

The workshop meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on August 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., by Council Vice-President Tracy Peterson. After the pledge to the flag, Elizabeth Eagelman called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

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

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli, Charles Haws, Borough Solicitor; Brad Smith, Engineer, ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; Police Officer William Skelton, and Elizabeth Eagelman, Borough Secretary, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no visitors.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mrs. Peterson mentioned that the only correspondence is the Fireworks Petition from Mrs. Geri Sensenig. Mayor Cirulli mentioned that they will not be able to use the petition because it includes people that do not live in the Borough of Sinking Spring. He stated that she could give it to the state representatives for their information.

REVITALIZATION:

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that on Friday, September 18th at 9:30 a.m. they will be meeting with Derck & Edson to get their first steering committee together and to start talking about how they are going to progress with Derck & Edson. He also mentioned that they are going to approach Mr. Ken Pick to see if they can try and get some funding to acquire some of the properties on Krick. Mrs. Gantner mentioned that she has the drone footage of everything and they are trying to upload it onto something that everyone can access.

WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:

Mrs. Peterson mentioned that Western Berks Ambulance submitted their July report and it is included in everyone's email.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mrs. Peterson mentioned that the only item is the Fireworks Ordinance. She asked if the Committee was able to meet to go over it. Mayor Cirulli stated that they met the other day. Mrs. Stine stated that they are fine with it the way it is. Mr. Metzgar asked if this Ordinance does anything more than what the state law says. Mayor Cirulli stated that it does not and that we can't go above what they have written. Mrs. Peterson stated that the recommendation is that we move forward with the Ordinance. Mrs. Stine made the motion to approve the Ordinance and authorize advertising. There was no second. Motion died due to lack of a second. Discussion ensued concerning passing an Ordinance when it states the same thing that the state law says.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business to discuss.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that they successfully closed playground and that they had a great run. She stated that no one got sick and they received great comments from the parents. She thanked Council for their support in opening the playground.

ROBERT METZGAR – FINANCE:

Mr. Metzgar stated that they need to schedule their next Admin. meeting. He thanked Mrs. Peterson and Mrs. Gantner for all of their hard work with the Summer Playground Program.

ELIZABETH EAGELMAN – BOROUGH SECRETARY:

Mrs. Eagelman mentioned that she received a request from the West Lawn United Methodist Church to rent the inflatable movie screen for Labor Day weekend.

MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:

Mr. Hart stated that he has the letter from Mr. Loth about the Green Light-Go grant. Mr. Hoffa stated that it is a letter to the state requesting that our application for the 2019-2020 round of funding remain active for consideration when PennDOT reopens the program for 2020-2021. He stated that it also requests the funding, if awarded, be allowed to flow to the Borough for signal work even through the project may already be in progress or already built since the postponement was through no one's fault. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to approve the letter to the state; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER (Cont.):

Mr. Hart mentioned that he received a letter requesting a Time Extension on behalf of the Sinking Spring Retail for the sub-division of the out parcels. He stated that they are looking for an extension until October 1, 2020. Mr. Haws recommended approving the time extension for them to get the submission together. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to approve the time extension until October 1st; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

Mr. Hart mentioned that they are looking into the flooding on Park Avenue and that they have been out pulling manholes and doing more research with South Heidelberg Township. He stated that once they have some answers he will be meeting with the residents that were here at the last meeting to give them updates.

ROBERT METZGAR – PLANNING COMMISSION:

Mr. Metzgar mentioned the Village Green Development and that the developer is going to request a waiver to not put the sidewalk in along Reedy Road in lieu of them having a walking path around the complex. He stated that in order for him to approve the waiver he would like to require public access to that walking path and make sure there is an agreement to that affect.

CHARLES HAWS – BOROUGH SOLICITOR:

Mr. Haws mentioned that they had the Zoning Hearing for Mrs. Farrell and it was continued. He stated that Council can't waive Zoning requirements but they are looking at making a recommendation for the Zoning Hearing Board to grant the variance with conditions. He mentioned that there was a similar case in Lebanon County. Mr. Hoffa asked if Council could receive a list of the conditions before it goes to the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Haws stated that he would send it tomorrow.

BRAD SMITH - ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING:

Mr. Smith advised Council that Barrasso will be mobilizing and beginning construction on Broad Street on September 23rd. He stated that they had the bid opening for the Reed Bed Clearing Project and there were only two bids received. He stated that the low bidder was Synagro Central, LLC with a base bid of \$230,976.90, options 4 and 5 would be \$160,744.50 for a total of \$391,721.40. Mr. Miller made a motion to award the contract to Synagro Central, LLC; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 1. Motion carried.

H. DAVID MILLER:

Mr. Miller mentioned that there is construction going on pretty late at night at the Kline property on Penn Avenue. He mentioned that there are trucks going in and out. Discussion ensued concerning noise and nuisance

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Eagelman

Borough Secretary