

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, May 7, 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
James Zerr
Elizabeth Sloan

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

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

Prior to the regular meeting we had a Meet the Candidate Night for local Borough Officials.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Kutz made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 4 and April 22, 2009 meetings seconded by Mr. Light. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

VISITORS:

The first visitor to address Council was Mr. Arlo Good from 80 Mull Avenue. Mr. Good requested Council to allow him to put in a check off meter for his sewage. This meter would register the water he used for watering his lawn. This water does not go into the sewer so he feels he should not have to pay sewage. Mr. Wenrich turned this over to our sewer committee for research and they shall get back to Mr. Good with their findings and recommendations. Mr. Butkus stated whichever way it goes, Council will need to take action. The sewer committee meets the following Thursday, Mr. Butkus said.

The next visitor was Mr. Gary Cirulli, of 301 Elizabeth. Mr. Cirulli is running for District Justice for our area and he addressed Council and the audience seeking their support. After Mr. Cirulli spoke Mr. Schmidt questioned why he got to speak. He continued that he was in the office that day and the office turned away someone else that wanted to address Council and the audience. Mrs. Shade apologized as she was at a PENNVEST meeting most of the day. She said at the last workshop meeting Mr. Light questioned if Mr. Cirulli had the right to attend and participate in this event. Mrs. Shade stated that this event was for our local candidates only however in the past others have come, signed in, and addressed Council so if he wanted to address Council that way he certainly could. She was made aware of this and explained to the office personnel how and why

VISITORS (cont'd) :

this was handled this way. Mr. Cirulli stated he heard they called this person back and invited him. Mrs. Shade again apologized for the way things happened. Mr. Schmidt feels if one (1) candidate is allowed to speak, we should allow them all. In addition, Mr. Schmidt apologized to Mr. Cirulli.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mrs. Shade stated she had two letters.

The first was a thank you letter she had written to Amerigas for their donation of \$350 to help offset the cost of our Memorial Day Parade

The second was a letter from a Mr. Stephen Hafer of 352 Sioux Court who had issues regarding the sewer increase. Mrs. Shade read the letter and it was given to Mr. Butkus for him to respond to the letter. Mr. Wenrich reminded everyone that the sewer bill also contains the trash bill as well. It costs the average household a little more than \$1.05 a day.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Mr. Light made a motion to pay the bills; seconded by Ms. Sloan. AYES -7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

REVITALIZATION PROJECT:

Mr. Jim Pachuillo stated at the April workshop meeting he told them about three (3) resolutions he was asking Council to consider. One (1) of the resolutions was incorrect. The one (1) that is correct is for the Department of Community and Economic Development for \$30,000.00. This is for the PA Community Façade Program. In addition, he was looking for feedback on Council's opinion of allowing the Committee to become a PA Non Profit Organization. If you would like that to happen, if you could also state whether you would like the Committee to fill out the form or if you would like Mr. Fitzpatrick to complete it, either way would be fine. Mr. Butkus questioned if any of this will cost the Borough or its residents any money short of the paperwork fee. Mr. Loth stated the resolution for the façade grant is matched by property owners. They are the ones that will benefit from the handing out of the funds for improvements to the facades. Mr. Butkus asked if there was an application fee or anything like that to which Mr. Loth stated no. There is a "zero" impact to the Borough. If we do receive the award the funding will be distributed over time to the property owners and they must match what they get. Ms. Sloan stated on one of the resolutions it does say Larry Schmidt that is wrong. Mr. Loth apologized; he hit the wrong button. This is a downtown revitalization grant application. We are going for \$250,000.00. This is a match. The matching funds can be done from the bond issue. All we need to show is the bond issue. This will be for the benefit of the reconstruction we are trying to get going. This is for the intersections and things like sidewalks. Mr. Butkus stated so if we get it and we spend it, it could cost the Borough the same amount as we get in the grant money up to the \$250,000.00. Mr. Loth said it is a one (1) for one (1) so that is true. The million dollar bond issue is our match; you don't have to spend it, you just have to have it. The State looks at whether you have the funds that you

