

SELINGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2006 - 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: C/P D. Anderson, C/P C. Handlan, C/P J. Herb, C/P W. Hetherington, C/P M. Inch, C/P D. Mengel and C/P W. Reuning

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Solicitor David Noon; Mayor P. Carroll; Police Chief T. Garlock; Borough Treasurer Sheri Badman; Recording Secretary D. Long; Daily Item Reporter Marcia Moore; Borough Employee Janet Powers; Borough Residents Lynn Ashen, Garry Beaver, Bob Bickhart, John Bickhart, Tony Butto, Frances Carroll, Jim Charles, Sean Christine, Jeff Fishbein, Franklin and Shirley Hackenberg, Joe Kleinbauer, Leo Mendonca, Pat Owens, Pat Reilly, Pamela White, and Ann Wochley; Michael Flour; Jerry Valentine

OTHERS ABSENT: Solicitor R. Cravitz

BI-ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Pete Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor's Presentation of Certificate of Election and Documentation on the Administration of the Loyalty Oath – Mayor Carroll reported these are on file and have been approved by the solicitor.

Verification of Submission of Certificate of Election for New and Reelected Council Members Dorothy Anderson, Joseph Herb, Marlin Inch and Dianne Mengel – Mayor Carroll reported these are on file and have been approved by the solicitor.

Oaths of Office Administered to New and Reelected Council Members – Mayor Carroll administered the oaths of office to C/Ps Anderson, Herb, Inch and Mengel.

Identification of Council Members Present to Establish a Quorum – A roll call was done with all Council members present.

Moment of Silent Reflection / Pledge of Allegiance

Election of Officers of Selingsrove Borough Council / President

C/P Inch nominated Dianne Mengel for the office of Council President. C/P Mengel accepted the nomination. Mayor Carroll called for an individual vote.

AYES: THREE (3) – C/Ps Hetherington, Inch and Mengel
NAYS: FOUR (4) – C/Ps Anderson, Handlan, Herb and Reuning

NOMINATION FAILED

C/P Anderson nominated Carol Handlan for the office of Council President. C/P Handlan accepted the nomination. Mayor Carroll called for an individual vote.

AYES: FOUR (4) – C/Ps Anderson, Handlan, Herb and Reuning
NAYS: THREE (3) – C/Ps Hetherington, Inch and Mengel

NOMINATION PASSED

Election of Officers of Selinsgrove Borough Council / Vice President

C/P Anderson nominated Wilhelm Reuning for the office of Council Vice President. C/P Reuning accepted the nomination. Mayor Carroll called for an individual vote.

AYES: FIVE (5) – C/Ps Anderson, Handlan, Herb, Inch and Reuning
NAYS: TWO (2) – C/Ps Hetherington and Mengel

NOMINATION PASSED

Mayor Carroll turned the table over to the new president and vice president. Pres. Handlan took the head of the table.

APPOINTMENTS:

Borough Manager / Secretary

Motion by C/P Reuning to rescind both motions of the Borough Council regarding Mr. John Bickhart, the one on November 21, 2005 for Mr. Bickhart's dismissal and the one on December 28, 2005 for the advertisement for the office of Borough Manager. Seconded by C/P Anderson.

C/P Reuning stated his motion was made to follow up on his comment from December 28, 2005. He stated it is only fair that this Council has the right to decide for itself what it wants to do in regard to the Borough Manager position. C/P Mengel stated that the Council has that right with the nomination tonight. C/P Hetherington questioned whether this motion could be made because the person who made the November 21, 2005 motion is no longer a Council member and is not present to rescind his motion. Solicitor Noon stated that this could be done because there is now a new Council. C/P Mengel asked for an executive session before the vote. Due to the large crowd in Council chambers the Council, Mayor Carroll and Solicitor Noon left the room for the executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Council Meeting recessed to an Executive Session at 7:10 P.M. for discussion of Personnel and Litigation Issues. Council meeting reconvened at 7:52 P.M.

C/P Reuning restated his motion and Pres. Handlan called for a vote on the motion.

AYES: FOUR (4) – C/Ps Anderson, Handlan, Herb and Reuning
NAYS: THREE (3) – C/Ps Hetherington, Inch and Mengel

MOTION CARRIED

Solicitor Noon stated that the net effect of this motion is to leave the Borough Manager's position open because the prior Borough Manager's contract ended on December 31, 2005. As of right now the Borough Manager position is open.

