

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, August 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James Pachuillo. After the Pledge to the Flag, Debra Bohn called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

James Pachuillo
T.J. Huckleberry
George Butkus (Absent)
Denise Stine
Lisa Gantner
Tracy Peterson
Brian Hoffa

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli, Charles Haws, Borough Solicitor; Robert Ludgate Sr., Ludgate Engineering; Brad Smith, ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Public Works Director; Police Chief Lee Schweyer, Regina Shade, Borough Manager and Debra Bohn who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

Mr. Pachuillo requested a moment of silence to honor our fallen heroes and those who serve us on a daily basis at home and abroad in the Armed Forces and our first responders.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 2, 2015 Council Meeting and the July 22, 2015 Workshop Meeting. Mr. Huckleberry made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no visitors.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the bills for July 2015. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Fire Commissioner Jared Renshall addressed Council and gave the report for July. He stated that he just arrived on Monday and is getting caught up on everything.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that they needed to go into Executive Session for a Real Estate matter. Council went into Executive Session at 7:06 p.m.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 7:38 p.m. No action was taken.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that the first item is the Auditor. Mrs. Shade mentioned that she received the quote from Mrs. Barbara Akins, CPA. She stated that the 2015 Audit quote is \$8,725 for the Borough DCED & newspaper notice; \$1,200 for Tax Collector Audit; and \$1,200 for Library audited financial statements. This is a cost savings of \$2,020 (15%) less than last year's audit fee. Mrs. Stine made a motion to go with Mrs. Akins for the 2015 audit; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

The next item was the Trash Ordinance. Mr. Haws stated that the Trash Ordinance was circulated. Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to advertise the Trash Ordinance. Mrs. Stine made the motion; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that the first item is the Resolutions for the Declaration of Taking. He stated that there are two separate Resolutions; one for 3916 Penn Avenue and one for 3920 Penn Avenue. Mrs. Stine made the motion to accept the Resolution for 3916 Penn Avenue; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried. Mrs. Stine made the motion to accept the Resolution for 3920 Penn Avenue; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

The next item was the Shred Event. Mr. Pachuillo stated that it will be held on Saturday, October 24th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the National Penn Bank in Robesonia. He mentioned that it is for Borough residents and that businesses are not included.

The next item was the Movie Night. Mrs. Gantner stated that the last Movie Night is this Friday, August 7th and the movie is Home. She stated that there will be games and pre-movie festivities at 7:30 p.m. and that they have a Bounce House coming.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the Treasures Report. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

CHIEF SCHWEYER:

Chief Schweyer mentioned that the main phone number to the Police Department, 610-678-1906, is out of service. He stated that he contacted Windstream and they stated that it is a problem with Verizon Cable. Mrs. Shade stated that the Admin Office phones are all ok.

ROBERT LUDGATE SR. – BOROUGH ENGINEER:

Mr. Ludgate stated that he had a conversation with Mr. Smith of ARRO and they have some concerns about the sewer system in terms of three potential projects. The first concern being the Phase II Columbia Avenue project and the possibility that the line under part of Columbia Avenue might be one that is considered a bottle neck and in need of upsizing. He stated that we know that the line on Broad Street is considered in need of upsizing and apparently the line at Reedy Road is also possibly in need of upsizing. He stated that Mr. Smith told him that there was a draft report work on and Mr. Ludgate believes it is important to have that report completed and know the condition of the sewers because we have the project on Columbia, there are for sale signs up on the Golf Course and we want to get the Downtown Redevelopment done. He stated that all three of those projects could be affected negatively if we have a sewer bottleneck that has to be fixed. Mr. Huckleberry asked how much we are talking about. Mr. Smith stated that it would be \$200 to \$300 per linear foot. Mr. Hart stated that it would be about 3000 feet. Mr. Smith mentioned that ARRO did prepare a draft scope and a price to upgrade the hydraulic module that would give us a better understanding of where the sewer system stands. He stated that it is under review by the Committee to be considered for budget for next year.

