

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, March 7, 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 (Absent)
Denise Stine (Absent)
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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2019 Council Meeting and the February 27, 2019 Workshop Meeting. Mrs. Peterson made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES –4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Paul Miller from 1100 Ruth Street addressed Council concerning issues with wood-burning fire pits near his property. He handed out a packet of information containing articles concerning smoke from wood-burning and its long-term health concerns. He mentioned that South Heidelberg Township was also having issues with wood-burning fire pits so they passed an Ordinance in 2016 which permitted the use of ornamental fire pits but only allow propane or natural gas to be burned. He asked Council to consider passing a similar Ordinance banning wood-burning fire pits and only allowing fire pits that use propane or natural gas. Mr. Pachuillo stated that the committee would look at it and discuss it and maybe have a discussion at the Workshop meeting. A lengthy discussion ensued.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned an e-mail that was just received from CELG concerning animal control services. He stated that Mrs. Eagelman would forward the e-mail to everyone. He stated that there is a survey attached from the Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Council that Mr. Hart will complete as to what services we would be interested in.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the bills for February 2019. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Pachuillo 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. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Renshaw mentioned that there is nothing out of the ordinary on his report. He mentioned that they try to be pro-active and that they started a Pre-Incident Survey Program within the department. He stated that they are going out Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm and hand delivered letters to a lot of their commercial businesses. He stated that they schedule an interview where they get to look at the buildings and ask questions before something happens. He stated that all of their apparatus are equipped with I-Pads and they can share all of the information that they gather which will help if there is ever a call at the business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that the only item is the PENNVEST Resolution. Mr. Smith stated that ARRO has begun making application to PENNVEST for a loan to cover the costs of the Broad Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements. He stated that PENNVEST is currently offering a thirty year loan with a rate of 1.402% for the first five years, then going up to 2.008% for the remainder of the term. Mr. Metzgar made a motion to pass the Resolution; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

BRYCE ZOHNER – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Mr. Zohner mentioned that he will be coaching his sons T-Ball and the practices are Wednesday nights so he asked Council's permission to miss the Workshop meetings for March, April and May. Mr. Pachuillo stated that it was fine.

BRYCE ZOHNER – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR (Cont.):

Mr. Zohner mentioned that the next item he has is the TV Truck Lease Agreement Resolution. Mr. Pachuillo stated that Mr. Miller was satisfied with the information that was sent out and recommended that Council approve moving forward with it. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to approve the TV Truck Lease Agreement Resolution; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

SEWER ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING – BRAD SMITH:

Mr. Smith mentioned that ARRO wrote a letter to DEP concerning the Borough's Draft NPDES Permit. He stated that they are going to give us until June 3rd to file a report with them showing that the tetrachloroethylene is not in our system and that they should not assess us a limit for something that is not there. He stated that Mr. Zohner is continuing to collect data and looking throughout the system and checking to see if any businesses may have used that solvent that are no longer in business or no longer using it that it is no longer in our system.

Mr. Smith mentioned that they are moving forward with finalizing the design for the Broad Street Sanitary Sewer Improvement. He stated that they will be submitting to DEP before the end of the month.

JAMES PACHUILO – COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned the Memorial Day Parade and that he was questioned by Mr. Oswald about it. Mrs. Gantner stated that she talked to Deb at Wernersville but has not heard back as to what they decided to do about the Parade. She mentioned that she spoke to Mr. Brady at our VFW and informed him of the situation. She stated that Mr. Brady informed her that whether there was a parade or not they will have their services at St. John's Church, Sinking Spring VFW and at Pleasant View Cemetery. Mrs. Gantner stated that Wernersville has to be the one to say that they are not having the Memorial Day Parade.

TRACY PETERSON – LIBRARY:

Mrs. Peterson mentioned that the Library is getting pretty busy with the Passports and they are looking to hire another Part Time person, maybe 10 hours a week, to help cover passports. She also mentioned that they may open up another Saturday a month.

ROBERT METZGAR – FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Mr. Metzgar stated that he had nothing to report at this time and mentioned that they need to schedule their next meeting very soon.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that they met with Wilson School District personnel on Wednesday to discuss the summer program. She stated that the biggest glitch with the Bulldog Blast was the payment. She stated that they are trying to come up with a more efficient way. She stated that we can use their pay pal account. She mentioned that she would like to look into getting our own pay pal account because she believes we could even use it for sewer payments.

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that she has someone who does web services that has offered to look at updating our website and give us a proposal.

Mrs. Gantner stated that the Annual Breakfast and Easter Egg Hung will be April 13th.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Egelman
Borough Secretary