Motion by C/P Anderson to reappoint John Bickhart as Borough Manager. Seconded by C/P Herb.

AYES: FOUR (4) – C/Ps Anderson, Handlan, Herb and Reuning
NAYS: THREE (3) – C/Ps Hetherington, Inch and Mengel

MOTION CARRIED

Borough Treasurer

Motion by C/P Inch to appoint Sheri Badman as Borough Treasurer. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Borough Solicitor

Motion by C/P Inch to appoint Bob Cravitz as Borough Solicitor. Seconded by C/P Anderson.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Borough Engineer

Motion by C/P Inch to appoint John Coukart as Borough Engineer. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Borough Depository(ies)

Sheri stated that Omega Bank and M&T Bank are the current depositories. There are two banks so that Borough residents can pay their water bills at either bank. Mgr. Bickhart stated the motion should also include PLGIT, where a lot of Borough funds are invested.

Motion by C/P Anderson to appoint Omega Bank, M&T Bank and PLGIT as Borough Depositories. Seconded by C/P Herb.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Vacancy Board Citizen Representative

C/P Reuning stated that this position was held by Leon Fetterolf, who may not wish to continue in this position. Pres. Handlan stated that this appointment will be deferred.

Chairman Pro Tem

Pres. Handlan stated that this person would fill in if the President and Vice President of Council were both absent and a quorum was established. Mgr. Bickhart stated it has not been past practice to have this position filled but it is listed as a position by the Boroughs' Association. C/P Anderson asked if this position could be filled by the mayor and Pres. Handlan replied that it has to be a Council member.

Motion by C/P Mengel to appoint Bill Hetherington to the position of Chairman Pro Tem. Seconded by C/P Inch. C/P Hetherington declined the nomination.

Motion by C/P Herb to appoint Marlin Inch to the position of Chairman Pro Tem. Seconded by C/P Reuning. C/P Inch accepted the nomination.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Northeast Snyder County Authority Representatives

Mgr. Bickhart reported this is the authority that was formed for the landfill in Monroe Township. The Borough currently has two representatives, himself and C/P Hetherington.

Motion by C/P Inch to appoint Mgr. Bickhart and C/P Hetherington to continue representing the Borough to the Northeast Snyder County Authority. Seconded by C/P Anderson.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Pres. Handlan stated there are some committees that need to be changed due to members leaving Council. She stated she would like C/P Inch to continue as chairman of the Finance Committee, but Sean Christine will need to be replaced and Pres. Handlan stated she would also like to step off of that committee. With no one immediately volunteering, it was decided to defer these assignments until next month. Pres. Handlan will contact the Council members regarding serving on committees.

VISITORS TO BE HEARD:

Pat Reilly on Borough Snow Removal Issues – Pat Reilly expressed concern about snow removal because the storm two weeks before Christmas put the Borough in a predicament. There was a significant snowfall followed by a hard freeze. The streets were not taken care of and were hard to navigate. This made it especially hard to get into stores just before Christmas. C/P Hetherington stated in the past the Safety Committee has addressed these issues but the Borough's snow removal budget determines what is able to be done. Pat stated there is an agility agreement between the Borough and PennDOT which does not bring a financial burden to the Borough. The Borough would put out snow emergency signs, letting PennDOT know when this would be done. The streets would be cleared and PennDOT would come in with their belt loader and clean up the snow. C/P Hetherington stated that sometimes PennDOT does not honor their agreements with the Borough. Pres. Handlan stated she does not know why the Borough would not do this. Mgr. Bickhart stated the Borough does participate in the agility program. The Borough mows grass for PennDOT in the islands and around the Borough. These hours are credited and PennDOT then provides the Borough with equipment or manpower or whatever is needed. He stated this is the first time it has been suggested that the Borough could use PennDOT to remove the snow downtown and it is worth looking into. C/P Inch stated he thought the Borough had a substantial amount of credit with PennDOT. Mgr. Bickhart stated that the Borough had purchased a snow blower to pick snow up and blow it into the back of a truck, with the Borough crews providing the manpower and equipment. However, the Borough does not have enough trucks and has used the agility program in the past to have PennDOT supply more trucks. One of the problems with this is that PennDOT's primary purpose is to plow the highways so the trucks and manpower are not always readily available. Mgr. Bickhart stated the snow removal issue has been discussed at least twice at Council meetings since he has been Borough Manager without coming to a resolution regarding snow removal policies. This has been a judgment call between himself and Gary Klingler, director of public works, based on snowfall amounts and temperatures following the snowfall in order to not waste money removing something that will melt away. There has not been a policy stating that for every snowfall the snow will be removed from the downtown. Mgr. Bickhart stated he thought Council should come up with a policy on this, working with the merchants and PennDOT to come up with something to benefit everyone. Pres. Handlan stated there was an article in the Daily Item stating that some of the merchants would be willing to pay for the service to remove snow from in front of their stores. She expressed her appreciation to Pat Reilly for bringing this to Council's attention, stating this will be pursued. C/P Mengel asked if the Borough had a current agility agreement and Pres. Handlan stated that the agreement is effective for five years. Solicitor Noon stated it was reaffirmed by Ordinance after 2002.

