letter. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated this could only be done for June. Chief Oxenreider stated that was true and it would actually begin on June 7, 2009. That will be the first full pay period. Ms. Sloan questioned if three (3) months will be enough or should we make six (6) months? Mayor Noecker felt ninety (90) days is enough. Ms. Sloan stated so if it works, we will extend this to the end of the year. The answer was yes. Mr. Light made a motion to authorize Mr. Fitzpatrick to draw up a letter stating that the police department will begin working twelve (12) hour days starting June 7, 2009; seconded by Mr. Schmidt. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

RECREATION, SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE – BARBARA KUTZ:

Mrs. Kutz stated over the last several years Council has had the privilege of having cell phones. It was decided that Council could give up their cell phones to help save money. We currently have sixteen (16) cell phones. She feels we could disconnect about 10 or so phones. Mrs. Shade stated she did send an e-mail and carbon copied Mrs. Kutz on the e-mail. Mr. Wenrich stated he received an e-mail regarding who should have a cell phone. He continued that he feels one (1) for the Secretary/Treasurer, one (1) or a spare for the Council President, two (2) for the street department (Mr. Hart and Mr. Falter), two (2) for the police vehicles, and one (1) for Paul Roth. That is a total of seven (7) phones. Ms. White, Mr. Stuck, Mr. Zerr, Mrs. Bohn, the Chief have their own Nextels. Mrs. Kutz wanted it known that they were offered to have a Borough cell phone however they chose to use their own private one. They did not want to carry two (2) phones. Ms. Sloan stated it might be a good idea for everyone to e-mail Mrs. Shade a number that might be best to reach them on and then a list can be published. Mrs. Kutz made a motion to have Borough Council relinquish their cell phones and we shall keep seven (7); seconded by Mr. Schmidt. Mr. Light wanted to address the public. Mr. Light stated that our cell phones cost so much per month under contract. He has twelve (12) months of cell phone cost. In twelve (12) months we never paid any extra money for the use of the cell phone. The bills were the same. He had them there if anyone wanted to look at them. He thinks this is a vendetta against certain people on Council. He continued that it costs \$395 a month. By not paying this you are risking not being able to get in touch with anyone. He continued he does not have an e-mail. He never had a computer. He said they use the e-mail to e-mail back and forth to one another a hundred times a day. Mrs. Kutz

RECREATION, SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE – BARBARA KUTZ (cont'd):

asked if he had a home number to which he said he did. The issue is you are saving \$395.00 a month. He continued this was never brought to Council and discussed. This was discussed in a meeting with the finances. Mr. Light feels this has been an issue against him for two (2) years. It isn't the cost; it is the fact of trying to get at somebody. He stated if that person was here that evening he would attack him as he has issues to take up with him. He will take it up with him when he comes back. In addition, it will be taken up in the public so you can hear what they are. Mr. Light stated so you are savings \$395.00 a month. Mr. Light continued it doesn't matter if he is making fifty (50) calls and someone else makes two (2), he is not going over the allowed minutes. The other issue is everyone is giving up their cell phone but the President needs one. He has one from his company. He has an e-mail and he is always e-mailing back and forth. Mr. Light stated once Mrs. Shade calls him, he answers her right away. Mr. Wenrich stated that was not necessarily true. At times he is out on the road. Mr. Light stated but normally you do get back to her. Mr. Wenrich said within a twenty four (24) hour period he does get back to her. If something happens or a crisis arises within the Borough, the Council President should be made aware of it. Mr. Light continued if you are in New Jersey what are you going to do. She can e-mail you; she e-mails you everything else. Mr. Wenrich asked if Mr. Light has a problem that he has an e-mail. Mr. Light said no he has no problem with the e-mail. Mr. Wenrich asked if he has a problem with the Nextel. Mr. Light said he has a problem that you are taking it out on everyone as a cost savings. Mr. Wenrich stated it is a cost savings across the board. He continued that no one pinpointed Mr. Light. Mr. Light feels that people in the audience know he has been pinpointed. Mrs. Kutz stated with taking the phones away from Council, we can reduce the amount of minutes we have on our current plan. If anyone cares to see the amount of minutes used and who used them she had that information as well. Mrs. Kutz continued that it is your option to not have a computer; however you do come into the Borough Hall everyday and get the information. A discussion ensued on how Council can have access to the Borough Hall and through which doors they might enter. Another discussion ensued with a member of the audience on how Nextel works and if the minutes are pooled must they give up the cell phones. Mrs. Kutz stated again, she had a list of who used the minutes, how many minutes and how many direct connect minutes were used also. Mr. Wenrich stated a committee was formed to look at ways to save money. Ms. Sloan questioned the gentleman if we were just suggesting using the walkie talkie aspect of the Nextels to which he said he was. He thought that is why the Borough was using Nextels anyway; for the direct connect ability. Mrs. Shade stated we are under a municipal plan and that she does have a call into Mr. David Bass, the municipal representative. Mrs. Kutz stated we used 19,000 minutes last year; of that 19,000 minutes over 13,000 was Council people. That is a lot of minutes. Mr. Wenrich asked for the vote. AYES – 4; NAYS – 1 (Mr. Light); motion carried.

