

SELINGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 1, 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; Recording Secretary D. Long; Daily Item Reporter Marcia Moore; Borough Residents Brenda Fabian, Ryan Mack, Linda Richards, Amanda Ritschard, Joseph and Margaret Siro, Arthur Watt; Parks and Recreation Director Dick Norman; Pool Consultants Ashley Metzger and Susan and Ted Wallover; SARI Members Kate Andracchio, Bill Gaskins, Ellen Heintzleman, Chris Reiland, Bridget and Patrick Reilly, Brian and Jill Tomko; SPI President Judy Spiegel

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 APRIL 3, 2006:

Motion by C/P Inch to approve the minutes as presented. 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 March 2006 – There were no questions from Council regarding the report. C/P Hetherington stated that his neighbor asked to have his appreciation expressed to Officer Wolfberg regarding an incident on Saturday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. which Officer Wolfberg handled very well. Chief Garlock introduced Officer Brian Eichenlaub, the newly hired patrolman. Brian had been a patrolman for the Borough of Shamokin Dam and the Borough of Middleburg. He has over four years of experience. He began working last Tuesday and volunteered to work over the weekend to get some firsthand experience of problems that are encountered on weekends.

Chief Garlock reported that this past weekend was Spring Weekend at Susquehanna University, which is usually a busy weekend for the police. He prepared a report for Council showing that duty officers were staffing every shift, along with an additional officer on Friday and Saturday from 10:00 to 3:00. These officers were paid with Highway Safety Grant money. During the weekend there were 74 calls handled either through county dispatch, received at the station, or that were officer initiated. Twenty-two calls involved off-campus issues and eight were on-campus issues, meaning 41% of the calls received during the three-day period involved student activity. Of the university-related calls nine involved violation of state or Borough statutes regarding alcohol restrictions, eight involved disturbing the peace or disorderly conduct, one was a drug violation, one was vandalism, and three involved other crimes, the most serious of which was an aggravated assault on a university student. Of the nine alcohol-related violations 13 individuals were charged, six people were charged with disorderly conduct or disturbing the peace, one person was charged with a drug violation and one person was charged with vandalism. The most serious incident that occurred over the weekend was the assault on the student at High and Sassafras Streets. The student had significant injuries as a result of this incident. A press release was given out today regarding this. Another incident took place at BJ's where a student graduate of SU returned and got himself arrested and charged. The police were also doing other things over the weekend beyond just

answering University calls, the most serious of which was that one of the police cars was vandalized. This was repaired by the officers themselves and there are no suspects on this. Two individuals were arrested for urinating at the back door of the police station. They were observed by an officer on foot patrol at the time. Regarding the influence of Trax on off-campus and on-campus issues, Chief Garlock reported that the club was full on Saturday but not on Friday. There were still incidents occurring on campus and parties in the Borough on Orange, Water, Market, and High Streets. Some of these parties calmed down and some did not. On Saturday one civilian complaint was received regarding a loud party at 502 North Market Street. Seven people were arrested and the party was shut down. No other civilian complaints were received. Two police cars were out on Friday and Saturday nights, with three officers on duty Friday night and four officers on duty Saturday night. Trax may be having some effect on activities on and off campus but as far as alcohol consumption Trax is giving an alternative only to individuals who can legally be served. The underage students are still holding off-campus parties. Chief Garlock reported that last year during Spring Weekend there were only two officers on duty whereas this year four officers were on duty. He asked Council members to give him a call if they have any questions after reading through his written report. Pres. Handlan asked if any calls went unanswered or were answered by the State Police and Chief Garlock replied that all calls were answered and were handled in-house because the personnel to handle the calls were on duty. Mayor Carroll asked if Chief Garlock had spoken with Tom Rambo on campus about any incidents they had. Chief Garlock replied there were incidents but he does not have a tally on those at this time.

Pres. Handlan asked if the part-time officers are on board yet. Chief Garlock replied that one part-time person will probably start this weekend. He hopes to have more names for Council to approve in the near future.

DH&L Fire Company, Ken Stettler – No report

Dick Norman, Selinsgrove Parks and Recreation Commission – Update on Life Trail Project – Dick reported that the summer program with the elementary students is progressing. There will be three college students working with the Borough this year, one returning student and two new students. They work through the PHEAA and Degenstein program, with PHEAA paying 40%, the Degenstein Foundation paying 50% and the Borough paying 10% of the students' wages. The program runs from the second week of June into August for a total of ten weeks.