Solicitor David Noon on Borough Manager Issues – Solicitor Noon stated there needs to be more specificity regarding the terms of the Borough Manager's rehiring. He stated that he believed the intent of Council was to rehire Mgr. Bickhart with terms similar to or identical to his previous employment contract, but this should be placed on the record with a motion to that effect.

Motion by C/P Anderson that the terms of the Borough Manager's contract be for two years ending on December 31, 2007 and at the same salary as previously. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: FOUR (4) – C/Ps Anderson, Handlan, Herb and Reuning

NAYS: THREE (3) – C/Ps Hetherington, Inch and Mengel

MOTION CARRIED

Mgr. Bickhart stated that there are other duties assigned to the Borough Manager. These were listed on the agenda sheet and he feels these should be reaffirmed as well. Solicitor Noon replied that these were subsumed into the appointment by the way the motion was made. For the record, these duties include: Borough Administrator, Zoning Officer, Emergency Management Coordinator, Voting Member of the Snyder County Mitigation Committee, Building Official, and Housing Official (eliminated by Chapter 89, Housing Standards, and responsibilities transferred to Central Keystone COG by agreement).

Jerry Valentine on Traher Property Sewer Issues – Mr. Valentine stated that he is requesting two things of Council regarding the University Avenue sewer project in relation to the Traher property. The first request is to lower the main and the second is to extend the main beyond the Traher driveway. Mgr. Bickhart reported to Jerry that since they last spoke the Borough has been notified that construction on the project will be delayed through the winter so the immediacy of the decision no longer exists. Jerry stated that he still needs to know how deep the main will be so that he can plan his work. Mgr. Bickhart reported that this was discussed with Council, who requested a cost estimate from the Borough Engineer. Coukart has sent a letter stating the additional costs to deepen and extend the sanitary sewer. Jerry stated the reason for his request is that Mrs. Traher's sewer is now under a concrete floor in a finished room in her basement. The changes could be done in one of two ways, either using a gravity system or a pumping system. In order to disrupt Mrs. Traher's house as little as possible Jerry would prefer to use the gravity system, but this would require lowering the two sewer lines that are shown on his plans one foot each. He is asking that the lines be lowered one foot to 7 feet below grade, but he stated he could also get by with 6 feet. Mgr. Bickhart stated that the engineer is proposing to flatten the grade on the last section from the manhole to the cleanout. Jerry stated this would work for him and the Borough would not have to change the depth of the manhole. He stated again that he prefers to use the gravity system, as installing a pump would necessitate it being 10 feet deep, which is too deep for residential purposes. The gravity system would allow him to replumb the house without a pump.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM MEETING OF DECEMBER 5, 2005:

C/P Herb stated that on Page 9, the third line from the top states that a suggestion was made "to" Solicitor Cravitz that property owners could be assessed for the alley improvements. He questioned whether this was made "to" the attorney or "by" the attorney. Mgr. Bickhart stated it should be "by the attorney". Janet Powers stated that Robert Wendt is referred to under Others Present and elsewhere in the minutes as a retired Borough employee but he is not retired.

