

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James Pachuillo. Elizabeth Eagelman called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

James Pachuillo  
Tracy Peterson  
H. David Miller  
Denise Stine  
Lisa Gantner  
Brian Hoffa (Absent)  
Robert Metzgar  
Jack Malandra (Absent)

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli; Charles Haws, Barley Snyder, Borough Solicitor; Brad Smith, ARRO Consulting; Bryce Zohner, Public Works Director; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; OIC James Oxenreider, and Elizabeth Eagelman, Borough Secretary, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

Mr. Pachuillo requested a moment of silence to honor our Fallen Heroes and to recognize our Police, Fire and EMS personnel that protect us here and our Armed Forces who protect us every day here and abroad.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 6, 2018 Council Meeting and the December 19, 2018 Workshop Meeting. Mrs. Peterson made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES –6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

**VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no visitors.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that we received an e-mail from the CELG concerning a meeting at the Ag Center on Tuesday at 1:30. He stated that the meeting is about the ARL.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the bills for December 2018. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to accept the Treasures Report as written. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

**WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. Renshaw went over their report for December 2018 and also mentioned that he attached a year end summary for 2018. Mrs. Gantner thanked Mr. Renshaw for delivering Santa to our Holiday Open House.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Mr. Pachuillo stated that the only item would be the ARL Agreement. He stated that we are going to continue to table it for now. Mr. Hart stated that the Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Council was given the task of trying to find other avenues which is what the meeting is about on Tuesday. He stated that the ARL is going to honor our membership until the end of January. Mr. Pachuillo stated that hopefully we will be able to make an informed decision at our Workshop Meeting as to which way we will go. Mayor Cirulli suggested that OIC Oxenreider also attend the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business to discuss.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:****OIC OXENREIDER:**

OIC Oxenreider went over the Police Report for December 2018.

**BRYCE ZOHNER – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:**

Mr. Zohner mentioned that, on the sewer side, Mr. Jason Rapp got his operators certification. He asked for Council's approval to move him up to the Operator rate as of December 12, 2018. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to approve moving Mr. Rapp up to the Operator rate as of December 12, 2018; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

Mr. Zohner mentioned that, on the Public Works side, Mr. Barry Schlouch has obtained his CDL as of December 14, 2018. He mentioned that we were withholding .50 until he obtained it so he would like to pay him that additional .50 retro back to December 14, 2018. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve paying Mr. Schlouch the additional .50 retro back to December 14, 2018; seconded by Mr. Miller. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried. Mr. Zohner also mentioned that Mr. Schlouch is passed his 90 day probation and has checked off all of the items needed to be moved up to a Class 2 Operator as of the beginning of the new year. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to authorize moving Mr. Schlouch to Class 2 Operator as of the beginning of the new year; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

**SEWER ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING – BRAD SMITH:**

Mr. Smith stated that there is nothing new on his report but mentioned that he did speak to Pennvest about our Broad Street project and they advised him that they have funds to loan. He asked Councils permission to speak with Mr. Hart and get the ball rolling. He stated that we will most likely need to get a permit from DEP. He stated that they will schedule a preliminary meeting with Pennvest to get more information and hopefully have information for the Workshop meeting.

**CHARLES HAWS – BOROUGH SOLICITOR:**

Mr. Haws mentioned that the Department of Ag maintains a list of kennels that can accept dogs running at large and they added one in Sinking Spring. He stated that it is called Zoe's House.

**MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:**

Mr. Hart mentioned that he did the year end permit report for 2018 and that it is attached to everyone's e-mail. He stated that we are down a bit from the previous year.

Mr. Hart stated that during the budget process for the WBFD they were talking about the new service agreement. They would like to set up a new committee formed of Borough/Township Managers and one member of Council or Supervisor. He stated that they are looking to have the first meeting next month and he is looking for one Council member to volunteer to attend the meetings with him. He stated that they would be meeting during the day. Mrs. Gantner stated that she could do it.

Mr. Hart mentioned that he received the final approved plan for the Joint Comp. Plan. He also mentioned that the quarterly meetings started up again.

**MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER (cont.):**

Mr. Hart mentioned that he has a meeting in Allentown with PennDOT in two weeks to review our project and see how they want us to proceed with Phase 2.

**JAMES PACHUILO – COUNCIL PRESIDENT:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked what time the trash hauler is allowed to start picking up trash in the Borough per their contract. Discussion ensued. Mrs. Eagelman looked up the contract and stated that the pick-up time in the contract is listed from 5 am to 5 pm.

**MAYOR GARY CIRULLI:**

Mayor Cirulli stated that as of January 5<sup>th</sup>, Officer Stephen Williams will have completed his two years of service with the Borough. He stated that Officer Williams should be upgraded to Class 1 Patrolman at a rate of \$33.66 per hour. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve Officer Williams move to Class 1 Patrolman at \$33.66 per hour as of January 5<sup>th</sup> 2019; seconded by Mr. Miller. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

Mayor Cirulli mentioned that the Police Department has three old flip phones. He asked if they could be upgraded to smart phones. Mr. Pachuillo stated that they will look to see what is available in the plan.

**TRACY PETERSON – LIBRARY:**

Mrs. Peterson had nothing to report.

**ROBERT METZGAR – FINANCE:**

Mr. Metzgar mentioned that their Admin meeting will be on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. He also mentioned that he will attend the PennDOT meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> with Mr. Hart.

**LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:**

Mrs. Gantner asked how long we will be picking up Christmas Trees. Mr. Zohner stated that they will be picking them up until the end of January.

**DENISE STINE – PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Stine had nothing to report.

**H. DAVID MILLER – SEWER AND SANITATION:**

Mr. Miller had nothing to report,

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Council went into an Executive session at 7:31 p.m. for personnel matters.

**RECONVENE:**

Council reconvened at 8:00 p.m. and took the following action.

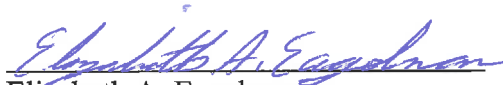
Mr. Hart asked for Council's approval to hire Ms. Valerie Tolland as a part time employee for cleaning of the office, police department and library. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to hire Ms. Valerie Tolland; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried. Mr. Hart added that it will be for a 90 day probationary period.

Mr. Zohner asked for Council's approval to advertise to hire an Operator for the Waste Water Treatment facility. Mrs. Stine made the motion to authorize advertising to hire an Operator for the WWTP; seconded by Mr. Miller. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Elizabeth A. Eageman  
Borough Secretary