REVITALIZATION PROJECT (cont'd):

are requesting. Mr. Pachuillo stated this also includes services by the Borough. Mr. Wenrich stated so we have that covered already. Ms. Sloan stated it is not just showing it; it's actually spending it. If the State sends us \$125,000 out of the bond that we floated we need to match it with \$125,000.00. Mr. Loth stated yes, but you will be doing that. Ms. Sloan stated our ultimate cost will be up to the \$250,000.00. Mr. Loth stated you are already are going to be spending that on the intersection. That is the match. This grant helps pay for that. Mr. Butkus stated speaking hypothetically; let's assume that we get this grant and for whatever reasons we can't or we decide not to do the intersection at this time then what. Mr. Loth stated we can refuse the money. You have the right to refuse the grant. Mr. Butkus questioned if there was any grant application fee. Mr. Loth stated again there was no fee. Ms. Sloan would really like to look at a corrected version. She just received that copy. Mr. Loth apologized for sending the wrong document. Mr. Loth will send the corrected version to Mrs. Shade. Mr. Wenrich asked if there was a deadline to get this submitted to which Mr. Loth stated June 30th. Mr. Wenrich stated we do have the workshop. It was decided to table this issue until the workshop meeting. Mr. Loth stated the Non Profit status makes the Committee an entity. It is still an entity of the Borough Council but the entity has substance. This allows the Revitalization Committee to apply to private foundations for grant programs that are available. The Borough is not allowed to apply to the Ford Foundation for funding but if BOSS20/20 becomes a Non Profit Organization it then becomes an entity and they can apply to the Ford Foundation for funding. Mr. Butkus questioned if there is any processing fees for the State. Mr. Loth stated there are two (2) ways to go. One (1) is the Revitalization Economic Team can get it done on line for about \$125.00 or the second way is through the Borough solicitor. It is Council's choice. Mr. Butkus questioned if this was a once and done thing to which Mr. Loth said yes. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated "let them do it." Ms. Sloan questioned how much do they typically run. Mr. Fitzpatrick said he doesn't do much of that but it's probably \$250 to \$300; something like that. Mr. Butkus questioned if they would become a Non Profit would that allow a business owner to donate and then they could take that as a tax deduction. As a PA Non Profit the answer is no. A contribution could be made but they can't deduct. In order to take a deduction that would mean they would need to have a federal designation. This is very time consuming and Mr. Loth does not feel we need to do that. Mrs. Shade questioned if we need a motion to allow them to do that on line. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated we did not; it is up to them. We are just putting our support behind them. Mr. Pachuillo stated often times what they are doing is just trying to keep Council aware of what they are doing. Mr. Wenrich asked if anyone has an issue with the Revitalization Committee going after their nonprofit status. Mr. Zerr made a motion to allow them to go after their nonprofit status; seconded by Mrs. Kutz. AYES – 7, NAYS -0; motion carried.

MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL:

Mr. Peter Juzyk gave the report for April, 2009. Mr. Juzyk stated the technician from Lynx installed the replacement printer on April 2, 2009. Everything is working perfectly. They have been working on South Hull Street and James Street cleaning and televising. When they got to James Street manhole 235A which is the third manhole from Shillington Road, they observed a partial blockage which looked like grease and an accumulation of feed. They managed to catch that before there was any surcharge due to storm activity. In addition, as they were cleaning and televising they noticed the prints that they have did not quite match up to what we actually have out

MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL (cont'd):