Motion by C/P Inch to approve the minutes of December 5, 2005 as corrected. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM MEETING OF DECEMBER 28, 2005:

Pres. Handlan stated the date on the minutes should be December, not September. She also stated that on Page 7 regarding the tree at Kleinbauer's she had asked if anyone had approached Joe Kleinbauer about this. There was discussion related to the assumption that people were thinking that nothing was happening. The minutes reflect that C/P Handlan "stated" but this should be changed to "asked" if anyone has ever approached Mr. Kleinbauer. C/P Hetherington stated it was his understanding that Mr. Kleinbauer was told not to put the tree in and he did it anyway. He understood that Mr. Kleinbauer was going to be asked to remove the tree and this is why he brought the subject up, asking if the tree was removed and replaced with something approved by the Shade Tree Commission. Mgr. Bickhart stated that he notified Joe Kleinbauer that the request to plant the tree was not approved. Pres. Handlan stated this is with the Shade Tree Commission.

Motion by C/P Inch to approve the minutes of December 28, 2005 as corrected. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

VISITORS TO BE HEARD:

Borough Police Chief, Thomas Garlock – Presentation of Police Report for November 2005 –

C/P Hetherington asked if Chief Garlock has any thoughts or ideas as to why serious crimes are 20% higher this year in comparison to last year, and why less serious crimes are also higher. He wondered if going without an officer for a while had an impact. Chief Garlock stated he has looked at this but he has not come up with any ideas as to why this is happening. There is a potential that more serious things would occur when the Borough was short an officer, but the call rates went up also. The demand for services has increased and due to that the increase in crimes in both categories is to be expected. C/P Hetherington asked if the police department is completely moved into the new building and whether they like it better. Chief Garlock replied there are still a few things to be moved from the basement to the new building. He stated the new building is considerably better and easier to work in.

Notice of Receipt of \$20,000 DCED Grant for Police Station Renovations – Mgr. Bickhart reported that through the efforts of Chief Garlock the Borough applied for a DCED grant to assist in providing some additional modernizations to the police department. The Borough has received notification that the grant will be received. Tonight Council needs to authorize the Chairman to sign an IRS Form W-9 to submit documentation for the receipt of that money.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to authorize Pres. Handlan to sign the documentation to receive the grant money. Seconded by C/P Anderson.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

DH&L Fire Company, Ken Stettler – Ken reported there were 19 incidents in December as follows: 5 automatic alarms, 2 carbon monoxide alarms, 1 good intent service call, 1 HazMat call, 4 miscellaneous fires, 2 vehicle accidents without extrication, 2 structure fires, 1 vehicle fire and 1 water rescue recovery. The loss within the jurisdiction was \$0.00. The incidents occurred as follows: 1 in Middlecreek Township, 1 in Monroe Township, 4 in Penn Township, 11 in the Borough of Selinsgrove, 1 in Upper Augusta Township and 1 in Washington Township. December man hours total 487. However, this number will go up by about 200 man hours because this past Saturday 10 or 12 men spent most of the day putting the new rescue truck into service. The rescue truck got its first run today.

Ken reported the year-end incidents for 2005 as follows: 253 incidents with a total dollar loss within the jurisdiction of \$155,000; 78 incidents were in Penn Township and 94 were in the Borough of Selinsgrove. A total of 5,964 man hours were spent on various activities. The man hours are deceiving as there are times when the men will go in for an hour or so here and there but it does not get documented. In reality the man hours for 2005 are probably closer to 7,000 or even 8,000.

The tanker and rescue truck are both in service. Ken expects them to be striped and lettered possibly next week depending on when the material arrives. He invited Council to come to see the vehicles after this is done. He stated the tanker works very well and the rescue truck has only had one alarm so far but overall they are very pleased with the new equipment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:

Review List of Council Issues

C/P Inch asked what the status is on the repairs to the sanitary sewer at Weiser Run. Mgr. Bickhart replied that he has not heard from Gary as to when he plans to do the work. C/P Reuning asked if a contractor will be called in the event that Gary cannot get the work done with the Borough crew and Mgr. Bickhart replied that he offered this option to Gary from the very beginning. C/P Mengel stated that Council told Mgr. Bickhart in October to go ahead and hire a contractor so this would get done before winter. Mgr. Bickhart replied that he gave Gary the opportunity to do the work or to get a contractor, and Gary felt he could do the work. C/P Hetherington stated there is a concern that the pipe will freeze up

and the Borough will be liable. Pres. Handlan suggested she meet with Mgr. Bickhart and Gary Klingler on Friday morning to resolve this.

C/P Hetherington stated he thinks the Council should send a letter of apology to Attorney Slivinski because nothing has been done on the street yet. The work was to have been done in the summer of 2004. C/P Mengel agreed that this has gone on too long and the work should be done in the spring. Solicitor Noon suggested that this correspondence to Attorney Slivinski be a notice to him that Council is continuing to address his concerns and acknowledging there have been some delays.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to send a letter to Attorney Slivinski advising him that Council is continuing to address his concerns. Seconded by C/P Mengel.

