

SELINGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2006 - 7:00 P.M.

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Solicitor R. Cravitz; Mgr. J. Bickhart; Mayor P. Carroll; Police Chief T. Garlock; Borough Treasurer Sheri Badman; Recording Secretary D. Long; DH&L Representatives Jason Kaufman and Ken Stettler; Daily Item Reporter Marcia Moore; Borough Business Owner Brian Farrell; Borough Residents Matthew Cover, Donna Graybill, Douglas and Deborah Hammett, Anthony Sanutti, Joseph and Margaret Siro; Selinsgrove Chamber of Commerce Representative Pamela White; Selinsgrove Projects Inc. Representative Judy Spiegel; Snyder County Library Systems Director Elizabeth "Betsy" Fordon; Susquehanna University Public Safety Director Tom Rambo and Students Eric Johnson and Cassandra Lampkin

OTHERS ABSENT: None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Pres. Handlan called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Mgr. Bickhart called the roll.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2006:

Motion by C/P Inch to approve the minutes of March 6. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM RECESSED MEETING OF MARCH 13, 2006:

Motion by C/P Inch to approve the minutes of March 13. 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 February 2006 –

C/P Hetherington expressed his satisfaction with the open house held at the police department.

DH&L Fire Company, Ken Stettler – Ken reported there were 22 incidents in March as follows:

1 automatic alarm, 3 brush fires, 3 standby assignments, 1 good intent service call, 2 miscellaneous, 1 medical assist, 5 vehicle accidents with extrication, 1 rescue call, and 5 structure fires. The incidents occurred as follows: 2 in Chapman Township, 1 in Hummels Wharf, 2 in Jackson Township, 1 in Middlecreek Township, 7 in Penn Township, 7 in Selinsgrove, 1 in Union Township, and 1 in Washington Township. The loss within the jurisdiction was \$55,000.00 at a house fire in Penn Township. March man hours total 408.

Gordon Deitz – Requesting handicapped parking space in front of 13 South Water Street –

Mr. Dietz was not at the meeting so Mgr. Bickhart reported that he shared with Mr. Deitz by telephone the history of Council not favoring these requests in the past.

Matthew Cover – Increased thefts on 400 block of Eighth Street – Matthew expressed concern regarding thefts and vandalism of property in the 400 block of Eighth Street. He stated items have been stolen from vehicles. He suggested the police cruise the streets of Selinsgrove on Friday nights rather than sit at the football games. He also suggested hiring more police officers and having more patrol cars with night shift officers. He stated most of the thefts and vandalism occur from midnight to 4:30 a.m. and it is more prominent on weekends. He stated he would like Council to review and approve his request to start a neighborhood Crime Watch program. He asked if it would be possible to have streetlights installed in the back alleyways. He expressed a concern that residents may take the law into their own hands if these issues are not resolved. C/P Hetherington asked what Matthew meant in his letter to Council when he said that the police department was not handling the problem. Matthew replied that he is not condemning the police department but was expressing that there needs to be more police officers to provide better coverage for the Borough. Pres. Handlan asked if all the incidences have been reported and Matthew replied that they have been. C/P Herb asked Matthew if it was his feeling that these incidents are vandalism for fun or if they are thefts of items of value. Matthew replied that they are thefts but the value of the items stolen is below the \$500 deductible. He feels it is kids doing vandalism for fun or people stealing items to sell for drugs. His father had a stereo stolen from his car. C/P Inch asked if car windows are being broken for access. Matthew replied that the thieves are checking for unlocked cars but they will also try to get into locked cars. Mayor Carroll stated that one of the aspects of the Crime Watch program is making sure that the residents lock their doors. He stated that the police do supply coverage 24/7 and there is one officer on duty at night. He asked that the residents call as quickly as possible when something occurs. Council will be addressing additional officers at tonight's meeting. Pres. Handlan stated the idea of a Crime Watch has been raised before. The program has some good points and some bad points. She stated she will refer this to the Safety Committee.

SU Student Cassandra Lampkin – Request to close 400 block of University Avenue on 4/28 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. for “Block Party” – Cassandra reported that she is a senior and she works for Residence Life as the Avenue Coordinator at the university. One of her duties is planning events for the Avenue to try to build community. She stated the Avenue is quite diverse, with Greek houses, the international house, and the multicultural house. On April 28 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. she is coordinating an activity that brings residents on the Avenue together with the community. There will be games, food, live music, a basketball tournament, and a decorating contest for the Avenue houses. This is the kick-off to the university's Spring Weekend, with other activities going on throughout the day and evening on Saturday. This event encourages students to stay on or near campus and to participate in school spirit activities. Cassandra requested that Council allow the university to block off the street from 300 University Avenue, which is at the corner of Broad Street, to the area of the Health Center at 600 University Avenue. C/P Reuning expressed concern regarding the live music, citing instances in the past where the noise was just terrible. He stated it can be heard all over town and it upsets the residents. C/P Mengel expressed concern about the street being closed beyond the triangle and out onto the main thoroughfare along the campus. Cassandra stated that the area could be contained in the 300 and 400 blocks, from Broad Street to the point. Tom Rambo, Associate Dean of Student Life and Director of Public Safety, stated that he has discussed this with Chief Garlock and Mgr. Bickhart. He assured them that the university's public safety department will provide supervision to ensure that the party stays within the confines of the two blocks to avoid an adverse impact on traffic through the Borough and to minimize the impact on the community. He stated that this event will help with the university's desire to keep students on campus or as close to campus as possible. In response to C/P Hetherington's question, Mr. Rambo also stated that the event times will be strictly enforced.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to approve the Block Party. Seconded by C/P Herb.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Carroll asked if Trax will be open that night as well. Tom Rambo replied that it will not be open due to the many events that night and throughout the weekend. Trax will be open later on Friday and Saturday, but not during the Spring Weekend events. Cassandra reported there will be a movie directly following the block party. C/P Mengel suggested letting the area residents know that this block party will be taking place. Cassandra stated she will distribute flyers. Mgr. Bickhart stated he will send Cassandra

a letter outlining specific requirements, one of which is a notification letter to residents when a street will be blocked off. He will also include the area where flyers should be distributed. He gave Cassandra a map of the two blocks for her planning purposes. C/P Reuning again expressed concern about the noise level. Pres. Handlan asked if there is a rain date. Cassandra stated this will take place rain or shine because it is part of the Spring Weekend, which cannot be rescheduled.

Tom Rambo – Update on Trax Opening – Tom stated that so far there have been five events at Trax, with three of them serving alcohol. The total attendance since the opening has been 1600 people. There have been no incidents to speak of. There are TV cameras that monitor the parking lots and activity. As a result of Trax opening there has been a tremendous decrease in incidents of disorder on campus during the times that Trax is open. There were 11 vandalism-type crimes at this time last year and since Trax has opened there have only been 3 this year. Public safety will stay on top of this and staff have been dedicated to this; things are going well so far.

Anthony Sanutti – Requests pertaining to potential development of a restaurant in the former Train Station property – Mr. Sanutti introduced himself as a lifelong resident of Selinsgrove; he went to college in Philadelphia and is now a registered nurse in Philadelphia and he flies helicopters out of the National Guard. He stated he wants to put a seafood restaurant in the old train station but there are no liquor licenses left in Snyder County. He envisions his restaurant with an outside eating veranda, on the upscale side like a BJ's but for seafood. The food would be like a crab shack, with all seafood. He would like to have a full bar just like BJ's. He stated he has done some research into liquor licenses and found that there is a loophole for economic development, which applies to his situation. He also stated that he will take care of the sidewalk and fencing requirements that the Borough imposed on the seller of the property. He stated his finances are limited and he would need to get a 36-month waiver on paving the parking lot as well as a waiver for the sewer tapping fees. He would also like some guidance from Council as to what his next steps should be regarding drawings and plans.