there. They explained that to Mr. Schlott and he feels he has a pretty good handle on where the lines run now. Mr. Schlott will try to get some as built for them as well. A brief discussion ensued. It was discovered there was a missed connection from the Stonegate/Wagner Farms area on the plan. Mr. Butkus questioned how was this connection missed? Mr. Francis Butkus stated it was added later. *He was in the audience and it was inaudible.* Mr. Fitzpatrick asked Mr. Francis Butkus who their engineer was at that time. Mr. Schlott stated it was done by Hanover and then it became eventually, Stackhouse and Bensinger. Ms. Sloan feels a letter from Mr. Fitzpatrick might help this situation. Mr. Juzyk said he received a quote for the replacement of the chlorine cylinder scale. The low quotation was almost \$800 lower than his estimate. He placed the order with Kershner Environmental Technologies. The unit arrived yesterday and they are in the process of installing it. It is very simple to install. During the month of April it was observed that the Green Valley flow meter coming in from Lower Heidelberg Township had shown an abnormal increase in flow. They notified Lower Heidelberg and they began investigating possible causes as well as the Borough. It reversed itself without anyone figuring out what was happening. There was some grease removed from the manhole at the plant site though. It could be that the grease was causing the abnormal reading. At its worst Mr. Juzyk stated he was reading about 200,000 gallons per day which they were not seeing it as effluent flow from the plant. Mr. Butkus requested that Miller take the lid off more frequently and keep an eye on it from now on. Mr. Juzyk was planning on doing this. Due to these high readings, Lower Heidelberg's contribution to the plant jumped to about 39%. The total flow to the plant was 15,737,000 gallons for an average of 525,000 gallons. There was 2.63 inches of rain during the month. Ms. Sloan questioned if the meter could be going bad and at what point do you pull the meter? Mr. Juzyk stated if it happens again, he would contact the company that calibrates our meters to come and recalibrate it. We do have all the flow meters calibrated twice a year.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICES:**BOROUGH ENGINEER: ROBERT LUDGATE, SR.:**

Mr. Ludgate stated that he and Mr. Hart attended a very good meeting with PENNDOT that day. They finally were able to sit down with PENNDOT and review their plan. They wanted PENNDOT to tell them if they have any issues with it. PENNDOT did have some issues and they will be working to respond to some site concerns. They had some concerns regarding ADA accessibility at Penn and Mull Avenues that will need to be addressed. Mr. Ludgate has spoken to Mr. Fry and their feeling was we should start applying for the Highway Occupancy Permit instead of waiting. Another important issue that was discussed was that this project ties to the Boscov's site. That developer is anxious to see this project happen so he can follow through on more than the first phase of the project. The second issue was the LUPTAP Grant. Part of this grant is naming a project manager. He would like to request his name be put in as the project manager so that he can carefully monitor the budget. He does not want to obtain another planner as we have a lot of the work completed already and if we name someone else we might need to redo some of the work that is already completed. If Council agrees to submit his name as the planner, DCED will need to review and approve it as well. Mr. Schmidt made the motion to submit Robert Ludgate, Sr. as project manager for the purpose of the LUPTAP Grant; seconded by Mr. Light. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

SEWER ENGINEER – DAVID SCHLOTT, JR.

Mr. Schlott informed Council that he had the bid results for the wastewater plant expansion/upgrade. The bids were opened on Thursday, April 30th at 2:00 p.m. here at the Borough Hall. The apparent low bidder for contract one (1) which was general construction was Wickersham Construction Engineering, Inc. out of Lancaster, PA. Their base bid was \$2,591,000.00. Contract two (2) for the electrical construction was Hirneisen Electric, Inc. out of Reading. Their bid was \$337,700.00. ARRO had estimated for construction costs this project would have been around 4.5 million. These were great bids perhaps not for the time, but great bids for us. They have reviewed the forms and both look in good shape. They were sent to Mr. Fitzpatrick for his review as well. ARRO recommends that Council accept both bids. They would be conditioned upon meeting the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Solicitation and Utilization Requirements which are required by PENNVEST on this project. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated he did review the bids and they appear to be in order; there are a couple of mathematical errors that are actually in our favor. In addition, the bids are in compliance. He continued that he feels it is important for Council to do this tonight as the contractors could begin mobilizing. While construction can't begin some of the beginning paperwork can be started. Ms. Sloan questioned since the bids came in lower is there any reason we should think about upping the capacity a bit and still come in under the 6.5 million dollar mark. Mr. Butkus asked if she meant building more capacity into the plant. She said yes. Mr. Butkus stated giving the layout of the plant we are maximizing without taking a huge step up which would mean a new oxidation ditch. At this point it is not practical nor does it look required. Ms. Sloan understood. In addition, Mr. Schlott stated that PENNVEST improved this on the scope of work that was presented. Mr. Schlott continued that there is a very aggressive timeline of work for this. Also he and Mrs. Shade went to a meeting today in Hazelton where they said certain milestones have been set and one of those is to set a settlement date by May 31st. Also they want the settlement to occur before June 17th. They want to get this money out on the street. We don't want to slow them down. Mr. Butkus made a motion to accept the apparent low bidder and authorize Mr. Schlott, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Shade to make the appropriate paperwork for closing so we can move ahead with closing this project; seconded by Mrs. Kutz. Mr. Zerr questioned if we should do two separate motions. Mr. Butkus amended his motion to include the verbiage both contracts and award to both low bidders and authorize Mr. Schlott, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mrs. Shade to make the appropriate paperwork for closing so we can move ahead with closing this project; seconded by Mrs. Kutz. Mr. Wenrich requested a roll call vote. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated Mr. Setley's office had advertised the Ordinance that is required for PENNVEST Funding. The Ordinance is prepared and ready for adoption that evening. In addition, he would like a motion to authorize the President and the Borough Secretary to sign all the appropriate documents required by PENNVEST and to apply to DCED for the loan. Mr. Butkus made a motion to approve the Ordinance required by PENNVEST and to accept the PENNVEST funding for the sewer project; in addition to authorize Mr. Wenrich and Mrs. Shade along with Mr. Fitzpatrick and any other appropriate officials to take care of the paperwork and to submit before DCED the said loan; seconded by Mrs. Kutz. The interim loan has been taken care of. Ms. Sloan requested that we get this type of stuff in advance of the meeting. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that he only received it today himself. Mr. Wenrich asked for a roll call vote. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