AYES: SIX (6)

NAYS: NONE

ABSTENTION: ONE (1) – C/P Herb

MOTION CARRIED

C/P Herb stated he is abstaining because he does not feel he is well enough informed on this issue to make a decision. He also stated that he feels this motion was made to embarrass the Borough Manager. C/P Hetherington stated this is not the case, but that he simply feels an apology needs to be made because this has gone on too long.

C/P Hetherington stated the library expansion project feasibility study was to have been completed the summer of 2005. C/P Reuning stated the Borough Council has no control over the library board and C/P Hetherington suggested taking this off the Council issues list. He stated some of the other items that are on the list should be taken care of or removed from the list. He feels it is wrong to have these issues continuing with no action being taken on them for such long periods of time. Pres. Handlan stated she will take this under advisement, take a look at the list and revise it in a new format for this coming year.

C/P Reuning stated he talked to the librarian today and they are happy that things are proceeding the way they are right now.

Mgr. Bickhart explained that there are some blanks on the issues list because when he put the list together he was unaware of what John Coukart was going to report on updating the schedule for the Sassafras Street project or the sanitary sewer extension. Council has Coukart's report stating that PennDOT is requiring the Borough to postpone the construction until spring. Also in Coukart's letter the last sentence under the interceptor metering project states that the delay in completing the laterals, meaning the existing laterals for the homes on Sassafras Street, will have no effect on the ability to measure all of the Borough's sewage flows. The way this is configured is that the metering chamber will go in operation as soon as possible and the metering will begin, with the laterals being connected later.

C/P Reuning inquired as to the status of the poles for the streetlights in the streetscape project. Mgr. Bickhart replied that Coukart reports that the waiver for the inspection of the pole manufacturing facility has been requested and PennDOT's central office concurred with this waiver request, with the concurrence being received today. This means that inspection of the construction of the poles will not be required. The manufacturer can now go ahead with the fabrication of the poles for the streetlights.

Additional data on cost of Medigap Insurance Plan w/o prescription coverage and on cost of Medicare Part D coverage for Robert and Pat Wendt. Consider amendments to Employee Handbook

Mgr. Bickhart explained that employee Bob Wendt will be able to continue with a Medigap Plan I without prescription coverage for a cost of \$108.50. The Borough is currently paying \$151 or \$152 for Mr. Wendt's coverage, resulting in a savings as predicted by C/P Reuning of between \$40 and \$50. Mr. Wendt has also indicated that based upon his wife's prescription needs they would opt for Medicare Part D which is now the new prescription coverage. The premium for this is approximately \$25. Mgr. Bickhart stated that what Mr. Wendt is proposing to do is less money and Mr. Wendt feels that it is adequate coverage. C/P Reuning stated there are so many private plans and each one is a little different. If Mr. Wendt would decide to go with another private plan next year some of those monetary figures will

change. Solicitor Noon asked if there is an enrollment deadline that Mr. Wendt needs to be aware of. Mgr. Bickhart replied that Mr. Wendt needs to make his decision by May 15 or he will begin to pay a penalty. He stated the Borough policy language can be configured by then. Council should not try to pick a plan or set a dollar value. Pres. Handlan asked if the employee handbook will also have to be modified and Mgr. Bickhart replied that it will have to be slightly modified concerning Part D. Solicitor Noon stated this will have to be done sometime between now and the March meeting at the latest. Mgr. Bickhart stated he would target this for the February meeting. C/P Anderson stated it should be pretty simple to just add the policy change to the applicable employee handbook section. Mgr. Bickhart stated the section would be modified to take out any reference to prescriptions and simply to refer to the ability of the Borough Council to approve on a case-by-case basis Medicare Part D plans that would be submitted by the employee or the employee's spouse because the spouse and the employee are separate and do not necessarily have to have the same plan.

Motion by C/P Anderson to make the appropriate changes. Seconded by C/P Herb.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Pres. Handlan requested that Mgr. Bickhart work on some language for this.

