

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, September 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall by President James Pachuillo. 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

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli; Charles Haws, Barley Snyder; Brad Smith, ARRO Consulting; Bryce Zohner, Public Works Director; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; OIC James Oxenreider, and Elizabeth Eagelman, Borough Secretary, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

Mr. Pachuillo requested a moment of silence to honor our Police, Fire and EMS personnel and our Armed Forces who protect us every day here and abroad.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 1, 2019 Council Meeting and the August 28, 2019 Workshop Meeting. Mr. Hoffa made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES –7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no visitors.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that the next Municipal Officials Breakfast will be held on Friday, September 27th at the Mt. Pleasant Fire Company at 8 a.m.

Mr. Pachuillo also mentioned that the Berks County Solid Waste Authority is holding their fall Shredding Event at the Berks County Ag Center on October 12th from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Mrs. Eagelman stated that she will put it on the web site.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Mr. Pachuillo asked for a motion to approve the bills for August 2019. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Pachuillo 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 Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Jared Renshaw went over their repost for August. He mentioned that they are hovering around 100 calls per month which is up from last year. He stated that it is a big jump from when he started here. He mentioned that looking at the data all the departments in the area are receiving more calls. He also mentioned that starting this month they are going to invest a lot of time getting the personnel trained and qualified for water rescue.

Mr. Renshaw stated that the Department celebrated their 10th Anniversary in August and that he had his 4th Anniversary here in August as well.

Mr. Metzgar asked if they had a chance to look at the Agreement. Mr. Renshaw stated that they did not have a chance to go over it yet. He stated that they are looking at 2020 to maybe revisit it and have multiple meeting to sit down and go over it and maybe make it effective in 2021. Mr. Metzgar stated that he thought that it was a great idea when it was brought up.

WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned that their report is in everyone's e-mail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachuillo mentioned the Zoning Amendment Ordinance and asked if the Committee had a chance to sit down and go over it. Mrs. Gantner mentioned that the committee met with Mr. Robitzer on Tuesday and that the Committee is meeting again tomorrow morning. Mrs. Gantner stated that they are trying to figure out what has to be in the Ordinance to make sure that we have covered all of our bases.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Pachulo stated that the first item was the 2020 Police Pension MMO. He asked for a motion to approve the 2020 Police Pension MMO in the amount of \$58,620.00. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to approve the 2020 Police Pension MMO for \$58,620.00; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES –7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

The next item was the 2020 Non-Uniformed Pension MMO. Mr. Pachulo asked for a motion to approve the 2020 Non-Uniformed Pension MMO in the amount of \$48,478.00. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the 2020 Non-Uniformed Pension MMO for \$48,478.00; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES –7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that Go Fish Bowl will be having their Open House and ribbon cutting on Tuesday, September 10th at 6:00 P.M. She stated that all of Council is welcome to attend and that it is by invitation only.

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that the Annual Holiday Open House will be Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00 P.M. She also mentioned that they would like to start a contest for people who decorate for Christmas.

ROBERT METZGAR – FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Mr. Metzgar mentioned that they did have a meeting and that there was nothing to discuss at this time.

MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:

Mr. Hart mentioned that he has some road closure updates. He stated that Mt. Home Road will be closed starting September 11th through September 16th for railroad track repairs and Woodrow Avenue will be closed for about a week starting September 23rd for track repairs.

Mr. Hart also mentioned that we are still in need of a tax collector for next year if anyone knows of someone who may be interested. Mr. Metzgar asked about the open seats on the Planning Commission and the Zoning Hearing Board and asked if Council members could serve on the Planning Commission. Mr. Haws stated yes they could serve on the Planning Commission as long as you don't have a quorum.

ELIZABETH EAGELMAN – BOROUGH SECRETARY:

Mrs. Eagelman mentioned that it is time to work on a Newsletter for the fall. She asked everyone to have their articles to her by the end of September or very beginning of October so we can have it sent out by the second week in October.

SEWER ENGINEER – ARRO CONSULTING – BRAD SMITH:

Mr. Smith gave an update for the Broad Street Sanitary Sewer Improvement. He stated that they are waiting for DEP approval on two permits and that they submitted for a General Permit No.3 which is for work in the flood plain.

BRYCE ZOHNER – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Zohner mentioned that he was unable to get a temporary employee for the Public Works Department. He stated that the temp agencies no long supply road department style employees because of insurance reasons. He asked Councils permission to advertise for a Full Time Public Works employee. Mr. Miller made a motion authorizing advertising for a Full Time Public Works employee; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES –7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

OIC OXENREIDER:

OIC Oxenreider had nothing to report

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Pachulo stated that they need to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Council went into Executive Session at 7:27 p.m.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 8:06 p.m. The following action was taken.

Mrs. Stine made a motion to promote OIC Oxenreider to Chief as of September 6, 2019. AYES – 7, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Egelman
Borough Secretary