STREETS, BUILDINGS, UTILITIES – BRUCE LIGHT:

Mr. Light had nothing to report at this time.

MAYOR NOECKER:

The Mayor stated Officer Moyer has completed his first year of probationary period. The Chief is requesting that Officer Moyer be elevated to Police Officer Second Class. Mrs. Kutz made a motion to elevate Officer Dennis Moyer to Patrolman Second Class; seconded by Ms. Sloan.

MAYOR NOECKER (cont'd):

AYES – 5, NAYS – 0; motion carried. The Mayor stated at the PSAB Annual Meeting and Mayor Meetings he was awarded the President's Award for forty (40) years of service to the Borough. He said it was a pleasure working for the Borough. He actually had about forty three (43) years working for the Borough but some of the years did not count toward actual service years. He thanked Council for sending him to the Conference. Mr. Wenrich thanked the Mayor for all he has done.

SEWER ENGINEER – DAVID SCHLOTT, JR.

Mr. Schlott informed Council that the project was advertised on March 13th and March 23rd. There was a prebid meeting on March 31st. There were about 35 vendors/contractors at the mandatory prebid meeting. After the meeting at the Borough Hall they all went back to the sewer treatment plant facility itself. They would be able to see what was involved in the project. An addendum will be sent out which has the agenda and notes from that meeting as well as the sign in sheet. There was some question about pushing off the bid opening date. He would like to have Council's okay to have the date put off about two (2) weeks till the end of April if needed. Mr. Schlott feels the two (2) week delay should not be a big deal at all. No one had an issue with that. Mr. Schlott stated that we are getting backing from several of our local representatives. Mr. Wenrich questioned if there has been a favorable response to which Mr. Schlott said yes. We have sold 31 sets of plans. A brief discussion ensued about the contract.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – MICHAEL HART:

Mr. Hart stated that PA American Water Company will begin working on Commerce Street and Park Avenue replacing water lines. Park Avenue was not originally slated to be done however somehow they got pushed through. It should be starting within the next few weeks. The next item was Brookfield Manor. The week prior he, Mr. Eisenbrown, along with a Rick from Schlouch sat in the Council room and viewed the tapes for the repairs. Both parties now agree on the amount of the repairs. He is taking that back along with a price to Wright-Elliott. They need to come up with a game plan. There is no time frame. Two (2) additional fire hydrants will be placed on Park Avenue and one (1) on Commerce.

FIRE TASK FORCE – ELIZABETH SLOAN:

Ms. Sloan questioned if the ad has been placed. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated it will be going in probably the next day or Saturday. Ms. Sloan thanked him. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated it will be ready for April 22nd.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Easter Egg Hunt is April 4th, rain or shine at 10:00 a.m. It will be on the ground of the fire company.

Bulk trash day is Wednesday, April 15th. No tires, batteries, etc. If you can't lift it don't put it out.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd):

The Memorial Day Parade will be Monday, May 25, 2009. It will be stepping off at 10:00 a.m. This year it is the Borough's turn to host the parade. Mr. Wenrich thanked Mr. Light for getting us two (2) donations toward the parade this year. They were both commercial. We are asking commercial people to donate to help offset our costs. There are costs to running this.