Pres. Handlan stated Council appreciates Mr. Sanutti's interest in helping to revitalize the Borough. She stated the liquor license issue is something that is new for Council. Mgr. Bickhart reported on his own research into this, stating that he has found that the economic development loophole is new since 2002. He made SPI and the Selinsgrove Chamber of Commerce aware of this economic development issue, and Judy Spiegel and Pamela White are attending tonight's meeting to represent their respective organizations. Mgr. Bickhart stated he contacted the PLCB to confirm Mr. Sanutti's research. Only one of these special liquor licenses can be issued in each county of Snyder County's class per year. It must be for economic development purposes and the Borough must indicate this, meaning that the license cannot be acquired without official action from Council. He wondered about how an additional liquor license would go over in the conservative community and no concerns have been raised about this. The PLCB informed Mgr. Bickhart that Mr. Kelly's Towne Tavern lost its liquor license, which was taken back and in essence has disappeared. If one thinks of the Borough as having a capacity for restaurants that needed liquor licenses to be productive, one restaurant has been lost within the Borough limits. He reported that typically these liquor licenses are traded or sold inside the county. Hood's Tavern in Freeburg had a liquor license available but it was purchased by Charlie Brown's. This was the last known available liquor license. Mr. Sanutti reported that if he purchases the liquor license from the PLCB for economic development he will not profit from it. It is issued to him only for the specific business only. If the business goes under or he sells the business, the liquor license is lost and cannot be sold or transferred to anyone else. Mgr. Bickhart agreed, stating that this is unique to this type of liquor license and this is one of the requirements that goes along with this arrangement. He stated there are actually more liquor licenses for restaurants to serve liquor, beer and wine along with food than are allowed by code in Snyder County based on population. The law is one license for every 3000 in population and there are more licenses than that in the county now. There is no motivation on the part of the PLCB to maintain a quota and so Mr. Kelly's liquor license had been removed from circulation as if it never even existed. If the county were to drop below the quota someone could ask for a new license. C/P Anderson asked if the Borough's role in this is to request the special license from the County. Mgr. Bickhart stated the County really has no role in this except that there can only be one issued for all of Snyder County in any year. The PLCB issues the license to an applicant who has a letter from the Borough Council stating that they agree that this application meets the requirements of economic development in the Borough.

C/P Inch asked about prices for liquor licenses. Mgr. Bickhart stated he heard a rumor that Charlie Brown's paid \$100,000 for the license from Hood's Tavern. He knew of another one that had at one point been offered for sale for \$60,000. C/P Inch expressed concern about the Borough's stimulating competition between businesses, especially businesses downtown who may have paid \$50,000 or \$60,000 for a liquor license. C/P Mengel stated that those businesses do have the ability to profit from the sale of their liquor license, which Mr. Sanutti will not have with this special license. Mgr. Bickhart reported that the cost to Mr. Sanutti will be \$25,000 to the PLCB, which is a standard cost. The reason the regular licenses sell for more than that is because they are so scarce. Mgr. Bickhart stated that his opinion is that the special license would actually be less advantageous at \$25,000 than the regular license purchased by a business for \$100,000 because the regular license can be resold in the future. Mr. Sanutti realizes that the day that he writes the check, his \$25,000 is gone. C/P Mengel asked if there is any liability on the Borough's part and Solicitor Cravitz replied the liability rests with the license owner and his insurance. Mgr. Bickhart stated he is concerned about equity, which is always in Council's mind. He stated he has had calls from many people who are interested in doing various kinds of projects in the Borough and for one reason or another they do not go through with them. He stated it might be reasonable to ask for other interest at this time before Council makes a decision to grant this liquor license to the first person to walk in the door. Mr. Sanutti reminded Council that he is the person who found this information. Mgr. Bickhart stated this would make the process more equivalent to the way the Borough sells and buys things. Everything is done through advertisements and open public notices. He is concerned that Council should take that step to make this open and public before a decision is made. He stated he does not feel the decision is for Council to make tonight, although they can if they wish. There has been no public disclosure of this issue and Council would be making a very public decision to benefit one entity over all the others. Mr. Sanutti stated that from his research he understands that there should be 45 days for people to come in and comment on his application. He stated he does not expect any kind of answer today on this.

C/P Anderson asked if this should go before the Planning Commission for discussion of building plans. Mgr. Bickhart stated Mr. Sanutti has agreed to take on the installation of the sidewalks and the fencing when he buys the property. The required paving for parking spaces will go through the Planning Commission for consideration at some point in time. He explained to Mr. Sanutti that in the past the Borough has granted a year for the construction of required paved parking spaces from the date that the occupancy permit is issued. Mr. Sanutti is requesting 36 months due to the size of the paving project. He has gotten estimates of \$40,000 to \$50,000 to pave the area. Mr. Sanutti stated that the restaurant will be small, with seating for 80 people inside. Mgr. Bickhart stated the original request was for 100 seats, for which the Borough ordinance would require 34 parking spaces. These parking spaces and the driveways are required to be paved, although the entire property does not have to be paved. The 34 parking spaces would take up half or more of the area at the old train station.

Mgr. Bickhart stated the other issue that Mr. Sanutti is requesting consideration on is the sanitary sewer tapping fees. Based upon a 100-seat restaurant the tapping fees are estimated at \$13,500 by Borough regulations. C/P Mengel stated the Borough in the past has allowed postponement of this in order to base it on actual usage. Mr. Sanutti stated that the sewers are already connected and the tapping fees have already been paid once. He does not understand what he is being charged for. He stated for a small family business this is a lot of money just for tapping into the water and sewer. Mgr. Bickhart explained that while it is called a tapping fee it actually has nothing to do with tapping into the lines. It is a privilege fee for the privilege of adding additional flows to the sewer system that has been constructed over the years by the Borough and the Borough residents. This is a way of equating a value to the fact that the train station had one little bathroom and a restaurant will have a ten-fold increase in the impact on the sewer system. As people increase the use of the sewer system the tapping fee, or the convenience fee, goes up. It reaches a maximum for every property and it never goes down, but it always stays at that high level. The next restaurant coming in would not have to do this. C/P Herb asked whether the increased usage would be reflected in the water and sewer bill, stating he does not understand the difference between the bill and the tapping fee. Mgr. Bickhart explained that the quarterly bills are calculated to cover the operation and maintenance. The tapping fee is a way of putting funds back in the sewer fund to replenish monies that were used to build the sewer system in the first place. The tapping fees are assessed at the time an occupancy certificate is issued as a means of making sure the fee is

