

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, April 7, 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 (absent)  
Denise Stine  
Lisa Gantner  
Tracy Peterson  
Brian Hoffa

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli; Charles Haws, Borough Solicitor; Robert Ludgate Sr., 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.

Mr. Pachuillo requested a moment of silence to honor our fallen heroes and those who serve us on a daily basis at home and abroad in the Armed Forces and our first responders.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 3, 2016 Council Meeting and the March 23, 2016 Workshop Meeting. Mrs. Gantner made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES –5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

**VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mrs. June Duncan of 116 Miller Drive addressed Council concerning a Motor Home that is parked in front of her house again. She stated that she came to Council previously about this issue and wanted to know if Council has done anything to change the Ordinance so that they are not allowed to park there. Mayor Cirulli stated that it is legal because it has a valid registration and a valid inspection. Mr. Haws stated that Council could change the Ordinance to exclude commercial vehicles or vehicles of a certain size or weight parked on public streets. Mayor Cirulli stated that we would have to redo the Ordinance for everything that it would include boats etc. Mr. Hart stated that it currently states that if you are going to keep it on your property it has to be in a garage or in the back yard. Discussion ensued. Chief Schweyer stated that some municipalities have a time limit of 72 hours to be parked on the street. Mr. Pachuillo stated that they would make it a point to revisit the Ordinance and see if they can revamp it and cover a bunch of things like the Mayor suggested. Mrs. Duncan stated that she would appreciate it and thanked Council for their time.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the bills for March 2016. 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. Renshaw reviewed the monthly activity report and pointed out the staff activities. He mentioned that they are using a system called Active 911 which is a mapping call integration system and now includes six (6) Fire Departments. He also mentioned that they started a web based customer survey.

Mr. Renshaw mentioned that the new Ladder Truck was outside for everyone to see. Mr. Pachuillo stated that they would take a short recess to go out and see the Ladder Truck.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that they are still working on the Job Descriptions and that Mr. Huckleberry and his committee want to sit down with Mr. Hart.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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

**CHIEF SCHWEYER:**

Chief Schweyer mentioned that one of the Part-Time Officers, Mr. James Demsko, resigned because he wasn't able to give us any time. He stated that he has turned in all of his equipment. He asked Council for their permission to hire another Part-Time Officer Mrs. Peterson made the motion to allow Chief Schweyer to hire another Part-Time Officer; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

Chief Schweyer mentioned that he has correspondence from the Liberty Parade Committee. He mentioned that they do a parade every year at the Fire Company grounds for their baseball team. He stated that they are doing it this Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> and would like permission and barricades.

**CHIEF SCHWEYER (Cont.):**

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to approve the Parade and authorize Mr. Hart to put out barricades; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

Chief Schweyer stated that the bullet proof glass was installed in the front of the Police Office. He also mentioned that the Evidence Room is full and that he has spoken to Mr. Hart about it and are working on a solution in the basement. Mrs. Peterson asked if it is going to affect the books for the Book Sale. Mr. Hart stated no and that they are working in the back corner. Mayor Cirulli mentioned about maybe looking into merging Libraries for this whole western part of town with Spring Township. Mr. Hoffa stated that we discussed that before and no one was in favor of doing that.

**ROBERG LUDGATE SR. – BOROUGH ENGINEER**

Mr. Ludgate mentioned that he and Mr. Hoffa attended a luncheon meeting today and the Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation was the featured speaker. He stated that they spoke with Mr. Mike Rebert and Mrs. Lisa Richards about moving our project forward. He stated that Mr. Rebert told him that when the final TIP comes out in October we can talk about moving up. He stated that in order to get off the mark we have to get the engineering done and we are on the draft TIP for preliminary engineering. He also mentioned that Mr. Loth and Mr. Coleman also attended the meeting.