The next item was a bill of sale regarding the fire hydrants. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated in the past we have spoken about who owned the hydrants. It was found that we own them. However we are still being charged. This is part of the tariff that PA American Water Company has with the PUC. The PUC states they must charge a fee for the hydrants. At that point it did not pay us to own the hydrants. We must maintain them. Now, when we sell them PA American must maintain them and we shall just pay them the fee. In the past Council had agreed to sell the fire hydrants to PA American Water Company. A bill of sale has been drafted; it itemizes all the hydrants in the Borough and all that were owned by the Borough will be conveyed to PA American if the Borough approves the execution of the bill of sale. Mr. Schmidt made a motion to execute the bill of sale for the fire hydrants; seconded by Mrs. Kutz. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

There will be a "Meet the Candidate Night" on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. here at the Borough Hall. This will be right before our regularly scheduled Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Schmidt stated right before the meeting he opened his e-mail and there was something about a water/sewer safety survey in there. Mrs. Shade stated she really didn't have the time to read it all, but explained it was just a survey. She added she did send it to Mr. Schlott as well. Mr. Schlott will review it. It was from John Kramer's office about studies on County level water safety. Mrs. Shade thinks they might be looking at trying to gain some of the stimulus money.

Mr. Light questioned what candidates will be involved in the "Meet the Candidate" night. Mrs. Shade stated we always use to limit it to Borough officials. The reason he was asking, he was asked by Mr. Gary Ciruilli as he is running for District Justice and requested to speak at the meeting. He is a constable for the Borough. Mrs. Shade stated if we let me speak we should invite all the others running for that slot to attend. She continued we have always limited it to just Borough candidates for Council. Mrs. Kutz stated he could come to a meeting and sign in on the sign in sheets and talk that way.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Marvin Coldren wanted to know what the issue was with Queen Street. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated if you look at the map there is an intersection with Rt. 422 and Queen Street that does not actually align with Blanbrid which is directly across the street. In order to get a traffic signal at that intersection to better traffic flow and those types of things PENNDOT stated that intersection must align. Mr. Coldren stated that we would need to take out that house. He wondered if that was on the books now. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated he has been authorized to negotiate with the owner to acquire that property. It is important to our revitalization plan. Mr. Coldren stated there are signs on South Hull Street that say no trucks but apparently that is not enforceable. Tractor trailers are going down

PUBLIC COMMENT (cont'd):

the street and his neighbors are complaining that it is cracking their foundations or is the Borough go to take the responsibility for the homes. He wondered what needs to be done to make it enforceable. The Chief stated it is enforceable and he has handed out citations. The problem lies with the box trucks. The Chief questioned where do you draw the line? Mr. Coldren said Troy's get deliveries. Is it fair to allow those trucks down the street and not others, Mr. Coldren questioned. The Chief stated the sign says no trucks except for local deliveries. A brief discussion ensued. The Chief feels perhaps a weight limit on trucks can be discussed. Mr. Wenrich stated the safety committee can look into that and bring it back to Council.

Mrs. Shade stated she would like some clarification on who should sign the checks. Mr. Wenrich stated in the absence of Mr. Zerr due to an auto accident, Mr. Wenrich himself will be stopping in and seeing Ms. White, or Mrs. Shade to sign the checks. Mr. Light stated what about the other two (2) admin people. He continued you just ignore him and Ms. Sloan. Mrs. Shade stated that Ms. Sloan is not a signer on the account. The three signers from Council on the account are, Mr. Wenrich, Mr. Light, and Mr. Zerr. Mrs. Shade is also on the account. Mr. Schmidt stated either of them can sign the checks. Ms. Sloan stated that might help Mr. Wenrich if he is traveling for his job.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Account

Opening Balance – March 31, 2009		\$101,822.35
PLGIT		9,037.89
Invest	Recreation	49,485.83
	General Invest	4,259.78
	To be Paid	<u>19,139.78</u>
	Total Acct Funds	\$145,466.07

Sewer Account

Opening Balance – March 31, 2009		\$169,564.04
PLGIT		60,867.96
Invest	Sewer Revenue	120,828.23
	To be Paid	<u>28,659.44</u>
	Total Acct Funds	\$322,600.79

Mrs. Shade wanted it noted that we have begun paying back the sewer for the money we had borrowed for the General Fund. We had returned \$50,000.00.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mrs. Kutz. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina M. Shade
Borough Secretary/Treasurer