paid. In the past it has been deferred until the actual occupancy and recently the Borough has entertained deferring it until after the first year of operation. The \$13,500 tapping fee is based upon a guess of the rate of flow from the restaurant. At the end of a year there will be a year's worth of flow records and the fee can then be calculated based upon actual flows. C/P Herb asked if these fees apply only to businesses or if this is also assessed when a house changes owners. Mgr. Bickhart explained that one tapping fee equals a single EDU. He stated the fee would be assessed for any lot that does not currently have a sewer connection. A vacant lot would be assessed at the time a building permit was obtained to build on the vacant property that did not have a tapping fee. Solicitor Cravitz stated that additional fees are assessed when there is a change in use affecting the flow coming from the building. In Mr. Sanutti's situation it is the equivalent of taking ten taps that could have gone to ten other properties in the Borough. If those ten other people come later and there is no capacity for them it is because Mr. Sanutti has it. Then the Borough has to raise money through sewer fees or borrowing to increase its capacity. That is part of the reason for imposing tapping fees, so that everyone at the table who has been investing in the sewer system throughout all the years are not taken advantage of by someone new who has not been making those payments. This makes it equal for everybody. Mgr. Bickhart stated a residential line is one EDU. If someone buys that property it does not change anything. If someone converts a property from a single family to a two-family property the Borough would ask for an additional tapping fee at that point in time and then the property would always have 2 EDUs associated with it. It is different going from residential to non-residential or commercial uses because it is based on sewage flows which can be many EDUs worth. In this case the proposed restaurant is equivalent to 10 EDUs. Solicitor Cravitz explained that when Susquehanna University built new dorms they used a lot of EDUs. A lot of use was taken out of the sewer system and was not available to regular homeowners in the Borough. The same thing happened when the school district built the intermediate school. The schools paid quite a bit of money for the EDUs. Mgr. Bickhart stated it is a way of paying back the community for the fact that the community has invested in the sewer system. It is regulated by law and the Borough does not have carte blanche on what the fees can be. Four years ago the Borough cut the fees in half because it was felt to be an unnecessary burden to new developers and new development is something that is favored. C/P Anderson asked if the EDU figure for Mr. Sanutti's proposed restaurant will change since it is now expected to be an 80-seat restaurant rather than a 100-seat restaurant. Mgr. Bickhart stated the EDUs would be lower and if Council works it out to do the computations after the first year based on actual flow it would probably be even lower. He stated he prefers to do it this way. When the Chinese restaurant came to town they had a cost estimate of 3 EDUs and he knew it was high. The Borough agreed to a step program, where the restaurant paid an initial amount and after the first year it was reevaluated and adjusted. The Borough Ordinance gives the Borough the right to do recalculations. Commercial uses are reevaluated all the time and if the usage increases by an EDU the business is sent a notice that they owe an additional tapping fee. Mayor Carroll stated this was done with the new Selinsgrove Inn, which already had 3 EDUs and requested additional fees be assessed after a year of occupancy. Mgr. Bickhart agreed that Council did defer their fees for a year.

Pres. Handlan stated Mr. Sanutti has given Council a lot to think about. C/P Mengel suggested that Mr. Sanutti get his plans together and present them to Zoning. Mr. Sanutti stated he has plans already and wants to know what his next step should be. Pres. Handlan asked if the purchase of the property is contingent on any of the issues discussed and Mr. Sanutti stated that it is. Everything that was discussed is written into his sales agreement. He stated his settlement date has been pushed back to May 30 in order to get these issues resolved. It was the feeling of Council that this may not be enough time. Mgr. Bickhart stated that as far as what the Borough requires, Mr. Sanutti should come in with his architect and Mgr. Bickhart can show them what the Borough needs. Most of the information is already available. A final seating decision is needed, as both the tapping fees and the parking requirements are based on number of seats. There are no proposed changes to the footprint of the existing building so the issues will not be time consuming. C/P Anderson asked if this has to go before Zoning and then back to Council. Mgr. Bickhart replied that with this complex of an issue it would go first to the Planning Commission and then back to Council if necessary. If any issues will be waived the Planning Commission will need to know that when issuing a building permit. If this were simpler, a building permit would be issued in the Borough office with no other contact. C/P Mengel stated something should be published soon in order to pursue the equity issue so that Council can make a decision at the May meeting. Mgr. Bickhart stated he will configure a request for proposals if that is what Council wishes him

to do and he will place an ad in the paper to invite people to come by the next meeting with their materials so that Council can evaluate them. Mr. Sanutti asked when he can get answers to his issues, as he is moving ahead with his purchase of the property. Mgr. Bickhart stated Council has policies on waiving the tapping fees but if they want to deviate from those policies they will have to make that decision. If Council wants to follow the procedures that they have followed before they would then require the parking lot to be paved within one year of occupancy and the tapping fees would be deferred until after the first year of operation and based on the actual water consumption. Solicitor Cravitz stated Council may want to wait for other proposals, as someone may come in and say they want the same opportunity and they will pave the parking lot and they will pay the tapping fees and they do not care what it costs. Pres. Handlan stated the train station is under contract so this will not happen. Solicitor Cravitz stated the people from the Selinsgrove Inn may come in and say they were not aware that they could get a liquor license and they now want one and are willing to pay whatever it costs to do so. C/P Inch stated there are a lot of answers that Mr. Sanutti needs and he asked if he could move his settlement date back even farther. Mr. Sanutti stated he made the settlement date May 30 so that he would have time to get all these issues resolved. He stated he could talk to the realtor, Dan Price at the Bowen Agency, to see if it could be moved back but he does not want to break his contract by doing so. He stated that if he breaks his contract on the settlement date he will lose his deposit. C/P Anderson suggested that Mr. Sanutti find out if this is possible and if, at the May 1 Council meeting, it looks like Council will not have answers to all the issues, then Mr. Sanutti could push the date back. C/P Mengel stated to Mr. Sanutti that the first thing he needs to do is get his plans together and review them with the Borough office and then take them to the Planning Commission, which meets in two weeks.

Elizabeth “Betsy” Fordon – Library utilization of old police space in Borough building basement –

Ms. Fordon requested that the library’s administrative offices be allowed to take over the space in the basement vacated by the Selinsgrove Police Department. She stated this will not solve all the problems and the library will continue to look into expansion of the building or construction of a new building. The library would pay for any improvements necessary to move the offices downstairs. C/P Mengel asked if the library is proposing to use all of the rooms, as she understood that Sheri wanted some of the rooms for storage. Ms. Fordon stated that the idea was for the library to use all the rooms. They have looked at all of them and figured out what they could put in each room, such as storage for craft programs, preparation for crafts, computer equipment. Mgr. Bickhart stated that the Borough offices currently share a storage room with the library and if the library could use the downstairs then their materials would be vacated from the storage room, giving the Borough offices sufficient storage space in the existing room. He stated there is an evidence vault downstairs which the library would not be allowed to use. C/P Anderson asked about the mural on the wall that should not be repainted. Ms. Fordon said the mural is okay and they would not disturb it; they would just paint the walls around it. The mural would be in a reception area, with files and a waiting area. A few Council members suggested putting this to a committee. Pres. Handlan asked who on the Borough staff would know what the Borough’s space needs are, stating that the committee probably would not know. Sheri stated that another idea for some of the space was to put the Main Street Manager’s office there, which would be a contribution on behalf of the Borough. Mgr. Bickhart stated that another problem with that space is that it is all interconnected. At one time it was open and it has been partitioned off. It is separable by block walls from everything else down there and it is difficult to proportion off without substantial reconstruction so it would be difficult to get another space in there for the Borough. Across the hall is the area that was the United Way offices, which was given to the Friends of the Library and is now being used for storage for the book sale. The library and the Friends of the Library could go together, which would recreate the office space and this could be used for the Main Street Manager. C/P Anderson suggested that Ms. Fordon get together with Mgr. Bickhart to come up with a plan that makes the most sense and meets everyone’s needs. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has had no inquiries from anyone interested in leasing the space and he knows of no one that he could approach about it. It was asked if a non-profit entity could lease space to a for-profit entity and make money on it. Mgr. Bickhart replied that it is not desirable but it is possible. C/P Mengel stated the space has not been advertised as being available. Pres. Handlan stated it is not that desirable of office space. She stated she will put a committee together for this, but she is concerned about people’s time commitments and whether the committee will have all the information they need to make a recommendation. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has had a chance to think about this and he knows how the spaces in the basement are used and what kinds of problems are created. What he has outlined will

solve some of the problems including conflicts in the shared space and access issues. He stated there are three doors that lead into spaces that were designed for one purpose. The walls are non-bearing and can be removed so that that side can look just like the other side, opened up as a community room. C/P Anderson stated it would be nice to be able to do this without much renovation given the future planning for the library. This would be a temporary solution to as many problems as possible. C/P Mengel asked if she could meet with Mgr. Bickhart to go over his plans, and Ms. Fordon would also be included in this meeting. She asked if there would be any additional compensation from the library for the use of these facilities if it is approved. Sheri stated the Borough does not receive any money from the space now and any additional costs incurred would be paid by the library. Margaret Siro asked about the storage in the back room of the office that used to be the United Way office. Mgr. Bickhart stated that is storage for SPI and the Selinsgrove Chamber of Commerce, which go along with the Main Street Manager program, so those things could stay there. Mgr. Bickhart, C/P Mengel and Ms. Fordon will meet for discussion and planning on this.