LIBERTY FIRE CHIEF – RONALD WENTZEL:

Mr. Wentzel apologized to Council for not being here for the workshop meeting. He thanked Council for their vote to move ahead with the joint venture. He feels it will be better for everyone. He also stated he understood Mr. Wenrich's concerns. Mr. Wentzel stated he had been a member of the Liberty Fire Company for twenty nine (29) years; the last twelve (12) as Chief. Although the name will change the service will not. He explained when a resident or whoever calls for help, that person does not care what name is on the side of the truck, they just want them to make the problem go away. By merging these companies we will have a lot more resources available to them. There will still be a Sinking Spring station here. He will still be involved in it as well. He thanked them again. Mr. Butkus asked if this will take some burdens off of him and others in similar positions. Mr. Wentzel thinks so; in the long run however it will be busier with meetings and such. He thinks this will be the best in the long run. Mr. Wenrich stated they will have his full support. Mr. Schmidt stated we need to authorize \$5,000.00 to the new fire company for seed money. Mr. Schmidt stated Mr. Wenrich put him in charge of the placement of members on the Board for the new fire department. Mr. Schmidt questioned if they must both be Council members. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated ultimately it was to be one member from the municipality appointed by Council and one from Council. However the final bylaws stated that the municipality can appoint two (2) members; they didn't have to be a member of Borough Council. They could be two (2) members of the community or it could be two (2) members of Borough Council. It is Council's desecration. Mr. Butkus questioned how long this would be for and Mr. Fitzpatrick said three (3) years. At that point it drops to one (1). Ms. Sloan feels it will be staggered (all the positions will not be done at the same time.) Mr. Light wondered if we can wait to do this. He stated he was confused; he thought too that it must be two (2) members of Council. Mr. Wenrich said we can vote on the seed money and table the rest till workshop. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated they are looking to have trustees appointed as soon as possible. They want to get this operational as soon as possible. Wernersville said they would be appointing around the 14th of May. Mr. Schmidt said he needs to talk to his committee; however he feels we should have one (1) member from Council and one (1) member at large. Mr. Zerr stated he felt he could solve this problem right now. He said it appears to be a direct hit at himself and a direct problem with him. He recommended that we use Ms. Sloan. He made a strong recommendation that we talk to Bob Williams. Ms. Kutz questioned who Bob Williams is. Mr. Wenrich stated he owns Williams Metalfinishing. Ms. Sloan stated he was a member of the community and he has been approached by one (1) of the Chiefs. Mr. Schmidt feels we should ask him. Mr. Zerr stated he was asked and he did agree to serve. Mr. Schmidt questioned if he was asked already. Mr. Zerr said that is what he understood. Mr. Zerr made a motion to appoint Ms. Sloan and Mr. Williams to serve on the Board; seconded by Mr. Butkus. AYES – 6, NAYS – 1 (Mr. Schmidt); motion carried. Mr. Zerr made a motion to give the \$5,000.00 seed money; seconded by Mr. Butkus; AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried. Ms. Sloan questioned who do they talk to about this? Mr. Fitzpatrick had no idea. Mr. Zerr said Mr. Jeremy Rapp. Monday night all the documentation will be voted on by the fire company. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated they will be deciding on how the fire companies will be separated.

