

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James Pachuillo. After the Pledge to the Flag, Elizabeth Eagelman called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

James Pachuillo  
T.J. Huckleberry (absent)  
George Butkus  
Denise Stine  
Lisa Gantner  
Tracy Peterson  
Brian Hoffa

Other officials present were: Charles Haws, Borough Solicitor; Tom Ludgate, Ludgate Engineering; Brad Smith, ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; Bryce Zohner, Public Works Director; Police Chief Lee Schweyer, and Elizabeth Eagelman, Borough Secretary, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

Mr. Pachuillo requested a moment of silence to honor our Police, Fire and Ambulance personnel that protect us here and our Armed Forces that are continually fighting for us here and abroad.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 1, 2016 Council Meeting and the September 28, 2016 Workshop Meeting. Mrs. Gantner made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES –6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

#### **VISITORS:**

The first visitor was Kirk Barnett from Grande Construction. Mr. Barnett addressed Council concerning the Sinking Spring Terrace Project, dedicating Summit Blvd. and releasing escrow money. Mr. Tom Ludgate stated that their recommendation is twofold. 1) switch over to the maintenance period which would be 10% of the public part of the dedication and 2) holding onto \$10,000.00 for the N.O.T. which has not closed out yet. Mr. Ludgate stated that 10% of the improvements would be \$57,581.98 plus the \$10,000.00 for a total \$67,581.98. He stated that the release would be for \$42,500.75. Mr. Haws recommended that Grande prepare the formal deed of dedication for Summit Blvd. and a formal request for the escrow release as recommended by Ludgate Engineering. Mr. Stine made a motion to accept the recommendations; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES –6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

**VISITORS (Cont.):**

The next visitors were Sherry Sanger and Mary Brown. They addressed Council concerning the PPL Power Line issue and wanted to know if there were any updates. Mr. Hart explained that they had a meeting here at the Borough Hall prior to PPL Open House. He stated that PPL is still looking to move forward with their project. He stated that Council requested information from them as to the other routes that they looked at and also the engineering figures for going under Penn Avenue and to date we have not received anything. Mr. Hoffa mentioned that he received a letter stating that Senator Argall has sent letters to the other members of the Senate with two issues that he wants to put on the books. One being that the Borough would have the right to refuse any power lines that are going through the Borough and the other being that the public utility must have a public hearing. He stated that it might be too late to stop PPL. Discussion ensued concerning other routes and burying the line. Mrs. Brown mentioned that there is an earthquake line and sinkholes in the area where they want to put the line. There was a discussion about BOSS 2020 purchasing signs for people to purchase.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mr. Pachuillo stated that he received information on DCNR Grants for recreational use that he passed onto Mr. Hart and Mrs. Gantner.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the bills for September 2016. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

**WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. Renshaw mentioned that they did the Home Fire Preparedness Campaign in South Heidelberg Township on September 17<sup>th</sup>. He stated that they visited almost ninety homes and installed 116 new smoke detectors. He mentioned that they will be doing the Home Fire Preparedness Campaign in Sinking Spring this Saturday.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

No Unfinished Business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No New Business.

**CHIEF SCHWEYER:**

Chief Schweyer stated that they are having the Coffee with a Cop program on October 28<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 11 am at McDonalds.

Chief Schweyer mentioned that they found out about the Grant recipients. He stated that only two departments in Pennsylvania were awarded grants and they were Hazelton and Pottsville.

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

Mr. Smith stated that Council needs to take action on a Resolution for the Small Projects Grant for the sewer work on Reedy Road. He mentioned that at the Sewer Committee Meeting he handed out some information that he would like to get from BOSS2020 to complete the Application. Mr. Butkus made a motion to approve the Resolution to submit and execute the Grant Application; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

Mr. Pachulo thanked ARRO for the Golf Tournament that they were invited to and attended last week.

**MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:**

Mr. Hart mentioned that UGI's project in the 3700 block of Penn Avenue has been postponed because PennDOT has not issued their permit yet.

Mr. Hart stated that Pennsylvania American Water has replaced their main on Spring Crest Blvd. and will be milling and paving between Gernant and Blanbrid starting this Saturday.

Mr. Hart questioned the project in Lower Heidelberg Township and the sewer connections for the 28 units. He stated that he thought we approved it as long as they resubmitted back to us that it was a reduction of the original project that Mr. Deligiannis was going to build. Mr. Butkus stated that it was his understanding that we told them that we would serve it only if it was within in their allotted capacity. He stated that he thinks that we have no choice but accept and serve that. He stated that we need to get an account from all the neighbors as far as how much capacity they have sold. Mr. Haws stated that they should have that in their Chapter 94 Report and we should be able to get that information. Discussion ensued. It was decided to table selling capacity at this time and it was to go back to the Sewer Committee to review.

Mr. Hart reminded everyone about scheduling their appointments with Mr. Eric Brown for their interviews.

Mr. Butkus asked when Council would receive the drafts of the proposed Budgets for 2017. Mr. Hart stated that it was pushed off until the workshop meeting but he would e-mail them prior.

**TRACY PETERSON – LIBRARY:**

Mrs. Peterson stated that the Library Board would like to move the Library Fund money back to the Invest Account since it is earning more interest. Mrs. Egelman explained that the Library requested that the money be pulled out of Invest in put in the checking account a few years ago since the interest rate was better in the checking account. She stated that she also wants to transfer money over from all the accounts to the Invest Accounts.

Mrs. Peterson mentioned that the Library is having a Book Sale next weekend.

**LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:**

Mrs. Gantner made a motion to make Halloween Trick or Treating October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6 pm to 9 pm; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that October 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Halloween Parade with Pets and People and will be held at the Playground. She also mentioned that they are trying to get an umbrella license for showing movies.

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that they are looking at trying to change how they do the Playground Leaders and maybe giving paying positions to younger people in the hopes of keeping them longer.

**GEORGE BUTKUS – SEWER AND SANITATION:**

Mr. Butkus mentioned that they did get a response back from DEP concerning the Pump Station on Mt. Home Road. He stated that they claim that the Pump Station is potentially overloaded because it appears that the second pump is kicking on with the first pump.

**VISITOR:**

Mrs. Mary Brown stated that she wanted to congratulate Mrs. Gantner on the Playground Program. She stated that the kids are having the best time and are well controlled.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Butkus made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Elizabeth A. Eagelman  
Borough Secretary