Deborah and Douglas Hammett and Donna Graybill – Truck and RV parking on Tenth Street – The Hammetts and Mrs. Graybill expressed their concern about the oversized RV that is parked on Tenth Street. They feel it causes a hazard to motorists, who cannot turn left from Tenth Street or right from Penn Street. Mrs. Graybill stated that this is a school area and the Rotary field is right there. Parents are dropping children off and the RV blocks visibility. She feels this is lowering the property values in the area. Mr. Hammett stated the person who owns the RV also drives a tractor-trailer, which he parks along Penn Street and this limits visibility at the stop sign on Tenth Street. He stated there is another truck at Sherman and Tenth parked in front of the stop sign so motorists cannot see the stop sign. Pres. Handlan stated she has brought this issue to Council and the Safety Committee is looking into it and are working on a letter to the owners of these vehicles. C/P Hetherington reported that a letter will be given to these people asking them to park elsewhere but he feels it will not work. He thinks it will take some more drastic ordinances. Public parking is public parking and it is not designated whether it is for bicycles or tractor trailers or anything in between. There is not even an ordinance preventing residency in a motor home within the Borough. He has gathered some sample ordinances that may help with this issue, although at this time the Safety Committee has not come up with a solution. If the vehicle is parked too close to a fire hydrant or violates any law pertaining to any motor vehicle then the Borough can take enforcement action. He stated even large trucks, SUVs, and cars with tinted windows can cause problems if parked near intersections. Mr. Hammett stated that Northumberland enacted an Ordinance two years ago to deal with these types of issues. C/P Hetherington stated the Safety Committee is trying to determine if Selinsgrove needs an ordinance, but he does not have an answer tonight. The RVs and tractor trailers are legally parked at this time and there is nothing the Borough can do about it. He stated the police cannot enforce something that does not exist. Pres. Handlan stated a letter has been drafted that will go out to all the large vehicles that are parked in the Borough. The Safety Committee also has copies of ordinances from other municipalities that they might be able to use to come up with an ordinance for Selinsgrove. She stated this takes time, as the committee cannot meet every day. She agrees that this issue is a safety hazard on the Borough's small streets and hopefully a solution will be arrived at soon. Mayor Carroll stated that the back of the motor home is over the yellow line on the curb so that might be an issue that could be addressed. He asked if there is a distance that a vehicle has to be from the edge of a driveway and Chief Garlock said a vehicle can be parked right up to the edge of a driveway without any issues. Mgr. Bickhart stated that the motor home is so long that from the edge of the owner's driveway the back end of the motor home does cover parts of the yellow curb. He stated the letter does not waive complying with any of the requirements currently in place. He has identified some less objectionable locations in the letter. Even in the middle of the block on Tenth Street would be a better parking option for the motor home. C/P Herb stated that he is on the Safety Committee and he feels that the Committee has taken positive action by requesting voluntary compliance via a letter and that if that does not work the Borough is in a position to move forward with an ordinance, citing the fact that voluntary compliance did not work. He stated the committee is aware that this is not just an inconvenience issue but that there are safety issues involved. C/P Anderson asked if there is to be action on the letter. Mgr. Bickhart stated that he prepared a draft and the Safety Committee reviewed it and C/P Hetherington got back to him, stating that the committee was in favor of it. It needed some tweaking so Mgr. Bickhart reviewed it and revised it a little bit to verify some of the places that were suggested as parking alternatives. He wanted to check with Truck World to see what they did and he has referenced

that in the letter. The letter is now the second version and he is suggesting that it be used. Chief Garlock has reviewed it but Mgr. Bickhart would like to review it with him again to make sure that some of the suggestions are still reasonable. The letter is basically finalized and if approved it will be placed on the vehicles to see if the people will voluntarily comply with the suggestions.

Motion by C/P Anderson to accept the letter as appropriately checked out with the police chief to be sure everything is correct and then to be distributed as quickly as possible. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

Mgr. Bickhart stated a record will be kept of who receives the letters. C/P Hetherington asked who will distribute the letters and if it will be done every day of the week. He asked how the length of time a letter has been on a vehicle will be determined. Mgr. Bickhart stated there are not that many; he is aware of three or four tractor trailer trucks that are parked in places that have caused complaints, and while RVs were not originally considered to be included, since this issue has come up it will also be included. Pres. Handlan called for a vote on the motion.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

C/P Mengel stated that she is in favor of the letter going out but she does not feel that the suggested parking on West Spruce Street from Troutman's to Market Street is a good alternative. C/P Hetherington stated the committee will continue to look into whether an ordinance is needed.

Harry Powers – Late Payment Penalty – Mr. Powers had sent a letter to the Borough regarding his late payment penalty. Sheri stated that on the back of the bill it states that failure to receive the bill does not waive the penalty. She stated that at Mgr. Bickhart's suggestion the new bills that are being printed will include the due dates of all the bills so that people can call if they have not received their bill. Mr. Powers paid his bill but he did not pay his late charge of \$300. C/P Hetherington stated it is a shame for Mr. Powers' situation but the Borough has passed ordinances and they must be prepared to enforce them. C/P Anderson stated that the property in question is next to the chaplain's house. Mr. Powers is an absentee landlord and the university has a lease on the property in order to have it run right. The water bill goes to Mr. Powers' New Jersey address, not to the house. Sheri stated that she spoke with Mr. Powers and he understood everything she said but he still wanted to see if he could have the late payment dropped. C/P Herb stated he understands the Borough's concern about people who are chronically late in paying their bills, but for somebody who normally pays their bills on time this is a huge penalty and he is concerned about it. Sheri stated the penalty used to be 2½% and a lot of people got the penalty. When the bill goes two quarters or more you have to post the house. It costs postage and the Borough crew is sent out. She stated she was seeing a lot more of it than she is now. The 25% late penalty has drastically reduced the amount of times this happens. Mgr. Bickhart stated it would be interesting to know why, with a 25% penalty, bills are not being paid on time. If it is an honest mistake of people forgetting or not getting them in the mail or not paying attention, even if the penalty is 50% or 75% it will not change that reality. C/P Anderson stated that the entire bill with the penalty was \$1672, which sounds like whoever was in the house was running the water. Sheri stated until Mr. Powers got the bill he did not know the usage was that high. Sheri had it double checked and the consumption was back down so she thinks SU must maintain the house for Mr. Powers, which C/P Anderson confirmed, so they found a leak, fixed it and never told Mr. Powers. C/P Anderson stated Mr. Powers usually does not want to know what is going on in the house. The university took over the maintenance in order to maintain the lease and Mr. Powers pays for whatever the university does to the house. She stated Mr. Powers would have to know that some repairs were done in the house. Sheri stated that Mr. Powers has been a property owner long enough that he should have known that he did not get a bill. She stated she has people who call to say they did not get a bill and it is three days before she is due to mail them out. Council took no action on this; the penalty stands.