Authorize execution of Agreement with PA Fish and Boat Commission – C/P Anderson asked if this agreement has been reviewed by the attorney. Solicitor Noon replied that Solicitor Cravitz has not reviewed it. C/P Hetherington stated he thought this was already agreed to by Council. Mgr. Bickhart replied that Council has done so but now needs to authorize the execution of the documents. C/P Mengel stated that Council agreed to portable potties or some sort of facility but the scope of the work in the agreement refers to constructing two restrooms and installing electricity, water service and attaching sewer lines to the adjacent public sewer system. She stated this was in the original plan and that was not what Council agreed to with SPI. She stated she is in favor of the agreement and she does not care if it is permanent restroom facilities but that is not what was agreed to. Pres. Handlan agreed, stating that permanent facilities were not in the final agreement that Council had with SPI, who has agreed to fully maintain the facilities. She stated someone needs to get back to the Fish and Boat Commission. It seems like this is just their standard agreement that has not been modified. In Judy Spiegel's letter SPI has discussed various options in the design of the restroom facilities that range from something similar to, but perhaps more attractive than, port-a-potties to permanent facilities and buildings, and any designed major construction will be given a vandal-proofing to ease maintenance. Consideration is also made for portability in the event of flood or seasonal operation. Pres. Handlan stated there needs to be further discussion with Judy on this agreement. Solicitor Noon advised tabling the matter until this discussion takes place. Mgr. Bickhart stated that another way this could be handled is that any design that comes up would be reviewed and approved by Council. The issue of what can be done and how it should best be done was something that no one has really focused on. This might be an issue that is easier to handle as the design progresses, first getting the contract in place and then letting the project begin. Council and SPI can reserve the right to approve the plans and the concept. This could be done rather than trying to modify the agreement. C/P Hetherington expressed concern about signing the agreement without modifying it. Solicitor Noon stated if the agreement is signed without reviewing it Council may find themselves without reserving the rights that are being discussed. C/P Hetherington expressed concern that while the Borough is partnering with SPI in this, the Borough is ultimately the responsible party for repairs and maintenance. He reminded Council that this is a 25-year obligation.

Motion by C/P Herb to table the execution of the agreement at this point pending further study. Seconded by C/P Anderson.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS:

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: C/P Inch, Chairman

Payment and Ratification of Bills – C/P Inch stated that the Finance Committee reviewed the bills and found everything to be in order.

Motion by C/P Inch to pay the bills. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Statewide Tax Recovery, Inc. - Exoneration Requests – Mgr. Bickhart reported one exoneration request from James L. Fiore for the years 1989 and 1990 due to being a non-resident at that time.

Motion by C/P Mengel for exoneration of Mr. Fiore. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

C/P Hetherington asked why this is just coming before Council now. Mgr. Bickhart replied that Statewide carries these on their books and resolves them when they can. They are diligent about pursuing them and the Borough gets some that are this old that are actually paid. The amount in question is \$5.50.

PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE: C/P Reuning, Chairman – No Report

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION / PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT: Pres. Handlan, Interim Chairwoman – No Report

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS: Pres. Handlan, Chairwoman – No Report

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: C/P Hetherington, Interim Chairman – No Report

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: C/P Hetherington, Chairman – No Report

PLANNING COMMISSION

Recommendation for adoption of revisions to Chapter 140 – Zoning, pertaining to Flood Plain regulations that were previously a part of Chapter 65 – C/P Mengel stated that this is something that should be reviewed by the attorney and she also questioned why this is being done. Mgr. Bickhart replied that these are changes that came from a suggested ordinance by DCED for floodplain regulations that acknowledge the new reality of the Pennsylvania Building Code. C/P Reuning stated he thought it was just the dark print in the document that Council has that has changed. Mgr. Bickhart replied there is one place where that paragraph needs to be changed and then the rest of the text would replace another chapter in total. This was an issue that was brought to Council's attention a number of months ago and at that time Mgr. Bickhart thought it would be referred to a committee of Council. George Kinney was the chairman of that committee and Mr. Kinney thought it should go to the Planning Commission first, which is what was done. The Planning Commission and their solicitor used the suggested ordinance as a model and made some changes. Council has now received a document but unless they know the existing document they cannot tell what has been changed and what has not been changed. Solicitor Noon asked what committee should review this. Mgr. Bickhart stated it should probably be the Borough Administration / Property and Equipment Committee. The mandate under administration is zoning ordinances. C/P Mengel asked how Council knows whether these things are approved by the State or FEMA after Council has approved them. Janet Powers stated it has to go to the State for their approval and it has to be advertised and a public hearing held. C/P Mengel asked if the State gives the Borough guidelines to go by and Mgr. Bickhart replied that they give the Borough a suggested model to follow. Solicitor Noon stated that it sounds as though the Borough Planning Commission has done some fine tuning and sent it back to Council for review. Janet stated that some things were changed differently from