Mr. Ludgate stated that they hope to take bids for the S. Hull Street Project at the August Workshop Meeting. He also mentioned that Mrs. Shade needs to sign some papers which are Intersection Diagrams for Woodrow Avenue that have to be amended because of the restriping of Penn Avenue which is part of the Pedestrian Safety Project. He stated that the Intersection Diagrams are part of the permit for the signals and are an official PennDOT document that needs to be upgraded for that correction. Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to authorize Mrs. Shade to sign the plans. Mr. Huckleberry made the motion; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

MICHAEL HART – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Mr. Hart stated that he had put \$22,000.00 in the budget to purchase a Salt Brine making unit and a storage tank. He stated that he got a current price for the brine making system and a storage tank for a little over \$15,000.00. He stated that it fell under Costars and he is asking Council for the ok to move forward with that purchase. Mrs. Peterson made to motion to authorize Mr. Hart to move forward; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

Mr. Hart mentioned that in the near future we are going to have to hold a public meeting for the MS4 Storm Water. He stated that their rules and regulations have been getting tighter and tighter and we have to provide public education and public input. He stated that one way to do that, or at least touch on it, is to have the County Conservation District come here and start talking about the Storm Water, the issues and everything with that. Mr. Huckleberry asked if we could do that at one of our Workshop meetings. Mr. Hart stated that is what he was hoping for. He mentioned that we put information on the Borough Web Site and he created an information folder that is in the lobby for residents to go through. He stated that their rules for storm water are getting very strict and it is getting to the point where we may have to have a treatment facility for our storm water before it goes into the creek.

Mrs. Peterson asked if the crosswalks were redone across from Tom Cat Café because she saw someone almost get hit there. Mr. Hart stated that they did not get to that area yet because the machine wasn't working right. Mayor Cirulli asked why we do the State Highway. Mr. Hart stated that PennDOT only does the double yellow lines or the whit shoulder markings. He stated that everything else is on the local municipality to handle and that it is part of our responsibility as part of our permit to do that. Mr. Hart stated that when the enhancement program goes through with the bump out curbs then it will be better for pedestrians to cross there.

SEWER ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING – BRAD SMITH:

Mr. Smith stated that the Borough is still working under an administratively extended NPDES Permit. He mentioned that there is no change in the Reed Beds. He also mentioned that there was a letter from DEP that reviewed the Chapter 94 Report for 2014 and there were three major items. He stated that ARRO is preparing a letter to address those three items. He also mentioned that they are still working with the Heidelberg's on the strong waste issue and that they received a pretreatment permit in for FM Brown to renew their permit. He also mentioned that they had a new meter put in to monitor sewer flows from the Green Valley.

REGINA SHADE – BOROUGH MANAGER:

Mrs. Shade mentioned that our insurance went down 2%. She also mentioned that we usually get about \$2,200.00 from the recycling grant that she does and this year it is \$6,800.00. She reminded Mayor Cirulli and Mrs. Gantner about the meeting at the School on Wednesday, August 19th at 7 a.m.

REGINA SHADE – BOROUGH MANAGER (Cont.):

Mrs. Shade stated that we have been working with the Smart Search since January and now the woman we have been working with sent an e-mail stating that she is no longer with the company. She stated that she has contacted Mr. Keene and they are trying to bring someone else in.

Mrs. Shade also mentioned that she circulated to the committee her and Chief Schweyer's opinion on the Collective Bargaining and there may be some other things to discuss. Mr. Pachuillo suggested that the committee have a meeting with Mrs. Shade and Chief Schweyer

JAMES PACHUILO – COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mr. Pachuillo discussed contacting the Wilson School District concerning having students apply to be Junior Council people.

BRIAN HOFFA – ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that he attended Senator Argal's meeting last week in Schuylkill County. He mentioned that he spoke with a Mr. Rick Vilello Jr. who is with the Governor's Center for Local Government Services. Mr. Hoffa stated that he asked about funding for our Market Study and Mr. Vilello said to call him.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that they had some trouble at the main playground last week when they had a combined playground night. She mentioned that there were some kids there that were not part of the playground program that were climbing in the rafters and on top of the bathrooms. She stated that the leaders were instructed to contact the Police Department if it happened again. She also mentioned that they are talking about doing some type of fall event in September.

Mr. Pachuillo asked about the Newsletter. Mrs. Gantner stated that we will be sending one out probably in October.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Eageman
Asst. Borough Secretary