

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. by Council Vice-President H. David Miller. After the pledge to the flag, Debra Bohn called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

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

Other officials present were Mayor Gary Cirulli; Charles Haws, Barley Snyder, Borough Solicitor; Brad Smith, Engineer, ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; Police Chief James Oxenreider; and Debra Bohn, Treasurer, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 12, 223 Council Meeting. Mrs. Gantner made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 2. Motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no visitors.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence to discuss.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the bills for January 2023. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0 ABSENT - 2. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the Treasures Report for January 2023. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Renshaw stated that their January Activity Report is included in the email packet. He mentioned the high call volume for last year and that he expects that to continue with the development going on in the area. He also mentioned that they had Challenge Coins made for the department and handed them out to Council. Mrs. Gantner mentioned that the communication and the information that we get from Mr. Renshaw and the department is wonderful and thanked him for that. Mr. Renshaw also mentioned that they will be doing a drone program presentation at a Fire House Expo Conference in Columbus Ohio in September.

WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:

Mr. Miller mentioned that their January Activity Report is included in the email packet.

REVITALIZATION:

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that Mr. Loth sent over his Report to Council and asked if there were any questions. He mentioned that at their last meeting they voted to change the official monthly meeting date to the third Tuesday of each month.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. to discuss a possible legal issue and a personnel issue.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 7:45 p.m. the following action was taken. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to terminate Mr. Anthony Gabrjolek for cause; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

There was no other Unfinished Business to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

Mr. Miller stated that the first item is to accept Mr. Jason Rapp's resignation from the WWTP. Mr. Hoffa made the motion to accept Mr. Rapp's resignation; seconded by Mr. Giambalvo. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 2, ABSTAIN – 1 (Mrs. Stine). Motion carried.

The next item was to ratify the rehiring of Mr. Robert Grugan as of February 6, 2023, and to hire Ms. Tiffany Bohn for the WWTP. Mr. Hart mentioned that since Mr. Grugan was only gone for a few months he would like to bring him back with his seniority and benefits intact. He stated that Ms. Bohn is currently going to RACC for the Waste Water Treatment Program and will be graduating next month from the class to be a licensed Operator. He mentioned that he would like to withhold \$2.00 per hour from Ms. Bohn, once she graduates she will get \$1.00 and once she completes the states required hours she will receive the other \$1.00. Mr. Hoffa made the motion to rehire Mr. Grugan and to hire Ms. Bohn for the WWTP; seconded by Mr. Giambalvo. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

The next item was the estimates for the replacement of the heat pump at the WWTP Chemical building. Mr. Hart stated that Alltemp Enterprise was the low bidder at \$10,350.00 but he would like to move forward with the Sunrise Proposal at \$10,952.00 because they have the heater in stock whereas Alltemp would take two to three months to get the heater in. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to accept the Sunrise proposal at a cost of \$10,952.00; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

The next item was the Proposal from ARRO Consulting, Inc. to update the Borough's Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) for the MS4 program. Mr. Smith stated that the PRP needs to be updated and the work they are going to do will be useful for the permit renewal application for that. He stated that the Proposal is for a not to exceed cost of \$12,800.00. Mrs. Gantner made the motion to approve the Professional Services Agreement from ARRO; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 5, NAYS – 0 ABSENT – 2. Motion carried.

BRAD SMITH – ARRO CONSULTING – ENGINEER – POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

Mr. Smith mentioned that they expect to hear back from PennDOT on the changes to the plan due to the culvert that was shown in the wrong place on the previous plans. He also mentioned that work continues on the Village Greens. He pointed out item 5 on his report stating that a plan came in for one of the out parcels at Spring Market for a 7 Brew Coffee and that the Planning Commission will review the plan later this month.

LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:

Mrs. Gantner mentioned that they are working on the Summer Playground Program, and they decided on rates. She stated that Borough Residents will stay the same at \$100.00 for the 9 week program and Non-Residents rate will also stay the same at \$150.00 but they did take away the family maximum. She mentioned that they are still working on the exact start date and that Bulldog Blast will be working with us again this year. She mentioned that they are going to have a petting zoo come visit this year and they will be working with the Library on that as well. She stated that she will be putting the word out on social media that we will be accepting applications for leaders.

Mrs. Gantner stated that they met with Tracy Strickland from HRG and that they created a public survey for what we would like to see happen at the main playground. She mentioned that she has the link and will send it out to Council and put it out on social media. She also mentioned that they will be having a meeting on February 22nd from 6 pm to 7:30 pm to go over some design ideas and that everyone is welcome to attend.

BRIAN HOFFA – ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that they met today about the zoning for the Downtown District. He stated that they still have a few bugs to work out, but they are getting closer.

MIKE HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:

Mr. Hart advised Council that the building permits were issued for the assisted living center and that they are looking to invest over \$15 million dollars just on that building alone.

Mr. Hart mentioned that we had purchased a traffic light pole awhile back for our intersection project and it is not needed so Telco refunded us for the full purchase price.

Mr. Hart stated that the County Commissioners are going around to each Borough/Township to hold their meetings. He mentioned that they will be holding their meeting here on March 23rd and Council is welcome to attend although we do not know a time yet.

Mr. Hart also mentioned that he finished all of the forms for the \$1,865,624.00 grant last week and he was notified this week that it is actually awarded to us and the money is waiting for us.

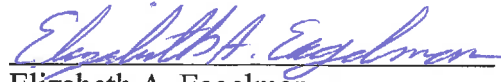
POLICE CHIEF JAMES OXENREIDER:

Chief Oxenreider went over his activity report for January 2023.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Egelman
Borough Secretary