Dick reported that work was started on Saturday on the Life Trail. A Boy Scout who is working for his Eagle Award is working on this project. He had 27 scouts there Saturday to build the pads for the equipment at three of the ten stations. Another Scout will be working on another three stations for his Eagle project. Dick hopes that the entire project, covering 1/4 mile in the wooded area, will be finished this fall. The entire project costs approximately \$40,000, with \$21,000 for equipment. Enough money has been raised to order the equipment, which should be here in a day or two. Dick checked with local people for sponsorship of the stations, and he has ten sponsors, one for each station. The sponsors include Evangelical Hospital, Sunbury Hospital, and local businesses. Six benches have been ordered from the high school to be placed around the area. There will be an amiesite walk through the site and there will also be picnic tables and two swings in the area. Evangelical Hospital has offered to promote the Life Trail, as they have done with the one in Lewisburg.

Dick reported that work on the ice skating rink is progressing, with donations being received. There is a Boy Scout who wants to do his Eagle project there, working on a deck for the building. The lights have been ordered and are waiting to be installed. The wiring is done for the sound system. The painting is done. The water problem on the field is being addressed. Hopefully the rink will be ready for use this winter.

Dick reported that while Kidsgrove is not really part of the Borough's responsibility, but donations are coming in and work is going on there, with a Scout doing an Eagle project at Kidsgrove.

Dick reported he has four scouts working on Eagle projects, as well as high school students working on summer projects and students from the Middle School who are working on the leadership program.

Pres. Handlan stated Dick should be commended for all his work. She stated thanks is just not enough for all the work Dick has done to bring in donations. She asked that Dick see that Mgr. Bickhart gets a list of the names of all the donors and sponsors. She stated Dick needs a trainee, someone who can be groomed to take his place when he retires.

Dick stated that with the installation of the Life Trail there will be activities in the Borough for everyone "from the cradle to the cane", from infants through senior adults.

Jill Tomko, Selinsgrove Area Recreation, Inc. and Ted Wallover, Wallover Architects – Pool Renovation Project Update

Jill reported that SARI is using the Council meeting tonight as their public meeting to hear and support pool architect Ted Wallover. Ted reported that his firm has been retained by SARI to perform a feasibility study for the renovation of the pool. His firm is developing a needs assessment study, is doing a survey and a feasibility study for the pool. This is being done in conjunction with the guidelines that have been established by the Keystone Program through Harrisburg. This study will be done in such a way that any future grant applications can be supported by the feasibility study. The initial stages of the project include information gathering, due diligence on-site in terms of the physical condition of the pool, building, and filtration equipment, and tallying survey responses, etc. When these state-mandated functions are completed then a series of recommendations can be compiled for the renovation of the pool that will ultimately bring the pool back into full code compliance and hopefully extend the useful life of the pool another 25 to 30 years. Ted reported that the average life span of a pool today is 25 years. The Selinsgrove pool has well exceeded that and has served the community quite well. The pool can be restored and brought back into service by updating it with new technologies and new equipment. His firm's study will identify this and he will put together a series of options for renovation and will also look at what the ultimate impact of replacing the pool would be even though that is not being considered at this time. Council will be given information that they need to know in terms of what the Borough's involvement will be down the road. Council will play a very active role in the process of securing Keystone funding for the pool renovations. When Wallover Architects completes their work it will then be the task of SARI to secure donations, financing and funding to make the project work. Because SARI is a non-profit, non-governmental agency, it is not entitled to secure grants from the state. Therefore, the municipality must be the agency that applies for the grants. Ted stated that his firm's job is to give a fair assessment of what can be done and what should be done to bring the facility back into compliance. The needs assessment survey has been started, with key person interviews being done over the phone. Tonight's meeting is one of the requirements involving having a public session. Ted then turned to Ashley Metzger for an update on the results of the survey and where the firm is in the process of completing the documents. Ashley reported surveys were sent to 25% of the households in the communities that the pool services, with 1,875 surveys being sent out; 468 have been returned, or 25%, which is a great response. There is no requirement for a specific return rate. However, the higher the return rate the more accuracy there will be in the results. About 100 of the returned surveys have been compared to the demographics and they are right on target for the community. Ashley stated that 22 successful key person interviews have been done since Thursday and they are also doing a special group meeting for Boy Scouts, child care facilities, etc. to find out what they would like to see at the pool, if they use the pool and why, and how the facilities can be improved to bring them in. Other public participation includes a study committee which helps with public input. From all these venues knowledge is acquired relevant to what the public's wants and needs are for the pool. The information is still being analyzed. Following the public participation, case studies will be done. This includes looking at five different pools in the area to find out what renovations they have done and how these renovations have made them successful. The results of these studies will be available in mid June. Then the consultants will look at the programs currently offered and future programs that can be offered to increase revenue. Any renovations will increase membership and revenues. Operational budgets and cost estimates will be studied. The study will develop three concepts, the committee will choose which one they would like to have as their main concept, and budget numbers will be developed for that concept. A draft report should be completed by the beginning of August. Following that will be another public meeting where information will be given to the public and comments will be received from the public to be incorporated into the study. Following this meeting, the report should be finalized in September. The committee will then have a year to gather funds and go after DCNR funding for renovations to begin in September 2007.

