

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 7:12 p.m. by Council Vice-President H. David Miller. After the pledge to the flag, Elizabeth Eagelman called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

Tracy Peterson (by phone)  
H. David Miller  
Denise Stine  
Lisa Gantner  
Brian Hoffa (absent)  
Robert Metzgar (absent)  
Patrick Giambalvo (absent)

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

#### **PUBLIC HEARING – POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM:**

Mr. Miller stated that the first item on the Agenda is the Hearing to consider the adoption of the proposed amendment of the Zoning Ordinance for the Small Wireless Facilities Ordinance. Mr. Haws explained that the Ordinance provides the Borough with a process for managing, and uniform standards for acting upon requests for the placement of Small Wireless Facilities within the Right-of-Way. He stated that Council can take action on it as part of the regular meeting if they chose to. There were no questions or comments from the public.

Mr. Miller closed the hearing and reconvened the Regular Borough Council Meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the Small Wireless Facilities Ordinance. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to approve the Small Wireless Facilities Ordinance; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 3. Motion carried.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2022 Council Meeting and the March 23, 2022 Workshop Meeting. Mrs. Gantner made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 3. Motion carried.

#### **VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment at the time.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

There was no correspondence.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:**

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the bills for March 2022. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 3. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the Treasures Report for March 2022. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

**WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. Miller stated that their March Activity Report is included in the email packet.

**WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:**

Mr. Miller stated that their March Activity Report is included in the email packet.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:**

Mr. Miller stated that the first item is to Award the Contract for Phase 2 – Penn, Columbia, Cacoosing Avenues Intersection Improvement Project, to Construction Masters Services, LLC. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to award the contract to Construction Masters Services, LLC; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 3. Motion carried.

The next item was to review the Demo Bids for 2, 4 and 6 Krick Avenue and Possibly Award the Contract. Mr. Hart stated that we received four (4) bids and the low bidder was R & F Excavating with a bid of \$33,500.00. He stated that he reviewed all of the paperwork from R & F and sent it to Mr. Haws to review and everything is in order so if Council wishes they can award the bid to R & F Excavating for the demolition of 2, 4, and 6 Krick Avenue. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to award the bid to R & F Excavating; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 3. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (Cont.):**

The next item was the new IT Service. Mr. Hart explained that Solve IT Solutions was here at our meeting on March 10, 2022 and went over their proposal for IT Services for the Borough. He stated that he has since added all Borough departments, admin, police, sewer department and public works department, to the new bid. He stated that he would like to go with the Basic Service for the first year at a cost of \$695.00 per month with a \$2,795.00 startup fee. He mentioned that the Remote service quoted now would be \$1,714.00 per month so it may be a bit higher if we switch to that next year. Mr. Miller mentioned that he has experience with Solve IT and that they are top notch. Mrs. Peterson mentioned that the Admin Committee went over this and they agree with this decision. Mr. Miller asked for a motion to enter into a three (3) year contract with Solve IT Services at a rate of \$695.00 per month. Mrs. Gantner made the motion to enter into the agreement; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 3. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:**

Mr. Miller stated that the first item is approval for Krick Avenue Appraisals. Mr. Hart explained that since we are now into the Phase 2 Sweep and going to start construction we need to start thinking about the Phase 2 Final which is the little heal at the bottom of the sweep to make the new connection for the Phase 3 at some point. He stated that in order to do that we are going to have to purchase the next set of twins (4 homes total). He stated that the first step would be to have those properties appraised and asked for Council's approval to contact an appraiser through the County and get those four (4) structures appraised. Allyson Jones, owner of 12 Krick Avenue, asked for clarification as to what four (4) properties Mr. Hart is referring to. Mr. Hart stated it would be 8, 10, 12 and 14 Krick Avenue. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to authorize Mr. Hart to seek appraisals for 8, 10, 12 and 14 Krick Avenue; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 3. Motion carried.

The next item was the Volunteer Board Member Appointments. Mr. Hart mentioned that we received letters from two (2) residents who wish to serve on the Planning Commission so we would be looking for Council to appoint Mr. John Egelman and Ms. Tammy Rider to the Planning Commission to fill the two (2) vacant seats. Mrs. Stine made a motion to appoint Mr. Egelman and Ms. Rider to the Planning Commission; seconded by Mrs. Peterson. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 3. Motion carried.

**REVITALIZATION:**

No Report.

**BRAD SMITH – ARRO CONSULTING – ENGINEER:**

Mr. Smith mentioned that he will need the signed Phase 2 Contracts back and that they have a pre-construction meeting on Monday. He also mentioned that they are working on the Phase 2 Final to get that ready. He stated that he signed the plans for Village Greens tonight. He mentioned that Empire has not submitted a payment application or the last change order for the Reed Bed Refurbishment project to get that closed out. He stated that the beds are ready for planting and they just need to finish some concrete repair and plant some grass seed.

**LISA GANTNER - RECREATION:**

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that the Egg Hunt went well and that we are getting a lot of registrations for Summer Playground.

Mrs. Gantner asked if we are having a Workshop Meeting this month. Mrs. Eagelman stated that Mr. Hoffa had requested one at the last meeting so that Derck & Edson could come in to show Council the presentation they gave to the Planning Commission last month.

**ELIZABETH EAGELMAN – BOROUGH SECRETARY:**

Mrs. Eagelman mentioned that the Wagner Farms Homeowners Association would like to use the Council Room for their annual meeting. She stated that she spoke with Mr. Hart and Mrs. Peterson about it and they suggested charging a fee of \$100.00 to rent it with \$50.00 being refunded once we receive the key back and make sure there was no damage to the room. Mr. Haws suggested making a rental agreement similar to what we use for the pavilion rentals. Mrs. Peterson made a motion to authorize charging a \$50.00 rental fee and a \$50.00 key deposit to rent the Council Chambers for Borough related meetings; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 3. Motion carried.


**KRICK AVENUE DISCUSSION:**

Allyson Jones asked about a time frame from when the appraisals were done to when the homes may be purchased. Mr. Miller stated that we do not know that yet and advised her to check in with staff and that we would keep her updated. Mr. Norris, owner and resident of 14 Krick Avenue, also asked about a time frame. Mr. Hart mentioned that he is hoping the County Redevelopment Authority will step in and assist with the property acquisitions when the time comes but right now we are just looking to do the appraisals to see what the properties are worth and then we will go from there. A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the process.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Elizabeth A. Egelman  
Borough Secretary