

A public hearing of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, May 3, 2012 at 6:31 p.m. at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James A. Pachuillo. Mr. Pachuillo turned the floor over to Barley/Snyder Solicitor, Charles Haws. The following Council Members were present:

James Pachuillo
Edward Oswald
George Butkus
Christiana Stallone
Gary Cirulli
Denise Stine
Steven Suruskie (absent)

Other officials present were: Mayor Francis Butkus, Robert Ludgate, Sr., Ludgate Engineering, David M. Schlott, Jr., ARRO Consulting, Michael Hart, Public Works Director, Police Chief Lee Schweyer, and Regina Shade who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

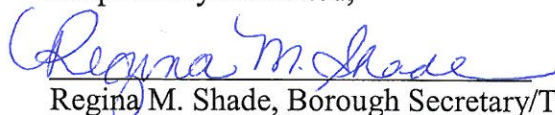
PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Haws stated we ran the advertisement for the hearing on April 10th and April 17th in the Reading Eagle regarding Council's intention to adopt an Ordinance which serves to amend Chapter 196 of the Borough Code entitled, Zoning by providing for an agricultural zoning overlay district. Agricultural uses can be engaged in the Borough in these overlay districts. The Ordinance as drafted provides definitions; identifies the applicable zones which are basically three (3) large parcels within the R-1 Suburban Residential District. It provides specific conditions that apply to those permitted usages. The hearing is to allow first the public to make any appropriate comment and then if Council so chooses they can move ahead with this as part of this zoning hearing process. Mr. Pachuillo said since there was no public in attendance to speak; he said Council could act on the Ag Ordinance. Mr. Butkus wanted to get Mr. Haws thoughts on how this impacts the existing ag uses that are currently happening within the Borough. How does this affect them? There are quite a few other properties in the Borough that do vegetable growing for personal use, Mr. Butkus said. How does this impact their ability to continue what they are already doing? Mr. Haws stated this Ordinance has no effect on any existing operation. If there was an activity currently being engaged in, on a piece of property that is either grandfathered or doesn't comply but hasn't been addressed, this Ordinance wouldn't have any effect one way or another on that type of use to which Mr. Butkus said, okay. This just regulates usage on the three (3) specific properties identified in this overlay district, Mr. Haws said. Mr. Oswald made a motion to enact the above mentioned Ordinance; seconded by Mrs. Stine. Mr. Pachuillo asked for a roll call vote. AYES – 5, NAYS – 1 (Mr. Butkus); ABSENT – 1 (Mr. Suruskie); motion carried. The Ordinance passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Pachuillo adjourned the hearing at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Regina M. Shade, Borough Secretary/Treasurer