

The workshop meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Wednesday, February 24, 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
TJ Huckleberry
George Butkus (absent)
Denise Stine
Lisa Gantner
Tracy Peterson
Brian Hoffa

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

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Mark Ratcliff of Habitat for Humanity addressed Council concerning a ½ Marathon that will be going through part of the Borough. He stated that the race will be on May 29th and will begin at Wilson High School at 8 am. He mentioned that they will need traffic control assistance and possibly some roads closed off for that time period. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to approve support for the Greater Reading ½ Marathon; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that they received an invitation for the 10th Annual Municipal Officials Dinner to be held on Thursday, March 31, 2016 at the Reading Country Club. He stated that if anyone is interested in attending we can call and make the reservations and that we have to RSVP by March 18th. He stated that Mrs. Eagelman will scan the invitation in and e-mail it to everyone.

REVITALIZATION:

Mr. Ludgate mentioned that they had a conference call with PennDOT last week and it covered a number of projects. He stated that they did confirm that the Betterment Project will be starting on the west end in 2016 and is not planning to be in the Borough until 2017. He mentioned that what they said with respect to the Pedestrian Project was that if the bids come back low enough with the reduced scale project, it can be built in 2016 ahead of the Betterment Project. He also mentioned that they (PennDOT) didn't realize that there was a HOP in process for Phase II so that will be ahead of the Betterment Project in 2017. He stated that they spent a good deal of time talking about Phase Four and that there is no 100% guarantee that the preliminary engineering for

REVITALIZATION (Cont.):

Phase Four is on the docket but there is every indication that it would be for fall of 2018 which essentially means that if the project stays on PennDOT's docket it would be 2022 or 2023 that potentially Phase Four may actually be constructed. He stated that there are a series of "ifs" in there but it would be rare to get our preliminary engineering released and not be on the docket for construction five to six years later.

Mr. Ludgate mentioned that the Borough may have to make some decisions in respect to Phase Three in the next year to year and a half. He stated that PennDOT may want some guarantee that Phase Three is moving forward near or contingent upon the Preliminary Engineering. Mr. Huckleberry asked what we are doing with the intersection when Phase Three is done and we are waiting for Phase Four to come in. Mr. Ludgate mentioned that it would tie into the cul-de-sac at the car wash. He also mentioned that we wouldn't start any Phase Three stuff until we had a good indication of Phase Four.

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that we would like to know as soon as possible when the bids come in on the reduced project because the financing expires in March of 2017. Mr. Ludgate stated that we should know by June. He also mentioned that the Betterment Project is picking up whatever the Borough drops. He stated that the Betterment Project will pick up the ADA ramps and line work but they will not do the sidewalk or the bump outs. He mentioned that we can always do the bump outs at a later time if a grant comes out. Mr. Hart stated that we are doing the one bump out at North Hull but are losing the one on the South Side. Mr. Huckleberry asked how much it costs for the bump outs. Mr. Ludgate stated that it is probably about \$15,000.00 to \$25,000.00 per bump out and you have to do them in pairs and you may be able to get a DCED grant for \$50,000.00 for two bump outs.

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that at the BOSS2020 meeting they recommended that Mr. Loth begin contacting the Greater Reading Economic Partnership which was one of the things that the Market Study suggested that we do. He stated that they are also going to put together an Action Plan Toolkit so that they have the Market Study and important facts about Sinking Spring to give to Master Developers. He also mentioned that they want to revitalize the Business and Community Alliance and give them four specific projects to work on; 1) strengthen the website and Facebook page, 2) create a graphic image for the Borough, 3) start an annual event calendar, 4) come up with designs for gateway signs.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that we have a Resolution to adopt for the fee schedule for the Residential Rental Ordinance. Mr. Hart explained that when we redid the fee schedule last year we forgot to add in the Rental Inspection Fees which is the Annual Registration fee of \$10.00, the Inspection Fee of \$50.00 and the re-inspection fee of \$25.00. Mr. Huckleberry made a motion to approve the Resolution and ratify the rates that have been charged since July 8, 2013; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that we need to discuss the signers for all the checking accounts. Mrs. Egelman stated that we have three (3) now, Mrs. Gantner, Mrs. Stine and Mr. Pachuillo. She stated that we need to re-do the signature cards to remove Mrs. Shade and she wanted to see if Council wanted to add anyone else as a signer so we could take care of it all at once. Mr. Huckleberry made a motion to add Mr. Hart as a signer on all of the Borough checking and savings accounts; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

