

The workshop meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., by Council President Tracy Peterson. After the pledge to the flag, Elizabeth Eagelman called the roll reflecting the following Council Members present:

Tracy Peterson
H. David Miller
Denise Stine
Lisa Gantner
Brian Hoffa
Robert Metzgar

Other officials present were: Mayor Gary Cirulli; Charles Haws, Barley Snyder, Borough Solicitor; Brad Smith, Engineer, ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; Kim Cherry, WWTP Superintendent; Police Chief James Oxenreider; and Elizabeth Eagelman, Borough Secretary, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

VACANT COUNCIL SEAT:

Mrs. Peterson stated that we received a letter from Patrick Giambalvo stating his interest in filling our vacant council seat. Mr. Giambalvo addressed Council and introduced himself. He stated that he is interested in being on Council to serve his community. Mrs. Peterson explained what Council does, the time commitment, meetings and committees. Mr. Hoffa explained about BOSS Forward. Mr. Metzgar mentioned that the state offers some really good services for new Council members. Mrs. Peterson also mentioned that if he is appointed it would be for a two year term.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no other visitors signed in or in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence to be discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

Mrs. Peterson stated that the first item is the Wireless Update. Mr. Hart stated that he sent out the draft and that the Safety Committee needs to meet to go over it. Mr. Haws mentioned that he needs to review it and make sure all of the latest requirements and changes are included. Mrs. Peterson stated that she would like it if we could take action and move forward on this at the meeting in February.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (Cont.):

The next item was the Chief of Police Employment Agreement. Mrs. Peterson stated that everyone received the revised agreement and that we had voted at the last meeting to approve it with item #26 removed. Mrs. Stine made a motion ratifying approving the contract with item #26 removed; seconded by Mr. Miller. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

The next item was to approve Alcon's capacity request for 25 additional EDUs. Mr. Hart stated that he did confirm that they do still want the 25 EDUs. Mr. Miller asked if Mr. Smith had any comments. Mr. Smith stated that according to the data they got from the sewer monitoring the lines are running close to capacity but he doesn't believe that the additional 1000 GPD flow will make much of a difference. Mr. Miller explained that the points between Alcon and Dunkin Donuts, there are certain sections of line where it is running a little full but those are the sections where the line is really flat so that is to be expected. He stated that other than that we do seem to have adequate capacity. Mr. Smith stated that any future requests should be evaluated on a case by case basis. Mr. Hart mentioned that it is actually 600 GPD additional from their initial request instead of 1000 GPD. Mr. Miller made a motion to grant the sale of the 25 EDUs to Alcon; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

The next item was the approval to go out for bids for Columbia/Cacoosing realignment - Phase 2 Project. Mr. Hart stated that we finally got utility clearance that our project is slated to move forward. Mrs. Gantner made the motion to approve advertising for bids for the Phase 2 Project; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Smith mentioned that they had a few administrative things to take care of with PennDOT but he hopes to tell Council that we are in the paper by next meeting.

The next item was to approve the Land Development Plans for Shops of Sinking Spring. Mr. Hart stated that this was approved a while ago but because of time frames we have to re do it. He stated that the Planning Commission met last night and reviewed it and approved it and passed it along to Council now for approval and signatures. He stated that nothing has changed and that they are just sub-dividing the two open lots that they have. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to approve the Plans; seconded by Mr. Miller. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried. Mr. Hart stated that he will need everyone to sign the plans at the end of the meeting.

The next item was to approve advertising the Cable Franchise Agreement. Mrs. Stine made the motion to authorize advertising the Ordinance for the Cable Franchise Agreement to be voted on at the February 10, 2022 Council Meeting; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

Mrs. Peterson stated that the first item is the approval of the new Sewer Rate Resolution. Mr. Hart mentioned that this was discussed when we did the Budgets and that we need this increase to balance out. He stated that it is 5% across the board on the usage rate. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the new Sewer Rate Resolution; seconded Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (Cont.):

The next item was to approve the Resolution for the Fulton Bank Lease Agreement for the new Police Vehicle. Mr. Haws stated that he looked over the agreement and everything looks fine. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the Borough to enter into Master Lease 4000-31988 with Fulton Bank; seconded by Mr. Miller. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

