

The workshop meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Wednesday, August 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James Pachuillo. After the Pledge to the Flag, Elizabeth White called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

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

Other officials present were: Charles Haws, Borough Solicitor; Justin Brewer, Ludgate Engineering; David Schlott Jr., ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Public Works Director; Police Chief Lee Schweyer, Regina Shade, Interim Borough Manager and Elizabeth White who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Cirulli made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the June 26, 2013 and July 8, 2013 Council Meetings; seconded by Mrs. Stallone. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2; motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no visitors.

COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no communications.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Mrs. Stine made a motion to pay the bills from July; seconded by Mrs. Stallone, AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2; motion carried.

SEWER PLANT SUPERVISOR:

Mr. George Butkus made a motion to reaffirm Mr. Hart to advertise for a Sewer Plant Supervisor so we can begin the hiring process, seconded by Mrs. Stallone. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2; motion carried.

NEW LIBRARY PERSONNEL:

Mr. George Butkus made a motion to hire Jennifer Hartranft to fill the part-time Library position, seconded by Mrs. Stallone. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2; motion carried.

Mr. Cirulli asked if the Library personnel have to go through a back ground check. Mrs. Shade answered no. Mr. Cirulli stated that it would be a good idea to start doing them since they handle money and are around children. Mr. George Butkus made a motion to have background checks done on all current library personnel at the Borough's cost and then all new hires in the future at their cost; seconded by Mrs. Stallone. Chief Schweyer asked if they wanted the more extensive FBI fingerprint base background check. Council stated yes. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2; motion carried.

POLICE MMO FOR 2014:

Mrs. Shade explained that this is due into the state and is just for the Police pension. She stated that it didn't go up too much. She mentioned that it was about \$62,000.00 to \$63,000.00 this year and next year we are looking at \$66,859.00. Mr. George Butkus asked what age they expect to pay out to for the calculation. Mrs. Shade stated that she will have to check with them on the table they use. Mr. George Butkus made the motion to approve the MMO; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2; motion carried.

SHRED EVENT:

Mr. Pachuillo announced that the Free Community Shred Day is Saturday, September 28, 2013 at the National Penn Bank in Robesonia.

SUNSET PLANS:

Mr. Hart stated that these plans were approved some time ago and he would like Council to reaffirm approval of the plans and sign them this evening. He stated that he had the Planning Commission do the same thing at their meeting last night. He also mentioned that they still had to purchase the sewer capacity. Mr. Butkus made the motion to reaffirm approval of the plans and to approve signing them; seconded by Mrs. Stallone. Mr. Haws mentioned that the Storm Water Agreement is still outstanding. Mr. Butkus amended the motion to hold the plans until the Storm Water Agreement is received; seconded by Mrs. Stallone. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2; motion carried.

RENTAL INSPECTOR DISCUSSION:

Mr. Hart stated that he interviewed five (5) people and that three (3) of them were very well qualified. He stated that they were anxious about the position until they heard the salary. He stated that he got the salary raised a little bit and called them back and now it seems like it is a playing

RENTAL INSPECTOR DISCUSSION: (Cont.)

game to see how far they can go. Mrs. Stallone asked what they are looking for. Mr. Hart stated that they work for the City of Reading and the lowest one is making \$19.50 an hour. He stated that he has another guy coming back in on Tuesday but he doesn't have the certifications that we are looking for. Mr. Pachulo asked what it would take for him to get the certifications. Mr. Hart stated that he just has to attend the class and take the test and the cost is minimal. Mr. Hart stated that the question he has, now that they have formed a union, he wants to have something legally stating that he agrees to get the certifications within a certain time period and if he doesn't we can release him because he didn't fill his contract. Discussion ensued. Mr. Pachulo stated that we can check with the union on that and get the job description together.

POLICE CHIEF – LEE SCHWEYER:

Chief Schweyer informed Council that the new police car was delivered and they are waiting on the detailing by Mr. Hart. He stated that it should be in service next week.

LUDGATE ENGINEERING – JUSTIN BREWER:

Mr. Brewer mentioned that they are still working through the Pedestrian Safety Plans to get them back to PennDOT hopefully by the end of the week.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – MICHAEL HART:

Mr. Hart stated that he had an update on the fuel tank for the Sewer Plant. He stated that he requested quotes from three (3) contractors but has only received two (2) back. He stated that the lowest one was Leffler at \$8,200.00 which is for a 1,000 gallon double walled tank and it is scheduled to be installed on September 5.

HEALTH CARE:

Mrs. Shade mentioned that at the last meeting she presented what they felt was the best option for the health care since the 1200Q is being dissolved. She stated that the plan they have chosen is the HSA 2000Q which is option 1. The deductibles are \$2,000.00 and \$4,000.00 but everything else is very similar to what we had before. She mentioned that it is a 17.4% increase compared to the 37% increase they wanted us to move to.

Mrs. Shade also mentioned that once we have more employees we can consider going into the Trust where there are a bunch of Municipalities. She mentioned that South Heidelberg Township is in the Trust and they are getting back \$61,802.00 for 2013. She explained that we would still have the same insurance but would make the premium payments to the Trust. The Trust pays the loss ratio to the insurance carrier and holds the other money in escrow. She stated that we need at least fifteen (15) employees in order to join then trust and that once we hire the rental

inspector and the new people to run the sewer plant we will be able to join. She mentioned that the amount of the refund depends on the insurance claims for the year and that we would join the trust for three (3) years.

Mr. Cirulli made a motion to approve going with the Capital Blue Cross HSA 2000Q + Vision; seconded by Mrs. Stine. Mr. Butkus mentioned that when we get close to the contracts ending he would like to look into switching from the HSA to the HRA. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2; motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Account

Opening Balance – June 30, 2013		\$475,648.73
PLGIT		9,119.76
Invest	Recreation	40,193.28
	General	64,294.96
McDonald's Escrow		4,003.88
100 th Anniversary Acct.		5,000.00
Fleetwood Bank Acct.		4,246.15
Deposits as of July 31, 2013		218,892.49
Checks Written		81,669.79
Payroll		84,780.16
PENNVEST auto debit		2,785.50
To be Paid		<u>22,587.28</u>
Balance as of August 1, 2013		\$629,576.52

Sewer Account

Opening Balance – June 30, 2013		\$880,297.28
PLGIT		61,438.65
Invest		322,742.09
Deposits as of July 31, 2013		172,020.42
Checks Written		72,052.43
PENNVEST auto debit		15,243.07
To be Paid		<u>129.95</u>
Balance as of August 1, 2013		\$ 1,349,072.99

Mr. Cirulli made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mr. Butkus. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2; motion carried.

MAYOR BUTKUS:

Mayor Butkus mentioned that there are some florescent lights out in the police office and there is an issue with the urinal.

COUNCILMAN GARY CIRULLI:

Mr. Cirulli stated he had an issue with the trash hauler not taking his trash because it was in cardboard boxes. He also stated that they throw the cans everywhere and break them. He wanted that trash hauler notified of the issues.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into an executive session at 7:50 pm for personnel issues.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 8:30 pm. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Stallone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. White
Borough Secretary