Borough Police Chief, Thomas Garlock – Acceptance of Resignation of Shannon Klopp effective March 31, 2006 – Mgr. Bickhart reported that he had a letter of resignation from Shannon Klopp dated March 15, 2006, which he read into the record as follows: "Due to personal reasons I regretfully submit this letter in anticipation of my resignation from my current position as patrolman with Selinsgrove Borough Police Department. With the status of my employment being honorable, I respectfully request

that the Borough review and identify my resignation as an honorable separation from my employment. My official date of separation will be Friday, March 31, my last physical day of uniformed patrol being Wednesday, March 29, 2006. I would like to take this time to thank you for your compassion and understanding in this matter. I thank you for the opportunity to work with you and the other members of your department. It has been a pleasurable and rewarding experience for me. Shannon Klopp.” C/P Hetherington asked if Chief Garlock has any problems with that letter. Hearing none:

Motion by C/P Hetherington to accept with regret the resignation of Officer Klopp. Seconded by C/P Anderson.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mgr. Bickhart asked Chief Garlock if there is anything he needs to do in order to record this as an honorable separation. Chief Garlock replied that Officer Klopp fulfilled his probationary agreement even though he did not fulfill his entire term of service. Mgr. Bickhart stated he will send Officer Klopp a letter accepting his resignation with regret and noting that it is an honorable separation.

Borough Police Chief, Thomas Garlock – Approval of List of Part Time Police Officers – C/P Anderson asked if this should be done in executive session. Mgr. Bickhart replied that if Council wishes to discuss either candidate it should be done in executive session. However, if Council is just going to accept the list then there is no need for an executive session. He stated the names being put forward for approval are Brian David Eichenlaub and Enoch Thomas Powell.

Motion by C/P Anderson for approval of the list. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mgr. Bickhart reported that the step that Council has taken is necessary because there are insurance provisions and liability issues, so not just anyone can be a part-time police officer. As Chief Garlock finds additional applicants he will bring them before Council for the same action. Chief Garlock is hoping to have a list of four to six part-time officers available to fill in on relatively short notice. The cost to the Borough is \$1,200 per officer for professional liability insurance. In answer to a question from C/P Mengel, Chief Garlock reported that Enoch Powell is a county detective for Snyder County as well as working for the New Berlin supervisors and the Mifflinburg Police Department. He stated he has more applications that he will be going through soon.

Borough Police Chief, Thomas Garlock – Review of revised Civil Service Commission list of eligible full-time police officers – C/P Reuning asked what happened to the large group of people who had taken the exam. Chief Garlock replied that three or four of them did not pass the test and some were lost to other job offers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Council Meeting recessed to an Executive Session at 8:49 P.M. for discussion of Personnel Issues. Council meeting reconvened at 9:25 P.M.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to hire Brian Eichenlaub as a police officer due to the resignation of Officer Klopp. Seconded by C/P Inch

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: ONE (1) – C/P Mengel MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:

Review List of Council Issues – Mgr. Bickhart reported that Gary has told him that the contractor will complete the work on the **Slivinski** issue this month.

Mgr. Bickhart reported that all three of the **sanitary sewer metering stations** are operable and have been recording information, with a week’s worth of data gathered so far. It will take at least two months to

have enough meaningful data to make predictions. The sewer rates will be revisited once Council has an idea of what the Borough will be spending based upon the flow rates. He stated one month is not enough data for an estimate, especially when this April is so much dryer than April of last year. He stated the Borough could also obtain rainfall records to compare months from last year to similar months this year. The idea is to find out if the Borough will save money on its debt service because of now being able to meter the Borough's flows. In the past the Borough paid whatever was left after the other municipalities paid their metered amounts. If there is some savings it will get translated onto a percentage of the debt service the Borough pays to ESCRA, which is a huge number.

Mgr. Bickhart reported that the **University Avenue sewer project** is substantially complete. One restoration needs to be made yet on a pipe joint that did not get closed and which was detected with the televising. There is also some restoration work to be done yet. All of the customers are on the new line so the old sanitary sewer line will be disconnected soon.

In reply to a question from C/P Mengel, Mgr. Bickhart stated he has not heard from the **school district on the Weiser Run issue**. He did hear that they are selecting a contractor but the work has not started yet. Mayor Carroll asked if Randy Varner got in touch with Mgr. Bickhart or if he has received a letter about the selection of a contractor. Mgr. Bickhart replied that he has not heard from Mr. Varner nor has he received a letter from the school district. Mayor Carroll will look into this.

C/P Hetherington asked if anything has been done regarding the university student rentals. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has tentatively selected a date in June, which he is waiting for Tracy Tyree to confirm, for the **Town/Gown Committee** to meet with the public. Mgr. Bickhart stated he would like to extend that invitation to the landlords as he did not schedule the regular February landlords' meeting this year in the hopes that the Borough could meet with them when there was something new to report. The landlords have been talking with each other and are continuing to better the system on their own. He stated he would like to have the landlords involved in the June meeting and would like to have information to share with them, such as the ongoing process when a violation notice is written by Chief Garlock, with a copy going to Mgr. Bickhart and a copy to the university. The university follows up on it, as does Mgr. Bickhart if the problem continues. Brian is interested in the Landlords' Association taking an active role in following the violations up with other landlords. Mgr. Bickhart would like to include an invitation to the Town/Gown meeting to Borough residents with the next water and sewer bill that comes out on the 20th.

C/P Hetherington asked what has been done following all the **arrests at David Street**. He stated he heard that the landlords were not going to enforce their lease agreement and he asked if Council should reconsider the permission that Council gave them to put additions on their property on Orange Street. He asked if this is false pretense if they are not going to enforce their lease. Mgr. Bickhart stated the landlords initiated the arrests, calling in the incident and reporting their tenants for the party. The landlords chose not to enforce their lease provision because the tenants had no prior history of problems and the landlords felt it was unnecessary and unreasonable for them to bear the cost of losing tenants. The Borough police also chose to cite the students under the Borough code rather than the State Police code because there was no history of problems with these students. Tom Rambo's office had no records of problems with any of these students either. The landlords also felt that the two girls were taken advantage of by their boyfriends, who instigated the party. Pres. Handlan stated Brian is taking action on some of his student tenants. C/P Mengel asked if the Borough has seen any income from the fines of the students. Mayor Carroll stated it takes some time because there is a process this has to go through, with students either paying the fines or having their day in court. There were over 30 citations issued that night at \$300 each, so the total amount is almost \$10,000.

C/P Inch stated the lower end of **Weiser Run** south of Orange Street should be cleaned out every two years through an agility agreement with the State. He stated this is overdue. The Borough does its part on the agility agreement and is owed quite a bit from the State. John Coukart walked this area last year and said it is still safe but there is sediment building up and if let go too long it will become a problem. Mgr. Bickhart replied that last year PennDOT had gotten rid of their Grade-All and did not have one to do the work so the Borough let it slide. He stated PennDOT has said that if the Borough needs a Grade-All PennDOT will made arrangements to get one, and he intends to hold them to it this spring. C/P Inch

stated even more than that is owed to the Borough and Mgr. Bickhart replied that Gary knows the status of the account. He stated PennDOT has done some things for the Borough, such as a road repair on a utility cut. Pres. Handlan directed Mgr. Bickhart to talk to Gary on this to put the pressure on PennDOT to get this done and to add this to the issues list.

