

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., by Council President James Pachuillo. After the pledge to the flag, Elizabeth Eagelman called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

James Pachuillo  
Tracy Peterson (Absent)  
H. David Miller (Arrived at 7:09)  
Denise Stine  
Lisa Gantner  
Brian Hoffa  
Robert Metzgar

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli; EmmaRose Boyle, Barley Snyder, Borough Solicitor; Brad Smith, Engineer, ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; Officer Maryana Marusyak; Kim Cherry, Sewer Plant Superintendent; 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 May 6, 2021 Council Meeting. Mr. Hoffa made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the bills for May 2021. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 2. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to accept the Treasures Report for May 2021 as written. Mrs. Stine made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 2. Motion carried.

**WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. Pachuillo stated that their May Activity report is included in everyone's email packet.

**WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:**

Mr. Pachuillo stated that their May Activity Report is also included in everyone's email packet.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished business to be discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Pachuillo stated that the first item is to ratify the hiring of Damien Ogden for the Borough Streets Department. Mrs. Stine made a motion to hire Mr. Ogden for the Streets Department; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 2. Motion carried.

The next item was the Sinking Spring Retail Investors Project Time Extension. Mr. Hart stated that it is for their minor land sub division. He stated that Mr. Smith reviewed it and mailed the review letter but they never received it. Mr. Metzgar made a motion to accept the time extension; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 2. Motion carried.

**REVITALIZATION:**

Mr. Merlin Weaver, Committee Chairman of BOSS Forward, addressed Council. He mentioned that their request for \$1,865,624 in project funding for Phase 2 was one of ten selected to move forward to the House Appropriations Committee for consideration. He also mentioned that Mr. Ken Pick, Berks County Redevelopment Authority, recommended \$300,000.00 allocation from the FY-2021 CDBG Program budget to assist with completing the 'FULL' Phase 2 construction project to the Board of Commissioners. He stated that a letter thanking the Berks Commissioners for their support has been drafted and will be signed by Mr. Pachuillo and Mr. Weaver. Mr. Weaver and Mr. Hoffa reported that the New Town Center Steering Committee which includes Council members, BOSS Forward members and Derck & Edson met on Wednesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> to define what our local Form-based Code Ordinance will include. Mr. Hoffa stated that they discussed building heights/stories, setbacks, street width and parking. He stated that a first draft ordinance will be forthcoming and will be presented to Council and Planning Commission.

Mr. Miller arrived at the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

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

Mr. Smith gave an update on Phase 2. He stated that they are still waiting for the utilities to get their HOP. He stated that he wrote an RFP for inspection services for the work and if it meets with everyone's approval they will get it out on the street to get a consultant to do the inspections.

**BRAD SMITH – ARRO CONSULTING – ENGINEER (Cont.):**

Mr. Smith mentioned that the Village Greens subdivision is still trying to address FEMA's comments and that some issues came up that now involve the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. He mentioned that they have a meeting with FEMA tomorrow to see how they can resolve those.

Mr. Smith mentioned that he spoke with the Engineer for Senda Auto Sales and they are working on addressing all of the comments of the Conditional Approval. Mr. Pachulo asked if Senda is aware of the plans for the intersection in the near future. Mr. Hart stated that they are aware but he will reach out to them and mention it to them again.

Mr. Smith mentioned that we have two Final Payment Applications for the Broad Street Sanitary Sewer Improvement project that need Council's approval. The first is Payment Application No. 7 for Phase 1 in the amount of \$37,992.00 to Barrasso Excavation Inc. The second is for Payment Application No. 7 for Phase 2 in the amount of \$66,687.40 to Barrasso Excavation Inc. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve both Payment Applications; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion Carried

Mr. Smith mentioned that the cleaning of the reed beds scheduled for 2021 is complete and the additional beds that were scheduled for 2022 were also cleaned as requested. He stated that ARRO did an assessment of the reed beds and one of the banks (beds 2 through 12) is not draining and is in need of media replacement as soon as possible. He stated that we may need to haul more sludge offsite until the reed beds are restored. He stated that ARRO recommends moving forward with getting the media replaced and the reed beds replanted as soon as possible. Mr. Smith stated that he worked up some very rough numbers based on what it costs to build the newer set of beds and including engineering between \$80,000.00 and \$90,000.00 to build the beds. He mentioned that the cost did not include taking out the old material. He stated that he got a price from the contractor that did the cleaning of the beds and he would charge \$123.00 per ton which would be roughly \$115,000.00. Mr. Miller asked Mr. Smith to put that all together in a report so they can see what they are acting on. Mr. Smith stated that he would put it together and get it to him as soon as possible.

**EMMAROSE BOYLE – BARLEY SNYDER:**

Mrs. Boyle stated that Mr. Haws gave her an update for Council on the Heritage Park Agreement. She stated that the Agreement was drafted and has been circulated for review and that he has not received any comments back yet. Mr. Hart mentioned that it was sent over to their attorney for review and once we get his comments we will get in touch with Mr. Haws and they will sit down with the Admin Committee to review it to make sure that everything is right on both sides.

**MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:**

Mr. Hart mentioned that he was notified by PP&L that they have to replace a pole in front of Dunkin Donuts which means that they are going to kill all the power for about a two block radius that will probably take out both traffic signals. He stated that they are looking to do it on June 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 p.m. and they think they should have it done in ten (10) hours. He stated that the contractor will be responsible for traffic control.

Mr. Hart mentioned that he was notified this morning that we are required to request the federal funds made available under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) through the state within the next five days. He stated that there are all kinds of forms that need to be completed and submitted online and that he and Mrs. Eagelman are working on it and will be finishing it up after meeting. He stated that we are scheduled to receive \$429,771.00 in two installments, half this year and half next year.

**KIM CHERRY – SEWER PLANT SUPERINTENDENT:**

Mrs. Kim Cherry, Sewer Plant Superintendent, introduced herself to Council.

**MAYOR GARY CIRULLI:**

Mayor Cirulli asked Councils permission to hire Mr. James Pollock as a Part Time Police Officer at \$23.53 per hour. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve hiring Mr. Pollock; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried

**LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:**

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that we have 293 kids registered for the Summer Playground Program. She stated that they need to hire some more leaders and that they did interviews today. She asked for a motion to hire Catherine Arentz, Ben Winkler-Quigley, Brooke Stewart and Andrew Junikiewicz at \$9.00 per hour as part time playground leaders. Mrs. Stine made the motion to hire all four; seconded by Mr. Miller. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Elizabeth A. Eagelman  
Borough Secretary