CHIEF SCHWEYER:

Chief Schweyer mentioned that we had some delineators that were destroyed or knocked down and per the Agreement with PennDOT the Borough must maintain them. He stated that he has been talking with Mr. Hart and that Mr. Hart is going to order more and put them back up.

MICHAEL HART – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Mr. Hart stated that the Tablets are finally finished and in the office. He stated that after the meeting he will hand them out. He stated that he doesn't want to go live with them yet and that he wants to run a couple tests to make sure everything is working. He stated that he would like to send the agenda out and then attach the PDF's with all the reports to the e-mail and see how that works.

Mr. Hart mentioned that he put in the budget to purchase a Mig Welder for the garage and he would like to move ahead and get it. He stated that price is about \$2,900.00 and he would be looking for Council's approval to purchase it. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to authorize Mr. Hart to purchase the Mig Welder; seconded by Mr. Huckleberry. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

SEWER ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING – BRAD SMITH:

Mr. Smith handed out the preliminary plans for the Interceptor Project and mentioned that he would like approval so he can go ahead and go with the agency's, DEP and PennDOT, to get their approval on this. He stated that if the Sewer Committee and Staff are comfortable with this he will proceed upon their recommendation provided all of Council is ok with that. Discussion ensued concerning when Council would like construction to begin. Decision was made to shoot for mid-June. Chief Schweyer mentioned that UGI will also be doing work in that block this summer. Mr. Hart mentioned that Pennsylvania American Water will be replacing their main too. Mr. Smith stated that if he could have permission from the Sewer Committee and the staff at the Sewer meeting in two weeks then he will ship drawings to Mr. Haws to get easements from Dunkin Donuts and to write a letter to Papparone's informing them that their parking lot is in the right-of-way and that we will be digging it up for the project. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve ARRO to proceed with final design contingent upon the Sewer Committee's and staff's review; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

MRS. EAGELMAN – BOROUGH SECRETARY:

Mrs. Eagelman mentioned that the Act 205 paper work requires the signature of the Chief Executive Officer and wanted to know if Council wanted to appoint someone. Mr. Huckleberry made a motion to appoint Mr. Hart as the Chief Executive Officer; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

MAYOR GARY CIRULLI:

Mayor Cirulli mentioned that Officer David Church put in a request for family medical leave for the birth of his baby in April and that he will use his sick time. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve Officer Church to use his sick leave for maternity leave; seconded by Mr. Huckleberry. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

Mayor Cirulli mentioned that Mr. Ken Harting came in the office the other day to talk to him about the American Flag in the Council room. Mr. Harting stated that the flag is on the wrong side and would appreciate it if we would be moved to the other side of the room. Discussion ensued. .

TRACY PETERSON – LIBRARY:

Mrs. Peterson mentioned the Library would like their own credit card that they can use for supplies without having to come over to Mrs. Bohn to get it. Mr. Hart asked if we could wait on that until we figure out how we are going to restructure everything so we can just do it one time. Mr. Pachuillo stated that we would table it until we have everything restructured.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that they have a couple Playground Leaders coming back this year. She also mentioned that the Egg Hunt is on March 19th and that we have a conflict with Breakfast for that same day. She stated that it looks like the Community Breakfast will be April 23rd but it is not definite yet.

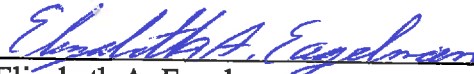
DENISE STINE – PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Stine mentioned that the new ladder truck came today and they are going over things. She mentioned that it is higher than the other one and that they put water in the tank to weight it down and it fit in. Mr. Pachuillo stated that they have an agreement with someone to purchase the old ladder truck.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Huckleberry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Elizabeth A. Egelman
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Borough Secretary