**MICHAEL HART – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:**

Mr. Hart stated that the Clarifier repairs went very well and they are at the final stages of putting it back together. He also mentioned the Oxidation Ditch and that the gear box on #1 started to form an oil leak. He stated that they are getting prices to have it removed and the spare put in and then send the other one out for repairs. He stated that the Root Treatment is moving ahead. He mentioned that the other repairs can be done through Costars so they are in the process of comparing contractors and comparing prices.

Mrs. Stine asked Mr. Hart if he had spoken to Mr. Leiby. He stated that he sent Mr. Todd Miller up to speak to him since it is a Codes issue and Mr. Leiby told him that he was planning on getting some of it removed when he returns from vacation.

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

Mr. Smith stated that Council should have received a draft body of a letter ARRO prepared as directed. He stated that the letter, upon Councils approval, will be sent to contributing municipalities asking for any future capacity needs. Mrs. Peterson made to motion to approve sending the letters out; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried. He also mentioned that the Chapter 94 Reports have been sent out to DEP.

**MRS. EAGELMAN – BOROUGH SECRETARY:**

Mrs. Eagelman asked if anyone else was interested in going to the breakfast on April 22<sup>nd</sup> being held by the Berks Municipal Partnership and the Center for Excellence in Local Government. She stated that she has Mrs. Gantner listed and if anyone else was interested to let her know by April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Eagelman also mentioned that the Auditor sent the Tax Collector Financial Statement and the Library Financial Statement. She stated that they are still working on the General Fund Financial Statement.

**CHARLES HAWS – BOROUGH SOLICITOR:**

Mr. Haws stated that there were no updates and that we are all squared away with the Comcast Easement and Verizon Lease Agreement.

**JAMES PACHUILO - COUNCIL PRESIDENT:**

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that he and Mr. Hart attended the Pennsylvania American Water dinner. He stated that he offered the Council Room for their meetings during the construction.

**MAYOR GARY CIRULLI:**

Mayor Cirulli mentioned that he would like the problem with the Ordinance concerning campers on the street to be taken care of. Discussion ensued. Mr. Pachuillo stated that Mr. Hart, Mr. Haws and the Chief could go over the language.

**TRACY PETERSON – LIBRARY:**

Mrs. Peterson mentioned that the Library will be having a Book Sale on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Peterson mentioned that she noticed how much we spend on electricity every month and wondered if we had every thought about putting in Solar Panels to try to offset some of those costs. Mr. Hart stated that he had look into it a while ago and at that point there were grants out there that were available but they ended just as he started looking into it. He stated that he could start looking into it again. He mentioned that we have done things here in the Borough Hall and out at the plant to reduce electric use and costs. He also mentioned that we do time share back at the plant and we get a kick back on that as well.

**BRIAN HOFFA – ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that he missed the meeting last week but has a few things that Mr. Loth sent him. He stated that it is his understanding that the Betterment Project will be starting in Womelsdorf this month and work their way down. He stated that Mrs. Pam Shup from the Greater Reading Economic Partnership was at the meeting and explained that they could partner with BOSS2020 in trying to get developers to come and work on the Downtown. He also mentioned that they have someone working on the BOSS2020 Web Site. He stated that Mr. Loth informed him that the Keystone Communities Grant has been extended for another year and that they want to draw down the money so that we can put it in our account and pay it out as soon as we get bills in for the project. He mentioned that Mr. Loth wants to look at helping a gentleman that lives on Penn Avenue who is in a wheelchair. He would like to build him a lift and look into funds to help pay for it.

**LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:**

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that the Community Breakfast is on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and that tickets are available in the Borough Hall Office. She also mentioned that she wanted to offer one free ticket to each employee and Councilperson.


Mrs. Gantner mentioned that they have been trying to figure out how to update the Facebook page. She stated that when she was on the page today she noticed that Mrs. Bohn is now listed as the administrator so everything has been updated properly.

Mrs. Gantner stated that she went to the CCHOA Meeting and spoke to them about the playground. She stated that she got a pretty clear picture that they don't want us to do anything over there. She also mentioned that by next meeting she should be able to tell Council who they would like to hire as Playground Leaders.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Eageman  
Borough Secretary