RECREATION – BARBARA KUTZ:

Mrs. Kutz thanked Mr. Wentzel as well as the rest of the fire company for their help with the Easter Egg Hunt. Mr. Wentzel stated whatever we need they will be there for us. Mrs. Shade thanked him as well for providing the trucks as shields from the wind.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – MICHAEL HART:

Mr. Hart said he had two (2) items. The first item was in regards to the Brookfield project. He wanted everyone to know we are moving forward. All parties have agreed on what needs to be done. Some of the projects will be beginning in Monday. There will be two (2) inspectors. It will be either himself or Mr. Ludgate; they will be there full time. A brief discussion ensued as to what needs to be done. The second item had to do with plans for a minor subdivision on South Hull. There were two (2) outstanding items that needed to be addressed and they are now complete. He needed Council's signatures on the plans.

Under new business it was the Berks County Purchasing Council. He stated electric costs will be rising a lot next year. PPL's rate cap ends at the end of this year. In 2010 it is projected that metered services will be going up 30% to 45%. Unmetered service will be going up 125%; this includes our street lights. What the Purchasing Council has proposed to do and they are already moving forward with this, is that every Borough, Township, and the City of Reading that is a member of this group is agreeing to go out and bid for electrical power for the next three (3) to five (5) years as a group purchase. This should save us a lot of money over the next few years by locking us in on a price. The only thing he needs from Council is their permission so he can release our PPL usage to them so we can be included in this study and hopefully this plan. Ms. Sloan questioned if there was one (1) other provider. She said she got something in the mail the other week that said she could pick someone other than PPL. Mr. Hart stated that is what the Purchasing Council is going to do. They have actually talked with three (3) other power companies. They have talked with American Power Net. We need to agree and move forward with them and hopefully save a lot of money. Mr. Zerr made the motion to allow Mr. Hart to give the PPL information to the Berks County Purchasing Council; seconded by Mr. Light. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried. Mr. Wenrich will see that he gets some information. Mr. Hart explained about the electric. He questioned if we want to incorporate Miller into this as Miller actually pays the electric bills at the plant. He questioned if we could do that. Mr. Butkus asked Mr. Fitzpatrick to which Mr. Fitzpatrick stated sure. Mr. Fitzpatrick feels we could designate Miller as a recipient of that. Mr. Zerr stated the plant is ours. Mr. Hart said yes, but the bills come in Miller's name. Mr. Zerr understood that but the plant is still ours he said. We would need to enter into an agreement with Miller but we are trying to save money. If we save money, Miller we'll save money, Mr. Fitzpatrick said. Mr. Fitzpatrick feels we can work that out. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Hart said that we aren't really going to save money but we are going to be locked into that same price so we won't be hit with huge increases every year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Memorial Day Parade is Monday, May 25th. It steps off at 10:00 a.m. weather permitting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd):

The next item was the VFW Agreement. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated this was handed out at the last meeting. He heard no comments. This is the agreement that we will take the monuments in case something happens to the VFW. They will pay for all the costs. Mr. Zerr made the motion to move forward with the VFW Agreement; seconded by Mr. Butkus. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

The next item was the sewer truck rental to the Borough of Leesport. There needed to be some revisions. The revisions were made. There was a concern about them having adequate insurance to cover the truck in case something happens. Our policy continues with that piece of equipment as long as the people who use the equipment within the Borough are the same ones that will be operating them in Leesport which they are doing. Mr. Schmidt made the motion to allow the Borough of Leesport to use our sewer truck with Miller Environmental employees operating it; seconded by Mr. Light. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

The next issue was the Route 422 Corridor Ordinance. Mr. Schmidt questioned if this was the Ordinance for general maintenance to which Mr. Fitzpatrick said yes. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that South Heidelberg had prepared the Ordinance. It would be an Ordinance to authorize entering into an intermunicipal agreement to try to contract with one (1) service organization to provide service and maintenance to all the traffic signals along the Route 422 corridor. One item that he has spoken to some of the other solicitors about is that one (1) or perhaps more municipalities have a contract that maybe goes into next year. The only amendment that he requested was that it becomes effective upon the expiration of the existing contracts. There is no company named in the documents. They were going to go out and solicit an agreement. If all of the municipalities are not in agreement with the contract, it will fail. You go back to doing it on your own. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Schmidt made a motion that we advertise this Ordinance; seconded by Mr. Light. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