the model. Mgr. Bickhart agreed, stating there were some places where, with the advice of the solicitor for the Planning Commission, they did not follow the suggestions of the model. Each of these was reviewed with Terry Wilson, the Borough's representative from FEMA. Janet said that Mr. Wilson said there was nothing wrong with it the way it was, but there was also nothing wrong with the changes. C/P Anderson stated one change that she noted was the difference between "basement" and "cellar". Mgr. Bickhart stated that had to be changed because the Borough ordinance talks about basements and cellars as being two different types of space below the first floor. C/P Mengel stated that in the first paragraph on the front it states in bold that zoning permits shall not be required for minor repairs to existing buildings. She asked if minor repairs are defined somewhere in the document and Mgr. Bickhart replied that this was defined before and it is not a change.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to have the recommendations reviewed by the Borough Administration Committee. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

Mayor Carroll asked if this will then come back to the Borough Solicitor and then to Council after the Committee reviews it. Solicitor Noon stated that part of the Committee's recommendation would undoubtedly be to have the Borough Solicitor review this. The next time this comes before Council it will have been fully reviewed by the Committee and the solicitors.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Carroll stated that he was at the Planning Commission meeting and learned that they need another person. Some names were discussed and Mayor Carroll stated he talked to Tom Walker and he is willing to sit on the Commission if Council would appoint him to do so.

Motion by C/P Reuning to appoint Tom Walker to the Planning Commission. Seconded by C/P Inch.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

ZONING HEARING BOARD – No Report

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION – No Report

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD: Richard Norman, Chairman – Pres. Handlan reported that she received a letter from Dick Norman regarding the ice skating rink. Dick was interviewed on the radio and there was an article in the December 16 Daily Item. An attempt was made to flood the rink but the weather is not cold enough yet. A temporary ramp has been placed so skaters can go right up to the door. The building is cleaned, the walls and benches are repainted, the Borough put in a new pole and ran wire underground so two sets of lights are working, and new speakers are in place. This was paid for with monies left in the budget from a \$500 donation from Kidsgrove. Pres. Handlan has solicited donations of ice skates at the University and she has received several pairs. She has also had students volunteer to work at the skating rink and to give ice skating lessons. C/P Reuning asked if clay was put down on the rink. Pres. Handlan credited Shane Hendricks and Dick Norman for working so hard on this. Mayor Carroll stated that Dick Norman was excellent in the radio interview, during which he indicated that the runoff problem is to be resolved with the clay by next season. Pres. Handlan stated that this is the first phase, which involved very little money but quite a bit of sweat labor and personal resources. Going forward the Borough hopes to have a beautiful ice skating rink in place.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR: Pete Carroll – Mayor Carroll asked what the Borough policy is on training. He stated there are some training sessions coming up quickly and he wanted to know if he needs Council's permission to attend training and what is covered financially. He stated there are two trainings but there is a question on one because it states it is for township supervisors. He called to see if this also includes mayors. This is at the end of January and if it does apply to mayors he would like to attend. Another two-day training session is coming up in March. Mayor Carroll is asking Council to approve him to attend training, as he

wants to attend whatever is available to him. Pres. Handlan asked if this is something Council needs to approve. Sheri stated that Council needs to approve the registration fees and mileage expenses. Mayor Carroll asked if there is a distance at which he would be allowed to spend the night and have it paid by the Borough. Sheri stated this would be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to allow the mayor to attend the training sessions. Seconded by C/P Inch.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Carroll thanked past mayor Garry Beaver for his help in making the transition of mayors run smoothly.

Mayor Carroll stated he spoke with Chief Garlock about the location of the physical office of the mayor. Chief Garlock has offered the use of an extra room in the police department which is down the hall from the chief's office next to the report-writing room in the center of the building. This may be used until the space would need to be utilized for something else. Some file cabinets and other things need to be moved from downstairs to the new office.

