

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, July 6, 2017 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)  
H. David Miller (Absent)  
Denise Stine  
Lisa Gantner  
Tracy Peterson (Absent)  
Brian Hoffa

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 1, 2017 Council Meeting and the June 28, 2017 Workshop Meeting. Mrs. Stine made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES –4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

#### **VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no visitors.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:**

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the bills for June 2017. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

#### **WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that Mr. Renshaw was unable to attend this evening and that he would submit his report to everyone shortly.

**REVITALIZATION:**

Mr. Hoffa stated that he will wait until the Workshop meeting to discuss Phase Two since we don't have a lot of the people here. Mr. Ludgate stated that the most important thing is that Council look at the big picture and he believes that they are still waiting for some financial information to be fully understood. He mentioned that Mr. Loth is working on some possible funding issues. He also mentioned that he spoke today with our engineering consultants (STV) and asked them for a Phase Two construction cost estimate as the phase has been currently resolved per their meeting in Allentown. He stated that the number stands pretty much where it always has been. He stated that he is looking into seeing if our project would be eligible for Green Light Go funding. He mentioned that we do have an agreement from DCED that we can put some of our unused prior grant, roughly \$200,000.00, into Phase Two. He also stated that we have \$783,000.00 of Multimodal PennDOT Funding and if we get Green Light Go it can fund up to 80% up to \$500,000.00.

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that they are going to try to get some people together to start the Gateway Projects.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Pachulo stated that the first item is the Solids Handling Proposal from ARRO. Mr. Morrison explained that the Solids Handling Proposal is a study of the solids handling system in two phases. He stated that the first phase is a study of what the Borough has and if it can meet the capacity needs of the existing plant and can it be improved to perform better as it is; the second phase is to look at potential mechanical equipment that could perform some of the dewatering of solids to supplement the Reed Beds and be capable of running the whole plant. Mr. Zohner stated that the cost of the two-part study is \$14,000.00. Mr. Hart mentioned that it is a capital item and would be a shared cost with the contributing municipalities. Mr. Zohner explained that the way we are sitting right now is that the plant is operating at maximum capacity as far as solids is concerned but the flow is only at 50% so we need more solids handling capability at this point. He stated that he approached ARRO about this because he sees it as being an issue in the next couple years. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve ARRO's Proposal and move ahead with the Solids Handling Study not to exceed \$14,000.00; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

Mr. Pachulo stated that the next item is the Financing Summary. Mr. Hart stated that he did a breakdown of where we are at so far with some of the projects so we know where we stand with the financing that we have. He stated that he and Mr. Haws met with Mr. Peck from Concord Financial and they discussed bonds. He stated that there is also a packet from Mr. Peck showing where we are at and what our borrowing capacity is. He stated that they could discuss it more at the Workshop meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS (Cont.):**

Mr. Pachuillo stated that the next item is the Request for Proposals for the Early Intervention Program Study. Mr. Hart stated that he would need Council's approval to go out for RFP's. He mentioned that we can advertise now but there is nothing stating we have to do it at this point but we could see who bids back on it and see what the final costs are. Mr. Haws asked when Council would want them back by. Discussion ensued. Decision was made to request them back by August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to move ahead with sending out the RFP; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

**POLICE CHIEF LEE SCHWEYER:**

Chief Schweyer mentioned that Officer Stephen Williams has completed his six months and per their contract should be increased to a 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Patrolman at a rate of \$28.09 per hour. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to move Officer Williams to 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Patrolman at the rate of \$28.09 per hour; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

Chief Schweyer mentioned that there was an incident last Saturday in the 100 block of Woodrow Avenue. He stated that they received a call that there was a male outside firing a rifle. He stated that they did make an arrest.

**ROBERT LUDGATE SR. – BOROUGH ENGINEER**

Mr. Ludgate mentioned that the construction is moving along on the sidewalk project. He mentioned that we did have a little drainage issue there today and had to submit an additional plan that hopefully will correct that problem.

Mr. Ludgate mentioned that the demolition is finally moving along again. He stated that we are getting conditions ready so that construction for Phase Two could go forward but we need the financing.

**BRYCE ZOHNER – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:**

Mr. Zohner mentioned that the Salt Shed is in the process of being built.

**SEWER ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING – ALEX MORRISON:**

Mr. Morrison mentioned that everyone received the report and that items 1 through 4 are unchanged from last month and that item 5 was discussed earlier this evening.

**MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:**

Mr. Hart stated that as Mr. Ludgate mentioned the demo is going very well. He stated that he spoke to Empire and that they have supplied him with a time extension letter. He stated that the time extension letter only covers the construction of the new wall, which is going to be completed by July 26<sup>th</sup>. He stated that Empire will need another thirty (30) days to complete all the ground work. He stated that he would like to acknowledge their letter and accept the time extension for the contractor until July 26<sup>th</sup> and then another thirty (30) days for Empire to finish the site. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to accept the time extension; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

Mr. Hart mentioned that he did check on the delineators for 724 and did not get an answer back yet from PennDOT.

Mr. Hart mentioned that the additional security camera for the rear parking lot has been installed. He stated that we can do the Safety Zone there as soon as the signs are put up.

Mr. Hart mentioned that the contractor for the salt shed has submitted their first bill in the amount of \$21,000.00. He asked Council's permission to pay that bill. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to approve paying the salt shed contractor bill; seconded by Mrs. Gantner.

Mr. Hart mentioned that our Workers Comp Insurance Carrier is insisting that we start having safety meetings and programs. He stated that he has to keep records and minutes of the meetings and that he is going to do them quarterly starting in September.

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

Mr. Hoffa asked if the Western Berks Fire Department would be able to do home inspections to look for fire hazards if residents request it. Mr. Pachulo mentioned that it might be more in the Building Inspector realm of work. He stated that he could ask Mr. Renshaw.

**LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:**

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that next Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> is the next movie night and that they are showing Star Wars – Rogue One.

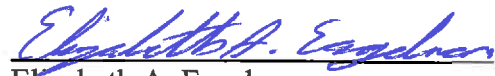
**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Pachulo 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 Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Egelman  
Elizabeth A. Egelman  
Borough Secretary