

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James Pachuiilo. Elizabeth Eagelman called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

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

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli; Charles Haws, Barley Snyder, Borough Solicitor; Robert Ludgate Sr., 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. Pachuiilo 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. Pachuiilo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 1, 2018 Council Meeting, March 13, 2018 Special Meeting and the March 28, 2018 Workshop Meeting. Mrs. Peterson made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES –5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

The first visitor was Mr. James Spagnoletti of 100 Michigan Drive. Mr. Spagnoletti addressed Council concerning his neighbors recycling blowing into his yard. He stated that he went to the Home Owners Association and they referred him to the Borough. He stated that he believes that the recycling cans should have some way to contain the contents. Mr. Pachuiilo stated that things may change when we get our new contract next year.

The next visitor was Vinny Guatieri from Papparone's. Mr. Guatieri addressed Council concerning their fourth quarter 2017 sewer surcharge and fines. He stated that on the 18th of January the sewer backed up and flooded the basement. He stated that Drain Masters came out and got it all taken care of and then the next day they came out to do the test. He stated that he informed them about the back-up and they did the test anyway and got a \$600.00 fine. Mr. Zohner explained that when they sampled in December the readings were very high so he resampled in January. He stated that it was still high in January. Mr. Hoffa asked if they had been fined before.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT (Cont.):

Mrs. Eagelman stated that they had but they have never paid any of the fines before. Mrs. Peterson asked if we could lower the fines. Mrs. Eagelman stated that she didn't have the bill in front of her but believed that the testing fee was around \$127.00, the surcharge for the strong waste was about \$150.00, and that the fine amounts were \$150.00 and \$300.00 because it was so high. Discussion ensued. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to waive the \$300.00 fine amount as a one time courtesy; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES -5, NAYS - 0, ABSENT - 2. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that we received an invitation to the Municipal Officials Breakfast that is going to be held on Friday, April 27 at the Strausstown Volunteer Fire Company. He stated that if anyone is interested to let Mrs. Eagelman know or contact Andrea Weist at the Albright College Center for Excellence in Local Government. Mr. Pachuillo also mentioned that we received information on the upcoming Secretaries Meeting on Wednesday, April 11th and that the topic is Playground Safety. Mr. Hart stated that he has already signed up for it.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the bills for March 2018. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES - 5, NAYS - 0, ABSENT - 2. Motion carried.

WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that their report was included in the meeting info e-mail.

WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:

Mr. Tucci handed out and went over their March 2018 report. He mentioned the AED loaner program that is open to anyone in the area if you are having a large picnic or event. Mrs. Gantner mentioned that we have two playgrounds and asked if they would train all of the leaders on how to use them. Mr. Tucci stated that they could do that.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that the first item is the Terrace Final Release and dedication of streets, storm and sanitary sewers. Mr. Hart stated that back in 2016 they asked for a payment which we released but we did not take dedication of the street mostly because it wasn't completed. He stated that there was a problem with PP& L and installing the street lights. He stated that everything was completed since then but this was forgotten on our part and on Grande's part. He

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Cont.):

stated that he has received an e-mail requesting final release of the retainage which would be \$57,581.98 and we would still be holding \$10,000.00 for the storm water inspections. Mr. Smith stated that he did not realize this was happening tonight and that he thought that we still had some outstanding sewer issues. Discussion ensued and Mr. Pachuillo stated that we will table it until the Workshop Meeting so we can make sure that everything is completed and in order.

The next item was the MS4 Ordinance. Mr. Haws stated that every five years we get an NPDES Permit for the MS4 and there is a public education requirement. He stated that the Ordinance has us enter into a County Co-op with other municipalities to have the County do the public education component. He stated that the Ordinance was advertised for adoption and for execution of the Agreement. Mrs. Stine made a motion to accept the MS4 Ordinance; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that the only item is appointing Mr. Brandon Snyder to the Zoning Hearing Board. He stated that Mr. Snyder sent in a letter of interest. Mrs. Stine made a motion to appoint Mr. Snyder to the Zoning Hearing Board; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to accept the Treasures Report as written. Mrs. Stine made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:**DENISE STINE – SEWER AND SANITATION:**

