

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Sinking Spring was called to order on Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 7:00 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 (Absent)
H. David Miller
Denise Stine
Lisa Gantner (Absent)
Brian Hoffa
Robert Metzgar
Michael Caron (Absent)

Other officials present: Charles Haws, Barley Snyder, Borough Solicitor; Doug Kopp, ARRO Consulting; Michael Hart, Borough Manager; and Elizabeth Eagelman, Borough Secretary, who recorded the minutes of the proceeding.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2024 Council Meeting. Mr. Hoffa made the motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no visitors signed in.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Miller stated that there are two items. The first was an invitation to EMS in Crisis on May 21st at the Miller Center. The second was to accept Lanette Dussinger's resignation from the Civil Service Commission. Mrs. Stine made the motion to accept Mrs. Dussinger's resignation; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried. Mayor Cirulli stated that we will have to advertise somehow for members.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the bills for April 2024. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the Treasures Report for April 2024. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

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

WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:

Mr. Miller stated that their April Activity Report is also in the email packet.

REVITALIZATION:

No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

There was no unfinished business to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

Mr. Miller stated that the first item is to approve the Sunrise Apartments Time Extension. Mr. Metzgar made a motion to approve the 30-day time extension; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

The next item was to approve hiring Mr. David Garrett as an Operator for the WWTP. Mr. Hart stated that Mr. Garrett is fully licensed for commercial vehicles and for the plant. Mrs. Stine made the motion to approve hiring Mr. Garrett; seconded by Mr. Metzgar. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

The next item was to hire 8 Part-Time Playground Leaders. Mr. Metzgar made a motion to approve hiring Jakub Mochon, Bryn Williams, Natalie Riccitelli, Nick Burke, Sarah Frantz, Avery Peterson, Eric Penciu and Abby Thomas as part-time playground leaders; seconded by Mr. Hoffa. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

DOUG KOPP – ARRO CONSULTING – ENGINEER/ POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

Mr. Kopp stated that construction at the intersection is complete and was opened to traffic on April 25th and that they are looking for approval of Substantial Completion dated April 25, 2024. He stated that they are working on closeout documents and price negotiations with PennDOT.

Mr. Kopp stated that 7 Brew has submitted Escrow Release #2 in the amount of \$15,438.40. Mr. Hoffa made a motion to approve Escrow Release #2; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried.

Mr. Kopp stated that the next item is the Sunrise Apartments. He stated that the Planning Commission has recommended approval of several waivers and the plan. Waivers include; a.) Waiver of Preliminary Plan Application and to allow the plan to be treated as a combined Preliminary/Final Plan, b.) Waiver of Traffic Study, applicant submitted a traffic assessment, c.) Waiver to allow the proposed storm sewer to be 12” in diameter as the capacity is adequate for the proposed private stormwater system, d.) Waiver to allow the existing trees to act as the required shade trees, e.) waiver to allow the existing trees to act as the required street trees. Mr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the Preliminary/Final Plan and the 5 waivers. Mr. Hoffa made that motion; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion carried. Mr. Haws suggested that Council amend the motion to include that it is subject to the Engineer’s review letter dated April 19, 2024 and addressing all of the administrative items. Mr. Hoffa amended his motion to include the aforementioned; seconded by Mrs. Stine. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0, ABSENT – 3. Motion amended.

Mr. Miller went back to the first item, the Substantial Completion form. He stated that he will wait to sign it until we receive the punch list that it states is attached.

DENISE STINE – PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Stine mentioned that there was a meeting last Monday night at the Western Berks Fire Department Wernersville Station about the new building. She stated that Mr. Renshaw will be doing a slide presentation here at some point.

ROBERT METZGAR – FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Metzgar stated that they need to schedule their next meeting.


CHARLES HAWS – BOROUGH SOLICITOR:

Mr. Haws advised Council that he should attend the Guiterez hearing. He explained that the court sent it back to the Zoning Hearing Board for a new hearing and he would like to make sure we defend the Ordinance. He also advised Council that the Borough was offered dedication of Reedy Road and that he needs to advertise an Ordinance that accepts that offer of dedication for acceptance at the next Council Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Elizabeth A. Eageman
Borough Secretary