Mayor Carroll stated he spoke with Chief Garlock about having an open house for the community in the police department building. Depending on the grant money and how it comes in the chief would like to get some other things accomplished before people are invited in. Mayor Carroll suggested having refreshments in the foyer area. Letters will be sent to outlying areas to invite people to come in to see the chief, the mayor and the new facility. Chief Garlock will also be distributing some leftover security locks for guns free of charge at the open house. Mayor Carroll stated he would like to have the open house in February but Chief Garlock prefers March. The mayor will keep Council apprised of developments.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR: Robert Cravitz – Acting Solicitor Noon had nothing extra to report.

BOROUGH ENGINEER: J. A. Coukart & Associates – Mgr. Bickhart reported that Coukart is still waiting on something from Susquehanna University on the liability of using the parking lot for stormwater drainage at the proposed new housing facility.

BOROUGH TREASURER: Sharon Badman – Sheri reported that she will have her report after the end of the year is closed out. At that time she will also distribute a copy of the budget showing the actual year-to-date figures for 2005.

BOROUGH MANAGER / SECRETARY / ZONING OFFICER: Mgr. Bickhart

Non-Police Complaint Update – Mgr. Bickhart reported that Jay Harris has called in regarding a complaint from Joyce Hendricks. Mr. Harris parks his truck on Snyder Street and lives somewhere else in the Borough. He wanted to make Mgr. Bickhart aware of his view and Mgr. Bickhart told Mr. Harris that this is a work in progress. He is the only truck driver who has called in. C/P Reuning stated there is a huge motor home on Tenth Street and it caused problems during the snow as it was hard to get by it. Mgr. Bickhart stated Donna Graybill called about a camping unit near her house. He stated when he put the draft together he was not thinking of campers but they also constitute a problem. School buses have also been indicated as causing problems when parked on Borough streets. C/P Hetherington stated all these things will have to be considered. Pres. Handlan stated the Borough streets are too narrow to be parking large vehicles. Mayor Carroll stated he has also gotten some calls about some of these vehicles.

Notice of Sale of Mary Searer property at 700 North Orange Street, notification to CK-COG and request for extermination – Mgr. Bickhart reported he has seen an agreement of sale on this property to be conveyed to Ken and Carol Smith, who have already begun renovations. The Smiths plan to renovate, not demolish and reconstruct, the building. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has notified CK-COG of the owners' name and address and asked CK-COG to get in touch with them regarding any issues of CK-COG coming in and actually declaring the property unfit for human habitation, to engage the owners

in any of the building codes that would be applicable to renovating the property and using it for someone to live in. He stated he has asked CK-COG to make sure that the codes are enforced and to follow through with the request for extermination. He stated there is one documented infestation and one suspected infestation.

Authorize execution of Tub Grinder Agreement with Lycoming County Resource Management Services, 2006 rate is \$120/hour (up \$5/hour from 2005) – Mgr. Bickhart reported this is an annual exercise. The Borough uses the tub grinder to grind up material that is delivered to the compost yard to create mulch. The mulch is then made available to Borough residents.

Motion by C/P Inch to accept the new agreement. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Statements of Financial Interest are to be completed and returned to the Borough Office before May 1, 2006 – Mgr. Bickhart reminded Council to complete their financial interest statements and return them to the Borough office. Pres. Handlan stated this goes for the new Council members as well, even though it is based on 2005.

SELINGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – No Report

EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY REGIONAL AUTHORITY – No Report

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNCIL MEMBERS – C/P Anderson asked if the new Council members will have approval to attend borough council training sessions. Pres. Handlan stated there are a number of training courses coming up throughout the year. She stated this would be the same as for the mayor, with the Council approving travel expenses and registration fees. C/P Anderson stated she would like approval to register for a session in Gettysburg. Pres. Handlan stated she will be attending a training session in March. Mayor Carroll stated that Sheri had asked that the registration fees should go through her rather than Sheri reimbursing the council members or the mayor. Sheri stated she would rather not reimburse personal credit card usage.

Motion by C/P Mengel to approve training sessions for C/P Anderson, C/P Herb and Pres. Handlan. Seconded by C/P Inch.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

MAYOR – Mayor Carroll stated he got a call for a request to review the speed limit on 18th Street. He has given a copy of this to the Safety Committee and he will make a copy for Mgr. Bickhart. He stated he has also received some calls from people requesting that the recycling center hours be expanded. He stated the residents really like the recycling center but sometimes have difficulty getting there during the hours that it is open.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by C/P Hetherington to adjourn at 9:14 P.M.

ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES:

None