Mrs. Stine stated that they are going to have a meeting on Wednesday, April 25th at 6 p.m. prior to the Workshop Meeting if it is ok with Mr. Miller.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that we made \$1,405.00 for the Breakfast and we made another \$135.00 on the outside raffles. She stated that it covers the cost of the Easter Egg Hunt and we are going to be able to pay for most of the movies at \$500.00 apiece. She mentioned that next year Easter is later in April and she is concerned that we will have less people because sports starting up.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION (Cont.):

Mrs. Gantner mentioned the Summer Playground Program and that we have really combined with Wilson School District doing the Bulldog Blast. She stated that we will be doing the Bulldog Blast at both playgrounds this year and the School District has set it up so that people can register online for just Playground or both Playground and Bulldog Blast. She mentioned that they will still have to send in a check for payment but all of the information will be entered online and put on a spread sheet. She stated that they are also looking in to getting the leaders small tablets so they will have the spread sheets and not have to carry around these big books with all the copies of the forms. She mentioned that the School District is going to pay us a \$500.00 use fee towards our cost. She also mentioned that we are going to extend the Playground Program to nine weeks and would like to charge an extra \$10.00 so residents will pay \$50.00 and non-residents will pay \$85.00. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to add \$10.00 to each of the fees; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried. Mrs. Peterson asked if they would have internet access if we got the tablets. Mr. Zohner mentioned that before they go and buy tablets to let him know because we get good pricing through Verizon. He stated that there is a monthly fee for the internet access.

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that on Friday, May 18th we are going to have our Blast Off for people to come for a movie and sign up for Playground early. She stated that they will also be able to sign up for Bulldog Blast. She stated that the movie will be Coco.

MAYOR CIRULLI:

Mayor Cirulli thanked Mrs. Gantner and the Rec Board for all the work they did for the Egg Hunt and Breakfast. Mrs. Gantner also thanked Mayor Cirulli for all of his help with the Egg Hunt.

ROBERT LUDGATE SR. – BOROUGH ENGINEER

Mr. Ludgate mentioned that they are continuing on with the same work they were doing last week. Mr. Hoffa asked if we are any closer to being able to go out for bids. Mr. Ludgate stated that they are getting closer and that they had a meeting this morning with PP&L about poles that have to be relocated.

BRYCE ZOHNER – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Mr. Zohner stated that he is looking to move forward with the security system back at the sewer plant. He stated that he had \$12,000.00 budgeted for it and it came in much lower at \$7,500.00 and that it is for security and video surveillance. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to authorize Mr. Zohner to move forward with the security system; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

Mr. Zohner mentioned that on April 25th Alcon will have volunteers cleaning up around the parks.

BRYCE ZOHNER – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR (Cont.):

Mr. Zohner mentioned that, a while back, he got an e-mail from the Berks County Conservation District concerning the Spotted Lantern Flies and that the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture was mandating that all commercial and municipal organizations get permitted. He stated that this permit requires us to hang placards in every Borough vehicle and requires us to inspect every vehicle before we move it so that we make sure we are not transporting the Spotted Lantern Flies around. He stated that we are now permitted and doing what they asked. He also stated that they ask that if you see them you should kill them.

SEWER ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING – BRAD SMITH:

Mr. Smith mentioned that the Chapter 94 Reports were delivered on time. He also mentioned that the Pennsylvania Small Project Grant was submitted for the sewer project on Broad Street. He mentioned that one of his colleagues is contacting our Representative and State Senator to ask them to continue to support the project and talk to the people over at the CDC to get the final push in the political round. He also mentioned that Council should do the same if able and lend support to the Grant Application.

MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:

Mr. Hart mentioned that back in 2016 we purchased and moved ahead with the Smart Search Program for all of our files. He stated that it is a system to down load every piece of paper that we have into the computer and store it electronically. He stated that unfortunately we do not have the man power to sit and scan the information in. He stated that Mrs. Gantner found someone to come in and work part-time to do this for us. He stated that he has some part time money set aside that we could use for this. He stated that her name is Brigitte M. Saguer and she would be making \$10.00 per hour up to \$3,000.00. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to hire Ms. Saguer at \$10.00 per hour with a limit of \$3,000.00; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Eageman
Borough Secretary