

The workshop meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by Council President James Pachuillo. After the Pledge to the Flag, Elizabeth Eagelman called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

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

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli; Charles Haws, Barley Snyder; Brad Smith, 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.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that prior to the Workshop Meeting there was a Public Hearing held at 6 p.m. to go over the Suburban Berks West Joint Comprehensive Plan (JCP). Mr. Matt McGough gave a brief power point presentation. Hearing ended at 6:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that they had an Executive Session prior to the Workshop meeting to discuss a legal matter, an employment matter and an ongoing property acquisition. He mentioned that there was an accident on Route 724 at the entrance to the shopping center a few year ago involving a child. He stated that there was some litigation and he believes that we are at a point where we are ready to have the insurance make a settlement in the matter. He stated that he will entertain a motion to authorize Mr. Hart to sign the papers for the settlement. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to authorize Mr. Hart to sign the paperwork for the settlement; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 0. Motion carried.

REVITALIZATION:

Mr. Hoffa stated that he has a few items from the Revitalization meeting last week. He mentioned that they are still talking about a TND and that Mr. Loth is looking for financing for that. He mentioned that they did discuss meeting every other month but they don't like that. He stated that they feel that once we start working on the construction that we are going to get a lot more inquiries and a lot more things moving forward so for now they are going to continue with the

REVITALIZATION (Cont.):

monthly meetings. Mr. Pachuillo asked how far out we are with the construction. Mr. Hart stated that, for the curb line, he sent an e-mail out asking what the status is on the plan. He mentioned that he met with Mr. Tom Ludgate over a month ago and they answered all of the questions on PennDOT's comment letter. He stated that Ludgate was supposed to go back and submit it but that never happened. He stated that he has send numerous e-mails to the engineering firms and did not get any response from the first two. He stated that on the third one he attached a read receipt to the e-mail and they finally responded that they were working on it to get it submitted. He stated that the other firm stated that they started working on it this weekend and should be ready Monday but we still have not seen anything from them yet. He stated that he is going to send another e-mail and copy Mr. Pachuillo and the Admin Committee. Mr. Pachuillo stated that we as Council feel as though we do not need to drag out our paid engineers and consultants on that monthly basis if we do not need to. Mr. Hoffa asked if they could invite Mr. Loth and Mr. Coleman to next week's Council meeting so it can be discussed with them and we can vote on it then. Mr. Pachuillo agreed.

Mr. Hoffa stated that the next item they discussed was the situation with the Food Lion. He stated that Mr. Bernie Campbell has volunteered to contact the owner of the shopping center to see how we can move forward to try to get someone in there.

Mr. Hart mentioned that Mr. Loth had another phone conversation with the people in Harrisburg about the grant that we are applying for now. He stated that they had additional questions and that Mr. Loth is submitting answers to those questions. Mr. Hart also mentioned that the BOSS 2020 Committee still seems to be pushing the Phase Three aspect. He stated that he has mentioned to them numerous times that we are stopping at Phase Two. He stated that the middle doesn't mean anything if the ends are not built.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that they had a hearing this evening at 6 P.M. concerning the Joint Comp. Plan. He stated that there is a Resolution that would need to be passed in order to enter into the Joint Comp Plan with West Reading, Wyomissing, and the Township of Spring. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to adopt the Suburban Berks West Joint Comprehensive Plan; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 0. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo stated that the first item is the Resolution setting the fees for a hearing for an intermunicipal liquor license transfer. Mr. Hart explained that he was contacted by an attorney wanting to know if Borough Council would be open to the possibility of someone from outside the area transferring a liquor license into the Borough. He stated that we do not have anything on the records right now as far as applications or fee structure. He stated that the Resolution would set the fee to cover our cost for the advertising and public hearing. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to pass the Resolution setting a \$250.00 application fee for each intermunicipal liquor license transfer; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 0. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS (Cont.):

Mr. Pachulo stated that the next item is the Resolution authorizing the filing of a declaration of taking for a portion of the VFW land. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to accept the Resolution; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 0. Motion carried.

BRYCE ZOHNER – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Mr. Zohner asked Borough Council's permission to use two weeks of sick time for the birth of his new baby. He stated that he is looking to take three weeks total and that he is going to use one week of vacation time. Council was all in agreement to allow Mr. Zohner to use the sick time.

SEWER ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING – BRAD SMITH:

Mr. Smith informed Council that the Borough won the Grant for the Pennsylvania Small Water and Sewer Grant in the amount of \$300,000.00 for the Broad Street pipe replacement. He stated that the Borough should receive the Agreement for next Thursday.

MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:

Mr. Hart mentioned that he received a letter today from Eagle Disposal agreeing to our contract extension at the current pricing. He also mentioned that they submitted another Performance Bond for the extended year.

Mr. Hart also mentioned that he received an e-mail from the Berks County Conservation District stating that they are going to be spraying for mosquitos in the evenings beginning on September 27th.

DENISE STINE – PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Stine mentioned that she received a complaint from a resident on Woodrow Avenue about F.M Brown's and the noise. Mr. Hart stated that the residents should contact the Police Department with any complaints. He stated that we purchased a decibel meter for them to measure the noise level.

H. DAVID MILLER – SEWER & SANITATION:

Mr. Miller asked Mr. Smith to prepare a work order for design, bidding assistance, and inspection services related to Broad Street construction.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Elizabeth A. Eagelman
Borough Secretary