The next item was a time extension on the Terraces' project. Mr. Ludgate stated we received a letter from their engineer looking for a time extension. They are making changes to their plan like we requested. They want to keep the application open. The extension is for ninety (90) days, Mr. Ludgate said. Our time now would expire on June 2nd which is prior to our next formal Borough Council meeting. It is Planning Commission's recommendation that we grant the time extension. Mr. Light made the motion to grant the ninety (90) day time extension to the Terrace project; seconded by Mr. Butkus. Mr. Zerr questioned how many times can we make extensions? Mr. Fitzpatrick stated forever. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated some very large projects can be extended three (3) or four (4) times. Mr. Ludgate explained what they had to do and why the time extension was needed. They are making progress. AYES – 6, NAYS -1 (Mr. Zerr); motion carried. Mr. Fitzpatrick cleared up that it is ninety (90) days since the date of expiration.

The next issue was the Sunset Apartments. The Planning Commission passed a motion to recommending rejection with a caveat that if the applicant offered a time extension they would recommend accepting it. A letter was sent to the applicant informing them of the Planning Commission's vote and giving them the opportunity to respond. They have not responded so therefore he believes the Planning Commission's recommendation would stand. Ms. Sloan

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd):

questioned if we knew they received it and if we sent it certified. Mr. Ludgate stated no to both. Mr. Ludgate said the time runs against the Borough so if we don't act they could be approved so we must do something. There were two letters. They came in and presented a plan but did not resubmit a plan. The comments on May 1st were on plans that were presented but they never actually submitted a plan. The actual submitted plan was in 2008 and the original review letter was done by Mr. Pete Eisenbrown on September 19, 2008. Mr. Fitzpatrick feels they probably aren't interested in submitting anymore. Mr. Butkus made a motion that we reject the plan as based on the engineer's letter dated September 19, 2008 and May 1, 2009; seconded by Mrs. Kutz. AYE S – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Kutz stated her and Heather Kraft, our head playground leader this year, interviewed for the one (1) open playground leader position. We cut back from five (5) leaders to four (4) leaders this year. Mrs. Kutz would like to see Heather paid \$9.00 per hour as head leader; Nate Kennedy is coming back and she would like to see him at \$8.75 per hour; Dante Giamberadino will be back at \$8.00 per hour, and Paige Carroll is the newest leader and she will be making \$8.00 per hour. Mrs. Kutz stated we had a lot of over qualified people applying this year. Mr. Zerr made a motion to hire the leaders at the rates that were recommended by Mrs. Kutz; seconded by Mr. Butkus. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

Mrs. Kutz stated that Mrs. Shade has worked with our Nextel carrier and we are down to eight (8) phones. It will be a plan with 1,400 minutes effective May 16th. Our plan will drop to \$187.00 a month. This would be a savings of about \$2,500.00 a year. In addition, if we see that the 1,400 minutes are not being used, we can lower that as well at some point down the road.

The next item was the Hepatitis B vaccines for Borough employees. Mrs. Shade explained since the Swine Flu she has been bombarded with all kinds of info on that issue. As her and Mr. Hart were talking about the flue it was discovered that other municipalities require all Borough employees to vaccinated against Hepatitis B which is a blood borne illness. It is a series of three (3) shots. Our police officers at one (1) point were made to get them however some of the newer officers have not received them. It should be given to all front liners. These bacteria can live outside the body for twenty four (24) hours. So if someone comes in and has this, uses a pen, one of the front office people have an open cut, the bacteria can get in and then they are affected as well. Mrs. Shade stated some of the Borough personnel have the shots already. Mrs. Shade stated that both Deb Bohn, and Jessica Klee have had the shots. Matt Zerr in the street department has had the shots as well however the other two (2) have not had them. Mr. Hart along with the Chief and some of the senior officers have had the shots. In addition, she has asked Mrs. Westbrook to check which Library people might need to have them as well. The Berks Visiting Nurses could administer the shots. She explained you get the first shot, then thirty (30) days later the second and six (6) months after that the final shot. The cost is roughly \$270 per person for the shots. Mr. Butkus asked if we knew exactly how many to which Mrs. Shade stated from the office and the street crew there is four (4) plus the police and library. She did not have an exact count at that point. Ms. Sloan questioned about firefighters. Mrs. Shade said that have to have them. Fire Chief Ron Wentzel stated there is Relief money set aside for that. No update shots are needed. Mr. Schmidt asked about the sewer