PUBLIC HEARING – Consideration of Ordinance # 745, Changes to Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance

Council meeting ADJOURNED to a public hearing at 9:41 p.m. Solicitor Cravitz reported that Ordinance # 745 deals with an amendment to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance which deals with how runoff is calculated. The County Planning Commission reviewed the Borough's proposed Ordinance and expressed no adverse comments on the proposal. The Ordinance has been properly advertised. **Council meeting RECONVENED at 9:42 p.m.**

Motion by C/P Mengel to adopt Ordinance # 745. Seconded by C/P Inch.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS:

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: C/P Inch, Chairman

Payment and Ratification of Bills

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 – One request from Don Miller for the year 2005 in the amount of \$5.50 because it was actually paid and should not have been sent to Statewide Tax Recovery.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to grant the exoneration. Seconded by C/P Mengel.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Bid Tabulation on Anticipated Spring Cleanup Costs – C/P Inch reported there was only one bid for the Spring Cleanup from Danley's Disposal. Mgr. Bickhart stated for each year he tries to take the new unit prices and apply them to the quantities in prior years. In doing this for this year's unit price as applied to the quantity from 2005 the bill will be \$16,379, which is \$1,063 more than 2005's cost and \$1,379 more than the \$15,000 that was budgeted. The quantities were higher in 2004, partly because it had rained and the material was wet and heavier, so by using that year as comparison the bill could be as high as \$19,000, or \$4,000 over budget. He stated the price of steel is up so he does not expect any steel recyclables to stay on the street for very long. He is expecting quantities more like 2005 than 2004. Pres. Handlan mentioned the permit stickers that are being sold for refrigerators at a cost of \$7.50 each. C/P Mengel stated some municipalities charge \$15.00 to \$25.00. Sheri stated the cost is \$15.00, with the Borough paying half and the resident paying half. She stated residents can bring their ticket back intact for a refund of the \$7.50. Mgr. Bickhart stated last year there were eight refrigerators picked up but over 30 stickers were sold and only four people brought them back for a refund. The County recycling days have also added much that the Borough picks up and that schedule was included with the Borough Cleanup Days schedule to all residents of the Borough.

Motion by C/P Inch to accept the bid from Danley's Disposal. Seconded by C/P Anderson.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Review and Authorize signing of Application for County Aid – Mgr. Bickhart reported this is part of the routine annual activities. The application requests \$7,685 in County Aid, which is liquid fuels money that is reallocated back into the County. The Borough is applying it to a defined project and Council needs to authorize Pres. Handlan to sign the application.

Motion by C/P Inch to authorize Pres. Handlan to sign the application. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

C/P Mengel stated in regard to liquid fuels that the police are in desperate need of a new computer, with one computer for four officers, and she stated she heard a rumor that a free computer can be obtained through the liquid fuels fund. Sheri stated the free computer is only for the liquid fuels program and the computer has that software installed on it. She stated Chief Garlock has access to other monies and he should probably use some of them for a new computer. Mayor Carroll stated he will bring this up at his weekly meeting with Chief Garlock.

PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE: C/P Reuning, Chairman

Recommendation Criteria pertaining to Unsafe Sidewalks – C/P Anderson asked for a definition of a transverse crack. Mgr. Bickhart replied that it is a crack that runs across the sidewalk crossing the route of travel. C/P Reuning asked for Council's approval of the recommendations so that they can begin to be enforced. C/P Anderson asked if the existing criteria is in a Borough Ordinance and Mgr. Bickhart replied that it is not. He explained that it was adopted by policy rather than by resolution or ordinance. He felt the policy was not clear and concise enough to apply when notifying property owners of the need to improve their sidewalks. The Committee spent some time going back and started with the ADA requirements for a sense of what handicapped accessibility issues might be. The Committee talked with Jeff Whitman and also with a trainer for the blind from Mount Pleasant Mills who had some interesting suggestions in terms of what is a practical limit for the blind. The Committee will go through the Borough to get compliance with the criteria and if compliance is not good enough the criteria will be refined. Mgr. Bickhart stated the criteria are a practical list of reasonable guidelines to follow. If someone violates them then they have something that is definitely a tripping hazard and should be fixed. C/P Anderson asked if ordinary cement is slip resistant or if something has to be added. Mgr. Bickhart replied that slip resistance is a finish requirement, with sidewalks not being troweled smooth like a basement floor is, but having a brushed surface.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to approve the recommendations. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION / PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT: C/P Mengel Chairwoman

Recommendation concerning cooperative recycling program with SU – C/P Mengel reported that the Committee is recommending a two-month extension on the trial run for the cooperative recycling program with SU. This would be until the end of the school term. One of the concerns was that it is unsupervised so Mgr. Bickhart has agreed to do the supervision, but the Committee feels this is not his responsibility. Mgr. Bickhart stated he is only there to make sure the students do what they said they were going to do.

Recommendation on request received concerning composting of organic and garden wastes – C/P Mengel reported the Committee had received a letter from Ronald and Lynn Shaffer from a Harrisburg address. The Shaffers own property in the Borough at 110 South Front Street and 16 South Front Street and they are asking for the Borough to allow compost items other than garden compost, such as soft stem plants. They state they have checked the Borough's permit and Pennsylvania DEP says that it is allowable. However, the Committee feels that just because it allowable does not mean the Borough will allow it. They suggest that Mgr. Bickhart write the Shaffers a letter indicating that they can compost on their own properties. The County even sold composting bins a number of years ago. The problem

with soft stem plants is that this type of compost requires work such as stirring, turning and aerating. The items that are currently allowed are shredded and nothing more done with them.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS: C/P Herb, Chairman

Recommendations pertaining to the use of the Pump House by Kiwanis – C/P Herb reported that the Committee has not come to a decision yet but will be setting another date to discuss this. Kiwanis did not give a definite date when they would like to start using the facility. C/P Mengel stated that Kiwanis would be meeting once a week, which is four to five times a month, plus extra times and she feels that \$25 per month is not enough, as Sheri figured the utilities run \$6.24 per day. C/P Mengel stated she thought initially that the Kiwanis would be mowing the grass at the pump house but now they are talking about limited yard work such as trimming. In reply to a question, C/P Herb stated there are about 50 members in name in the Kiwanis organization, with about 20 members who are active. C/P Reuning stated he feels the Borough should break even only. Pres. Handlan stated the cost of the utilities is \$6.24 per day but the Kiwanis only meets for a couple hours on the days of their meetings. C/P Mengel stated she thought they have meals at their meetings too. C/P Herb stated they have been meeting at the Golden Corral so perhaps they will have their meetings at the pump house catered. C/P Mengel stated if a private person uses the facility it costs \$50. C/P Herb stated that these are all issues that should be addressed at the Committee meeting. Pres. Handlan stated she is concerned that the Kiwanis has to wait another month until the next Council meeting for an answer to this. C/P Herb stated he has spoken with Scott to let him know the Committee would not be presenting a proposal to Council tonight, so he is aware of this.

