

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James Pachuillo. Debra Bohn called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

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

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli; Emma Rose Boyle, Barley Snyder, Borough Solicitor; Brad Smith, ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; OIC James Oxenreider, and Debra Bohn, Borough Treasurer, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

Mr. Pachuillo requested a moment of silence to honor our Police, Fire and EMS personnel and our Armed Forces who protect us every day here and abroad.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2019 Council Meeting and the June 26, 2019 Workshop Meeting. Mrs. Peterson made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES –6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mrs. Brenda Steinhauer of 48 Shillington Road addressed Council concerning storm water issues and sewer backups in their basement. She stated that she is concerned about the new development on the Hofmann Tract causing more storm water issues. Mr. Hart explained that the developer of the Hofmann Tract is going to create ponds on the property were they are going to retain a lot of the water before it gets discharged directly into our system. He stated that it will allow the surge to come through and then over time it will get released from the ponds. He also mentioned that our sewer lines are being televised in that area to find where problems are. He stated that they came up with devices that they are going to offer to the residents to block their cleanout traps in the front of the properties to stop water from going down into our sewer system. He stated that letters should be going out shortly. He did mention that there is a downside to the device in that if your plumbing fixtures are not vented property it will not allow your system to drain properly because it is not getting the air it needs. Discussion ensued. Mrs. Steinhauer also mentioned that she had issues with her neighbors setting off fireworks and that she did contact the police. OIC Oxenreider stated that they received four complaint calls about fireworks the week of the 4th.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT (Cont.):

Mr. Craig Weidenhammer of 158 Broad Street addressed Council concerning the deterioration of Broad Street and asked when it would be paved. Mr. Hart stated that it will be repaved after the installation of the new sewer main. Mr. Weidenhammer asked what the time frame was. Mr. Smith stated that it should be before the new year but mentioned that it is in the hands of DEP. Mr. Weidenhammer also discussed all the water that is coming down Octagon Avenue and asked if anything could be done. Mr. Hart stated that the ditch is the lowest point and that is where it's all flowing to.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Hart stated that we received a request from Mr. Maggiaro for relief from his high sewer bill because of a broken water heater. He stated that Mrs. Eageman gave him the information but he wasn't sure of the correct amounts. Mr. Pachuilto stated that we will table this until we have the amounts.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Mr. Pachuilto asked for a motion to approve the bills for June 2019. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Pachuilto asked for a motion to accept the Treasures Report as written. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Pachuilto stated that Mr. Renshaw was unable to attend tonight's meeting and that his report is included to everyone's e-mail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The first item was the COCA – Young Longs at Play Resolution. Mr. Pachuilto mentioned that this came up last month about passing a Resolution to make the playgrounds smoke/tobacco free. Discussion ensued concerning enforcement with the weekend rentals. Mr. Metzgar stated that he has never heard anyone complaining about it. OIC Oxenreider mentioned that they did have a mulch fire at the playground a couple years ago because someone threw a cigarette in the mulch but that was only one time in the nineteen years he has been here. No action was taken.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that the next item is the South Heidelberg Joint Comp. Plan. Mr. Hart stated that they are in the process of updating their Comp Plan and asked us to review the proposed amendments and provide comments as promptly as possible. Mr. Pachuillo stated that if anyone has any comments they should e-mail Mr. Hart so he can get back to South Heidelberg.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business to discuss.

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

Mr. Smith mentioned that a new Draft NPDES Permit from the state was received on June 27th and that it has two changes from the last draft. He stated that we have to test for Dibromochloromethane and Tetrachloroethylene twice per month but no limit was assigned. He also stated that we do not have to do the Toxic Reduction Evaluation for the Tetrachloroethylene either. He mentioned that there is a comment period now that does need to be posted at the Borough Hall and the WWTP.

Mr. Smith mentioned that there is a Resolution and the Component 3 Sewage Facilities Planning Module that need to be approved by Council tonight for the Broad Street Sanitary Sewer Improvement. He stated that once Council approves them they need to go to the Borough and County Planning Commissions so that they can complete their Component 4's and then we can submit the whole thing to DEP. Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to adopt the Resolution for the Plan Revision for New Land Development for the Broad Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project. Mr. Miller made the motion to adopt the Resolution; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:

Mrs. Gantner stated that the playground program is going really well. She mentioned that they now have 299 kids registered and average 150 kids per day between both playgrounds.

Mrs. Gantner asked if there is going to be a presentation at the Public Meeting on the 24th before everyone starts asking questions. She stated that the questions that people have been asking her are about storm water issues, what's it going to look like, and the expected tax revenue. She stated that if we bring a lot of those details out we would cut back on a lot of the questions. Mr. Hart stated that he will e-mail Mr. Robitzer and make sure he is planning on the presentation. Mr. Pachuillo stated that he doesn't think the Council room is big enough and Mrs. Peterson suggested using the Fire Company. Mr. Hart stated that he will check to see if it is available.

BRIAN HOFFA – ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that he had a few updates from the BOSS meeting. 1) Mr. Loth is in the beginning stages of getting us a second round of the façade program. 2) Mrs. Steph Kocher has agreed to redo the BOSS website and to put up a Facebook page. 3) Mr. Loth found out about a program with Habitat for Humanity and they are willing to offer their volunteer services to assist the Historical Society with their painting and carpentry work. 4) Discussed support for Small Business Saturday which will be the Saturday after Thanksgiving, and reach out to a lot of the business owners in Sinking Spring and put out a flyer.

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that they had a meeting on Tuesday with Mr. Todd Kline who purchased 3848 Penn Avenue (old Joe Dell Building). He stated that Mr. Kline had contacted Mr. Loth because he wanted to see how his work on his property is going to dovetail with what we are trying to do with the Revitalization. He stated that Mr. Kline wants to put his pool business in there and keep the court yard to put one of his show case pools in and then on the other side put some retail shops in.

Mr. Hoffa stated that he was not at the last meeting because he attended the Borough's Meeting. He stated that the Deputy Director for the Governor's South East Regional Office was there and she explained a program called Restore PA which is something Governor Wolfe wants to do. He stated that it is not approved yet but they are looking at trying to get it approved in September or October.

ROBERT METZGAR – FINANCE:

Mr. Metzgar stated that they had a good meeting on the 25th but have not scheduled the next one.

TRACY PETERSON – LIBRARY:

Mrs. Peterson stated that they are going to start ESL (English as a Second Language) classes at the Library in the conference room. She stated that they have someone who has offered to teach the classes and they have their clearances.

MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:

Mr. Hart stated that we have about twenty (20) applications that have come in for the Police Clerk position and that we are accepting application until next Wednesday.

Mr. Hart mentioned that our MTF grant was approved for another extension but we will now have to send them quarterly reports on the progress and schedules. Mr. Metzgar asked we have heard anything yet from PennDOT. Mr. Hart stated that he had not.

Mr. Hart mentioned that we are in the final segment of the new server transfer.

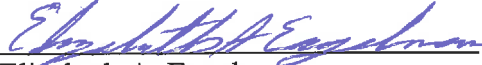
OIC OXENREIDER:

OIC Oxenreider went over the Police Report for June 2019.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Elizabeth A. Egelman
Borough Secretary