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

crew. Mr. Juzyk has had his; however this would be on Miller. Mr. Butkus questioned if the employee's health insurance would cover this. Mrs. Shade stated it might however if you are giving them to the police and making others pay, it might not work. She continued that people are not going to want to use their health insurance if they have not met the deductible. She said there would be no way to make them get it then. Mrs. Shade said, it is the theory, pay me now or pay me later if we get a workman's comp claim. Mr. Wenrich agreed. Ms. Sloan feels we should get it done. Mr. Schmidt made a motion to have all non vaccinated employees receive the Hepatitis B vaccination paid by the Borough; seconded by Ms. Sloan. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried. Mr. Butkus wants them to sign a waiver if they do not receive the shots to which Mrs. Shade stated she already told that to all the departments.

Mr. Fitzpatrick had two (2) items however both pertain to old business. The first was he was instructed to create an agreement for the farm lease at the sewer plant. Mr. Fitzpatrick requested that Mr. Butkus and his committee review it and they could take action at the workshop meeting. The next item was the agreement from Spring Township. He also would like Mr. Butkus' committee to review this as well.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mrs. Kutz called for an executive session for a personnel matter at 8:37 p.m.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 8:49 p.m. No action was taken at this time.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mr. Wenrich announced that the Borough Hall will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of the July 4th holiday. The Borough Hall will be open on Tuesday, May 19th, Primary Election Day.

SEWER COMMITTEE – GEORGE BUTKUS:

Mr. Butkus stated he knows that some of the public might not have heard the reasoning for the rate increase however we have gone over this several times and some of the time in great detail. It took us three (3) years to get to this point as we studied every possible way of looking at it. There are no grants available; there are no other sources of income and as everyone heard tonight the electric will be going up. However to Mr. Schlott's credit, based on the rough numbers Mr. Butkus felt we were going to have to go up between 300% and 400%. We would still be in the realm of what others in the County are paying. However Mr. Schlott really crunched the numbers and we maximized the plant without building things we don't need, we were able to reduce the amount of the increase. Additionally, odd are over the next few years we will need more rate increases as electric rates go up, etc. However, unless the electric rates really go up, it should not need to go up like this. The biggest reason it had to go was because this Council along with previous Councils didn't want to increase the sewer rates. Now it is time to pay the fiddler. Most households pay

SEWER COMMITTEE – GEORGE BUTKUS (cont'd):

more for cable TV or internet connections than they do to flush their toilets. It is just a matter of perspective. He also wanted to point out that the plant is running very efficiently. Since we have no violations that is savings us a lot of money. He said the fines can be two (2) million dollars a day and that does not include the cost of repairs; that is just the fines. Mr. Butkus would be more than happy to sit down with anyone and go over the numbers.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Dennis Leiby stated he is a Republican and Mr. Gary Cirulli is a Democrat. He has been our Constable for a long time and he would like everyone to vote for Mr. Cirulli for District Justice.

TREASURER'S REPORT:General Account

Opening Balance – April 30, 2009		\$160,333.56
PLGIT		9,062.79
Invest	Recreation	49,494.03
	General Invest	4,285.76
	To be Paid	<u>39,348.93</u>
	Total Acct Funds	\$183,827.21

Sewer Account

Opening Balance – April 30, 2009		\$164,259.36
PLGIT		61,042.26
Invest	Sewer Revenue	120,909.85
	To be Paid	<u>10,170.52</u>
	Total Acct Funds	\$336,040.95

Mrs. Shade wanted it noted that we are paying the sewer back for the monies that we borrowed at the beginning of the year.

Mr. Light made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mr. Schmidt. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0; motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Kutz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina M. Shade
Borough Secretary/Treasurer