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: C/P Anderson, Chairwoman – C/P Anderson reported that the employees of the Borough need to be reminded of the existing grievance procedures and the policy approved last July so that they see that as a way with dealing with issues when they are in disagreement with the supervisor as opposed to bringing those issues to a Council meeting. The employees need to understand also that if they have a concern as a citizen about something in the Borough and they live here, they can come to a Council meeting and speak just like anyone else, but when it is related to an employment issue it must be dealt with within the context of the Borough's policy. She has met with some of the employees so far and she will continue doing so. The Committee's recommendation at this point is a letter that would be signed by Mgr. Bickhart and Pres. Handlan and would include a copy of the grievance procedure to reacquaint the employees with the policy.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: C/P Hetherington, Chairman – No report beyond what has already been covered in the meeting so far.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Earl Moyer, Chairman – No Report

ZONING HEARING BOARD: Glen Rohrer, Chairman – Minutes supplied for informational purposes.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: Dalton Savidge, Chairman – No Report

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD: Richard Norman, Chairman

Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan Advisory Committee meeting to be held April 20, 2006, 7:00 p.m., Selinsgrove Borough Council Meeting Room

Pres. Handlan asked Mgr. Bickhart to share information on money that Dick Norman has raised since he is not at the meeting tonight. Mgr. Bickhart replied that he had asked Dick to attend the meeting tonight to give a report but he had a conflict. He will attend next month and bring Council up to date on how well he has been doing with his fundraising efforts.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION: Mark Vergauwen, Chairman – No Report

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR: Pete Carroll – Mayor Carroll reported that he likes to know when individual groups meet within the Borough. He asked if people would send him an email or let Mgr. Bickhart know so that he can attend the meetings. He stated he is trying to learn everything so that if he needs to cast a vote in the case of a tie at a Council meeting he is able to make an informed decision. He stated there are certain things that as Mayor he cannot do and he understands this. He stated he attends all the Committee meetings, including Zoning and Civil Service. Pres. Handlan stated, as a reminder, that all committees must let Mgr. Bickhart know when they are holding their meetings.

Mayor Carroll reported that Council's action to put the sign on the police department building is a great improvement to the building. He stated he has reached out to people for the rest of the funding for the other sign. Mike Coyne from Susquehanna University called and asked for the balance due, stating that the university will cover the entire balance. C/P Hetherington stated there are a lot of people who need to be thanked for all their work to get the police department out of the basement. Pres. Handlan stated the police officers have done a lot of work on their time off and she hopes they have been formally thanked for that. Mayor Carroll stated Chief Garlock has certificates of appreciation and there is a list of people who will be getting those. Mayor Carroll asked for authorization to proceed with the sign, which should be completed by the end of the month. Pres. Handlan informed him that he is authorized to proceed.

Mayor Carroll reported that he has attended training and he is learning a lot from these sessions. He stated his training so far has almost depleted the \$1,000 that he was allotted and he asked the Finance Committee if they could forward unused training money from other people to him so that he can continue his training. The Finance Committee has requested that he stay with the \$1,000 budget. Mayor Carroll stated if he takes all the training that he feels is necessary he could be over \$2,000.

Mayor Carroll reported that he went to a meeting in State College dealing with the issue of regionalization of police departments. He asked if Council wants him to pursue this through the contacts he made or if he should hold off and see what some other local municipalities do. He stated everyone from Lewisburg and its surrounding municipalities were there. Sunbury is looking at regionalization as well. He stated there are only 33 regionalized police departments in Pennsylvania and they are very active. Pres. Handlan stated Penn Township and Monroe Township have no police. Mayor Carroll stated the first reaction of those municipalities is why should they pay for police services and raise their taxes when they have the state police. However, there are only a couple state police officers and they could be busy elsewhere when called. Pres. Handlan stated if the townships' residents were surveyed they would probably be in favor of police protection. However, if you ask the supervisors they would say no.

Mayor Carroll reported that a high school junior from Danville was at one of the conferences and reported on the junior council program. Mayor Carroll passed around some handouts and stated that this would have to be done by resolution if Council is interested in having a junior member. The recommendation is to have a student from a lower grade who would be around for a few years. All the information is on the handout for Council to think about. The junior member would not vote or go to executive sessions, but they do attend regular Council meetings and gain experience and interest. He suggested that if Council wants to pursue this they could make a resolution and then start searching now for a junior member for next year, getting teachers involved too.

Mayor Carroll asked Pres. Handlan if she received his email from the 27th in reference to Tom Rambo updating Council on Trax, as he did not get a reply from her. He wanted to make sure he had the correct address and she stated she has gotten quite a few emails from him.

Mayor Carroll gave Council members some pins. He stated that he appreciates all that Council has done for him.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR: Robert Cravitz

Update on Borough Complaint against Andracchio and Martin, damage to traffic signal cabinet at Route 522 and Broad Street – Solicitor Cravitz reported that around \$12,000 was received from Mr. Andracchio's carrier. The remainder of the money will be received from Mr. Martin's carrier. Mgr. Bickhart signed a Release and sent it in so the bill should be paid in full shortly.

Update on High Street Manor and Market Street Manor Real Estate Assessment Appeals – Solicitor Cravitz reported that these appeals have been settled. High Street Manor was settled at \$950,000. Market Street Manor was settled at \$682,000. The solicitor for the county and the school district asked that the Borough sign an agreement for intergovernmental cooperation, assessment appeal litigation costs and settlement, which calls for Snyder County to pay 22.92% of the appraisal and expert witness fees, with the school district paying 61.54% and the Borough paying 13.54%. This applies to both properties. Council needs to approve Mgr. Bickhart and Pres. Handlan to sign the agreement.

Motion by C/P Anderson to give this approval. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mgr. Bickhart reported that the Borough will lose about \$1,000 per property in real estate taxes.

Consider adopting Ordinance # 746 – Revisions to Speed Limits and Parking Ordinance – Solicitor Cravitz reported that this Ordinance straightens up some parking issues, with parking being permitted at all times on Pine Street from Market Street west on the south side 57 feet and from on South Market Street from Walnut Street north 66 feet. The rest of the Ordinance is based upon all of Broad Street being 25 miles per hour, 18th Street from University Avenue to Route 522 except for when school is in session from 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. when it drops down to a 15 miles per hour zone, Front Street from Chestnut Street south to the Borough line, Magnolia Avenue except for 200 feet in the school zone which is 15 miles per hour, Sand Hill Road from Market Street west to the Borough line. Essentially all Borough streets will be posted 25 miles per hour.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to adopt Ordinance # 746. Seconded by C/P Herb.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH ENGINEER: J. A. Coukart & Associates

Update on pending projects – Mgr. Bickhart reported the engineer's letter includes updates which have already been discussed. The engineer is working on the street and alley program and the utility program for 2006. The contractor will be working with the punch list to finish up the Streetscape project. The issues are weather and temperature dependent so will be done as soon as possible. The issue of Susquehanna University housing has not been resolved yet with the solicitor waiting for a letter from the university.

BOROUGH TREASURER: Sharon Badman

Review Treasurer's Report for March 2006 - Pres. Handlan asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's report. Hearing none, she stated that it is on file for audit.

BOROUGH MANAGER / SECRETARY / ZONING OFFICER: Mgr. Bickhart

Non-Police Matter Suggestions Update – Mgr. Bickhart reported he has not received any new complaints since last month. Most of the issues were addressed at the meeting this time.

Update of PROPERTY TRANSFERS and BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED, Janet Powers, Deputy Zoning and Permit Officer – No changes so no report this month.

Notice of Borough Auction – Mgr. Bickhart reported that the Borough auction is scheduled for this Saturday at 9:00 a.m. at the Borough shed and then continuing around 11:00 a.m. in the Borough building community room. The big thing this year is more than 60 bicycles to be auctioned off. The Borough also has some of the furniture that was left behind when the bank donated the new police station, as well as some furniture that is left over from the police department’s move. The desks and chairs are not in good enough condition to keep. The library will be given a chance before Saturday to see if they want any of the furniture but they have not been interested in this in the past.

