

The workshop meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at Sinking Spring Borough Hall by Council President James Pachuillo. After the Pledge to the Flag, Elizabeth Egelman called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

James Pachuillo
Tracy Peterson
H. David Miller
Denise Stine
Lisa Gantner
Brian Hoffa
Robert Metzgar

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

VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no visitors.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that we received an invitation to the next Municipal Officials Breakfast to be held at the Ontelaunee Grange on Friday, March 13th at 8 a.m. He also mentioned the Municipal Officials Dinner that will be held at Stokesay Castle on Thursday, March 26th at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that the Audit was completed and that everyone received a copy of the letter from the Mrs. Akins. Mr. Hart mentioned that they did find an error in the employee handbook concerning sick time that needs to be corrected. He also mentioned that they also found an overpayment on a loan that has been corrected. Mr. Miller made a motion to accept the audit as written; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES –7, NAYS – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to revise the handbook to reflect the changes needed per the audit; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES –7, NAYS – 0. Motion carried.

REVITALIZATION:

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that David Hunter and Laura Mursch from the Berks County Planning Commission attended the BOSS Forward meeting. He stated that they are looking at what issues each municipality might have.

He mentioned that Mr. Loth submitted the Green Light Go Application asking for \$276,000.00 and that the Borough's match would be \$105,000.00 and the award will be in April. He also mentioned that Mr. Loth is applying for another Keystone Communities Grant for \$50,000.00 for the second round of the Façade Improvements.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business to discuss.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that they were discussing the route for the Memorial Day Parade. She stated that they were trying to minimize how much we are on Penn Avenue because of the traffic danger. Discussion ensued. It was discussed to add a block and go up Penn Avenue to Woodrow Avenue and coming down Vester Place to Columbia Avenue.

BRIAN HOFFA – ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that they had a meeting last week with Mark Evans, who is the Director of Planning for Derk & Edson, concerning the Zoning for the Downtown District. He stated that Mr. Edson gave them a list of all the things that they are capable of doing for us. He mentioned that some of the things have already been done. He stated that he is hoping to have a quote from him by Friday so we can discuss it at the Zoning meeting next Tuesday and Council Meeting next Thursday.

ROBERT METZGAR – FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Mr. Metzgar mentioned that they had their Admin meeting on Monday, February 10th. He also mentioned that they had their Planning Commission meeting last night and they discussed the Form Based Code transition and the approach was positive. He informed Council that they tabled the approval of the plans for the two pad sites for Spring Market. Mr. Haws stated that he spoke with the planner because it wasn't clear exactly what they are proposing to do.

BRYCE ZOHNER – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Mr. Zohner mentioned that he and Mr. Hart reviewed the applicants for the Operator position at the Waste Water Treatment Plant and that they would like to hire Andy Marcano. He stated that Mr. Marcano is fully licensed in waste water but does not have his CDL. He stated that the salary for the position is \$21.60 but they would like to withhold .50 per hour until he gets his CDL. He also mentioned that Mr. Marcano passed his drug test and background checks have been done. Mr. Miller made a motion to hire Mr. Andy Marcano for the operator position at the Waste Water Treatment Plant at a rate of \$21.10 per hour; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES –7, NAYS – 0. Motion carried.

Mr. Zohner mentioned that two weeks ago Council approved the removal and repairs/inspection of one of the raw sewage pumps. He stated that it has been pulled out and evaluated and the motor does not need any more repairs than what was quoted, but the pump itself needs quite a bit of fabrication on the wear rings and impeller at an added cost of \$3,388.00. He stated that he is looking for approval to have those repairs done to that pump. Mr. Miller asked about a new one. Mr. Zohner stated that a new one is about \$30,000.00. Discussion ensued. Mr. Miller asked if he could get a quote on just a pump. Mr. Zohner stated that he could get that tomorrow morning. Mr. Pachuillo stated that they will table it until Mr. Zohner can investigate it and revisit it next week at Council meeting.

CHIEF OXENREIDER:

Mr. Pachuillo asked how many applicants we have. Chief Oxenreider stated that we received seven but only six will be taking the test which is this Saturday, February 29th at 10 a.m. He stated that the one applicant will be on vacation when the test is being administered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into Executive Session at 7:34 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 8:25 p.m. The following action was taken.

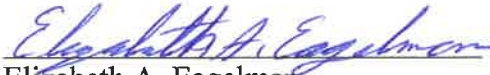
Mr. Metzgar made a motion to remove Ludgate Engineering as the Boroughs Engineer; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES –7, NAYS – 0. Motion carried.

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to appoint ARRO Engineering as Interim Borough Engineer; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES –7, NAYS – 0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. .
AYES -7, NAYS - 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Elizabeth A. Eageman
Borough Secretary