The next three items were to accept the resignation of Shawn Herbine from the Streets Department, approve hiring Anthony Gabrjolek for the Streets Department and approve hiring Nnyvayo Diaz for the Sewer Department. Mr. Hart stated that Mr. Herbine's last day is this Friday, January 28th and that both of the new hires would be for maintenance positions. He also mentioned that both have 1 year to obtain their commercial driver's license and that they have already completed the background checks. He stated that Anthony will be starting on Tuesday, February 1st. and Ms. Cherry stated that she will check with Nnyvayo but it should be within a week. Mr. Miller made a motion to accept Shawn's resignation and approve hiring Anthony and Nnyvayo for their respective positions; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

The next item was to approve Ms. Cherry's request for sludge hauling. Mr. Miller asked if she had any idea of what we expect to haul and if we should be concerned about putting it out for bid or if we are considering it a temporary operational change. Ms. Cherry stated that she is hoping it is temporary and that the problem she is looking at is looking ahead. She explained that the reed bed they are rehabbing now, even when we get the reeds on it, is going to be limited as to what she can put on it until the reeds establish and the bed we did not clean out last year will need to be cleaned out this year so at some point we will have to let that one dry out. She stated that this is just to try to get them through right now because they are still limping along with just the three beds they are using. Discussion ensued. Mr. Miller stated that they can work together on these numbers and actually have something possibly for the next meeting but advised that in the meantime if she needed to haul she can haul. Mr. Miller suggested tabling until the next meeting because she can still haul what she needs to in the interim and once we have numbers we can get authorization to advertise then.

The next item discussed was the approval of the Reed Bed Sand Alternative/Glass. Mr. Hart stated that this is on hold yet. Mr. Smith stated that the glass supplier is trying for the third time to get the right gradation on the recycled glass for us. He stated that we should have results by the middle of next week. Mrs. Peterson stated that we will table this until the February Council meeting.

The next item was to get approval to bid for the demolition of 2, 4 and 6 Krick Avenue. Mr. Hart stated that he needs Council to authorize him to put a bid packet together and advertise for bids for the demo of those three buildings making way for the Phase Two Intersection. Mr. Hoffa made the motion to authorize Mr. Hart to put together the bid packet and advertise for bids; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried.

CHIEF OXENREIDER:

Chief Oxenreider stated that they received their traffic radar device and will be putting it to use very soon probably on Reedy Road first. He mentioned that there were two other traffic units that were included in this package and that he will start by putting one on Broad Street and one on Ruth Street.

BRIAN HOFFA – ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (BOSS FORWARD)

Mr. Hoffa mentioned that in keeping with us getting our approval from PennDOT, BOSS Forward is planning a Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Columbia/Cacoosing realignment - Phase 2 Project on April 8th at 1 p.m. He stated that we will have the Mayor speak if he is available and they will be inviting a bunch of dignitaries to attend and then have a reception here in the Council Chambers afterward. He also mentioned that he sent everyone the latest draft from Derck and Edson and asked that everyone go over it and let him know if they have any questions or comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into executive session at 7:51 p.m. to discuss the vacant Council seat.

RECONVENE:

Council reconvened at 7:55 p.m. The following action was taken.

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to appoint Mr. Patrick Giambalvo to fill the vacant Council seat for a 2 year term; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 0. Motion carried. Mayor Cirulli administered the Oath of Office to the newly-appointed Council Member Patrick Giambalvo. Mr. Giambalvo took his seat at the Council table.

TRACY PETERSON – COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

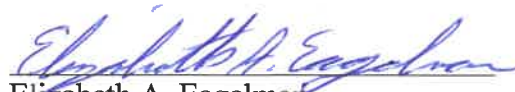
Mrs. Peterson stated that she wanted to have a discussion about committees and what she would like to see. She stated that she would like the committees to take notes or minutes at their meetings and have them sent out to everyone for information purposes only so everyone knows what is going on and no one is blindsided when items come up at meeting. She went around the table to get everyone's thoughts and feelings on the committees. After getting everyone's thoughts and feelings she stated that there will be changes but nothing drastic.

Mrs. Peterson asked if we have a COVID policy for our employees. Mr. Hart stated that if they are exposed they need to quarantine for five days and if they don't have any symptoms they can come back but must wear a mask for five days. Mr. Metzgar asked if we should have our own policy. Mr. Haws stated that it is best to stick with the CDC Guidelines.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Egelman
Borough Secretary