Reconsideration of Troy Hendrick’s request concerning the installation of the fence and sidewalks at the former Train Station – Mgr. Bickhart reported that when he spoke with Mr. Sanutti on the phone, Mr. Sanutti was not aware of this obligation and there was no discussion of how it would be resolved with the sale of the property. This concerned Mgr. Bickhart a lot and he wrote Troy Hendrick a letter indicating to him that the Borough had extended the time for him to complete this work and it is now well past due. He suggests that Council get on the record with a letter from the solicitor advising him to perform this work inside of a specific period of time. If he can transfer the obligation to Mr. Sanutti with the sale that is fine but the Borough wants the fences and sidewalks completed. Mr. Sanutti has agreed that he will bear the responsibility and Mgr. Bickhart has a copy of a signed sales agreement wherein Mr. Sanutti indicated that the work will be done if he buys the property. Mgr. Bickhart stated that Troy was going to fix up the train station and in the course of doing that he was going to install the fence and sidewalks. Based upon that assurance, Council granted extensions but now the circumstances have changed. Troy is going to sell the property and Mgr. Bickhart feels that the deal is off with Troy so Council needs to compel him to do the work. C/P Herb suggested a deadline date of August 1 to allow enough time for the deal with Mr. Sanutti to go through or fail. Solicitor Cravitz stated Council could specify the work be done by August 1 but require that a contract to perform the work be received in his office with 45 days of receipt of the letter.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to authorize Solicitor Cravitz to send a letter as stated above. Seconded by C/P Inch.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

SELINGSGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Donald Bottiger, Chairman – No Report

EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY REGIONAL AUTHORITY – Dave Faust and Bob Dagle, Chairmen – No Report

NORTH-EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY JOINT AUTHORITY – C/P Hetherington and Mgr. Bickhart – No Report

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

C/P Reuning announced that the Committee to negotiate of a new police contract will meet on April 24 at 2:00 p.m. Chief Garlock has been notified of this and Mayor Carroll is notified tonight. C/P Reuning stated he will write a letter to Mark Wolfberg. He stated if anyone has anything they want brought up for consideration at that meeting to let him know.

C/P Mengel stated that she thought money was put into the budget for have Gannett Fleming do a report on the water infrastructure. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has not contacted them yet. C/P Mengel asked that this be put on the issues list so that it gets done.

MAYOR – Nothing

OTHERS

Mgr. Bickhart reported that Council has been requested by the Snyder County Libraries to appoint Carol Handlan to fill a vacant Board seat. Pres. Handlan stated she was actually appointed in January but she needs Council's official approval. However, the original letter went to the Snyder County Commissioners rather than the Borough Council.

Motion by C/P Anderson to approve the appointment of Carol Handlan to the Board of the Snyder County Libraries. Seconded by C/P Mengel.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Pres. Handlan asked if anyone on Council would want to assume George Kinney's responsibilities on the Library's building committee. No one volunteered and Pres. Handlan stated she did not think anyone would so she went to their first meeting last week and she has no problem continuing to do this. She stated things are finally happening and they are beginning to move forward, although it will be several years before any building or remodeling is begun. An architect has come in and done nine different versions of a stand-alone building. There will be sketches done on a shared building with the library and the Borough, and sketches will also be done of the present Borough office building with some preliminary modifications already being done. Pres. Handlan asked Council to begin thinking seriously about what they want for the Borough offices. She asked that Council think about what happens if the library moves out of the present building. Does the Borough want to be a stand-alone office too or do they want to stay with the library? C/P Anderson stated the library should be in the downtown and Pres. Handlan agreed. She did state, however, that the library is looking elsewhere too. C/P Anderson stated she could not imagine how the library could afford to sustain a stand-alone building.

Pres. Handlan stated there was also some talk of M&T Bank donating their old building to the Borough or to SPI so that the Borough offices could move there and the library could move forward with the current Borough building, which has limitations due to the concrete block construction. C/P Hetherington asked if there was any interest from Council in moving to M&T Bank. Pres. Handlan stated Council should start entertaining these kinds of thoughts. Mgr. Bickhart stated he is trying to organize a meeting for Thursday morning to start discussion again on an idea of what the community would do with the building if the Borough could convince M&T Bank to donate it to the community. The problem with this is that to increase the probability that the bank would donate the building the Borough needs to have some idea of what they would do with it. Joe Kleinbauer has made significant inroads and is on the Board of Directors of the bank locally. He will have a meeting next month with someone higher up in the bank to ask again for the donation of the building. C/P Anderson asked if the building would be suitable for Borough offices. Mgr. Bickhart replied he has never really been in the part of it that would be offices. There is a board room and offices upstairs. The building's second floor is not handicapped accessible. C/P Anderson stated an elevator would have to be added inside if the Borough offices would be on the second floor. C/P Mengel stated that would not be the case as there is not enough room on the second floor for the Borough offices. The board room is not as big as the current Council chambers and there is also a small luncheon room and a bathroom on the second floor. Mgr. Bickhart stated it would make a better restaurant than Borough offices, which he has mentioned to a number of people who have called and asked about projects in the Borough. If SPI could have a business partner and knew what they would do with the building that would be enough of a connection to get the building given to SPI, have SPI lease it to an organization and get the proceeds from the revenues to operate SPI's program going forward, making it a money-making entity and an economic development in filling a building and bringing in a new business. Anthony Sanutti was not interested in this because the building did not meet his style of business. Pres. Handlan asked C/P Inch to have the Finance Committee do some exploring with Lewisburg regarding their budget to determine other sources of revenue for the Borough.

Pres. Handlan reported that some of the email exchanges related to when Council received notice that Officer Klopp had resigned included stinging comments. She asked Council how quickly and in what format they want to be informed of things. She stated she got a copy of the resignation letter and she needed to find out some facts before she could send out information to everybody, but by then there were so many emails that she just let it go. She stated there should not be multiple sources of information and

an attitude of who can get to whom first. She stated she prefers to do her little updates that she did her very first month and then if Council needs to know something they can ask, using her phone number or her cell number. C/P Mengel and C/P Hetherington stated they do not like to be asked about something on the street by a Borough resident and not know what the resident is talking about. C/P Anderson and C/P Reuning expressed that nothing can be done to stop rumors and they have no problem stating that they were unaware of something but will check into it. Pres. Handlan stated she wants everyone on Council to work in harmony. Not everyone will agree, and that is okay because it is healthy to disagree. However, she wants everyone to have respect for each other and she wants there to be a channel to communicate. She stated she will pass out messages to Council. If someone hears something they should call her. If someone emails her she may not be able to get to it for a couple of days because she cannot accept email at work unless it is an emergency. Council members can call her on her cell phone at any time. Mayor Carroll and C/P Mengel stated they had tried to contact Pres. Handlan by email recently and got no reply. Pres. Handlan stated she will check to be sure her email is working properly. She stated she has her cell phone with her at all times and she has voice recorders on her telephones at home. She stated she should not be using her state position to do Borough Council work so the best way to get hold of her is by her cell phone. She stated she will do her best to return any messages within 24 hours. C/P Anderson stated she likes Pres. Handlan's updates and she is happy to get information in that way. Pres. Handlan asked for Council's agreement to do a better job of communicating. She stated she will send out notices so if anyone hears anything or knows something they can notify her and she will share it with Council so everyone gets the same story at the same time on the same day.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made by C/P Herb at 10:59 P.M.

Attachments: None