

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, January 9, 2025, 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 (Absent)  
Robert Metzgar  
John Eagelman

Other officials present: Mayor Gary Cirulli; Keith Mooney, Barley Snyder, Borough Solicitor; David Schlott, ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; Police Chief James Oxenreider; and Elizabeth Eagelman, Borough Secretary, who recorded the minutes of the proceedings.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mrs. Peterson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2024 Council Meeting. Mrs. Stine made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Gantner. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

**VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no visitors signed in.

**CORRESPONDENCE/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:**

Mrs. Peterson stated that the Municipal Officials Dinner will be March 13, 2025 at 5:00 P.M and that if anyone is interested, they must RSVP.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:**

Mrs. Peterson asked for a motion to approve the bills for December 2024. Mrs. Stine made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mr. Eagelman. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mrs. Peterson asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for December 2024. Mrs. Gantner made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 1. Motion carried.

**WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Mrs. Peterson stated that Mr. Renshaw's report for December 2024 is included in the packet and to contact Mr. Renshaw with any questions.

**WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:**

Mrs. Peterson stated that their December Activity Report is included in the email packet.

**REVITALIZATION:**

Mr. Metzgar stated that they did have a meeting and that they talked about what was presented at the previous Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Hart mentioned that Gabriel Hirsch, our newly hired Community Coordinator, started on Monday January 6<sup>th</sup> and that he is going through all of Mr. Loth's files. He mentioned that he reached out to Mr. Loth to try to set up a phone call with Mr. Hirsch.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:**

Mrs. Peterson stated that we need to make a motion to allow for a Permanent Part-Time Police Officer that will be up to 35 hours per week with no benefits. Mrs. Stine made a motion to allow a Permanent Part-Time Police Officer that will be up to 35 hours per week with no benefits; seconded by Mr. Miller. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:**

The first item was the Phase Two Final Building Demo bid results and to award the bid. Mr. Hart stated that the bid includes the demolition of all four homes, two garages, remove all of the asphalt, cap all services, and topsoil the whole area until we are ready to do the next round of construction. He stated that the low bidder was BRB Contractors with a bid of \$56,000.00. Mr. Metzgar made the motion to award the bid to BRB Contractors; seconded by Mr. Miller. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

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

The next item was the Inter-Governmental Agreement for the UCC Board of Appeals. Mr. Hart mentioned that the County requires this to be done every year and there is a \$300.00 fee. Mr. Miller made the motion to approve the IGA for the UCC Board of Appeals; seconded by Mr. Eagelman. Mrs. Peterson asked if we know who sits on that board. Mr. Hart stated that he does not know. Mr. Mooney mentioned that they must have people in certain disciplines on the board too. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

The next item was to approve Resolution #2025-01 for the Price Adjustment of Bituminous Materials for Small Quantities. Mr. Hart mentioned that it is required for us to use Liquid Fuels funds to pay for the paving project. Mrs. Gantner made the motion; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

The next item was to reappoint some volunteer Board members. Mrs. Peterson asked for a motion to reappoint Lisa Gantner, Robert Metzgar and Tracy Peterson to the Parks & Recreation Board for three-year terms and to appoint Steven Gass and Diane Yarger to the Zoning Hearing Board for three-year terms. Mr. Miller made a motion to appoint the volunteer board members to their respective boards; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

**DAVID M. SCHLOTT JR. – ARRO CONSULTING – ENGINEER:**

Mr. Schlott stated that ARRO has prepared Construction Escrow Release #2 for the completed improvements for the Village Greens Subdivision and Land Development. He stated that ARRO recommends Escrow Release #2 for \$1,411,819.40. Discussion ensued concerning outstanding bills. Mr. Miller made the motion to approve the escrow release; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 6, NAYS – 0, ABSENT - 1. Motion carried.

**CHIEF OXENREIDER:**

Chief Oxenreider went over his Yearly Activity Report for 2024.

**MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER:**

Mr. Hart mentioned that the specs are ready for the paving project, and it will be advertised starting Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. He also mentioned that he had a meeting yesterday with the engineering group that is designing the bridge replacement on Penn Avenue at Park Road. He stated that it is going to be a total replacement of that bridge, and they may be ready to let it sometime early next year and that it is a two and a half year construction project. He mentioned that he voiced his concerns about how the narrow bridge chokes down the water way when the rains come. He stated that they are widening it a little bit, but they are restricted as to how far they can go to the west because the petroleum pipeline goes through there. He stated that Park

**MICHAEL HART – BOROUGH MANAGER (Cont.):**

Avenue will be closed for construction and Park Avenue traffic will be sent up Wynnewood Avenue and to come out they will come down Ralph Avenue. He mentioned that Penn Avenue will be open during the construction, but the lanes will shift. Discussion ensued concerning parking issues and the alleys.

**TRACY PETERSON – LIBRARY:**

Mrs. Peterson mentioned that the Library Adult Holiday Social on December 28<sup>th</sup> went very well. She stated that there were 35-40 people in attendance including Senator Judy Schwank.

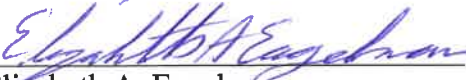
**LISA GANTNER – RECREATION:**

Mrs. Gantner mentioned the Rec Board had their meeting and that the Easter Egg Hunt will be April 12<sup>th</sup>, the Summer Playground program will run from June 6<sup>th</sup> to August 8<sup>th</sup> and the price is going up \$10.00 so it will be \$135 for residence and \$185.00 for non-residence for nine weeks of fun. She also mentioned that she is working on the articles for the newsletter. She stated that she spoke to the people at Residence at Village Greens about having the Playground Leaders come in to help the residence with their phones and social media and they also talked about doing crafts and having a magician come in and having them do judging for the Holiday Lights if the bus takes them around.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 P.M.;

Respectfully submitted,

  
Elizabeth A. Eagelman  
Borough Secretary