Ted reminded Council that this will be a cooperative effort between SARI and the Borough. Without the support of Council this project will not go forward, especially as far as Keystone is concerned because the main source of revenue will come from the State of Pennsylvania. Ted stated he is in contact with SEDA-COG and has had several conversations with them, and they will be kept informed of the progress of this as they will also play a role in this going forward. Pres. Handlan stated Council is in agreement that the Borough will support the pool. She stated Jill Tomko has already started some fundraising efforts. Ted stated the study so far has found that the pool can be maintained and kept open through this season and next season. There are no potential failures between now and when the grants can be secured to move forward with renovations. The fact that all the information will be gathered and all the data prepared will give Council and SARI a clearer picture of where things need to move forward with the pool. This information will allow the Borough to seek funding from the state and from outside sources. Ted stated that it is possible that an architectural firm could even have plans drawn up by September 2007 so that bids can be immediately solicited at that time. However, when going through the State for funding there are timelines that must be followed.

Arthur Watt – Mr. Watt stated that there are some properties in his neighborhood that are in very bad shape and he feels that something should be done about them. These are the properties at 304 and 306 East Chestnut Street. He stated one place needs a back wall and a roof. Work was begun last year but the Borough halted the work. Mgr. Bickhart reported that 304 East Chestnut Street is in the hands of CK-COG. It was damaged in the flood and the owners ran into problems with the substantial improvement definition. A number of contractors have contacted the Borough to start work on the property, they are referred to CK-COG, and then nothing else happens. The property owners did apply for a permit, which was denied by the Borough. The owners then proceeded on with the work and the Borough stopped them. The owners wanted to continue on with the work and the Borough put them in touch with CK-COG. The 306 East Chestnut Street property is not in as bad a condition and was being sold. Renovations were begun on this property but then they were stopped and Mgr. Bickhart is not sure why this occurred. The Borough has a Property Maintenance Code and in a situation like this where the property is in bad shape the Borough will ask CK-COG to do an inspection and make a recommendation. He feels that both properties will be found to be unfit for human habitation. This can then lead to a process of the property owners being asked to provide a schedule to bring the properties into satisfactory condition. He stated while CK-COG is aware of the one property they are not aware of the other one at this point. He can ask them to do an inspection and get in touch with the property owners to ask for a schedule. This information will then be given to the Borough for approval of the proposed corrections. C/P Mengel asked if the Borough has ever gotten a report back on a property that was turned over to CK-COG. Mgr. Bickhart replied that the Searer property took a long time but the Borough pushed for it to be resolved. The Cleon Bauman property is with CK-COG and no report has been received yet. There was some more discussion in which it was determined that the properties on East Chestnut Street were damaged during the Hurricane Ivan flooding and are currently unoccupied. Pres. Handlan expressed appreciation to Mr. Watt for bringing this to Council's attention and stated this will be followed up on through CK-COG.

William Hetherington – Mr. Hetherington spoke as a private citizen and not as a council person. He stated he lives at 57 Broad Street where years ago a truck damaged the bridge abutment at the corner of his property and Weiser Run. The state later came and tore the abutment down. Mr. Hetherington stated he has asked the state to fix the cement or put in a flower bed which he would maintain. Instead the state installed a yellow post. He asked if Council would give him some support and write a letter to PennDOT to ask them if they could do some improvement to this area. He stated on each side of Orange Street there is a metal railing, which at the least would look better than the yellow pole at his property. On the west side of Orange Street there is a beautiful planter that was put in by the Borough. The old style railing on C/P Inch's side of Broad Street is also very nice. Pres. Handlan directed Mgr. Bickhart to write a letter to PennDOT on behalf of Council regarding this.

Dick Norman – Dick asked Council if it would be possible to put a crosswalk, where cars would stop to allow pedestrians to cross the street, across Sassafras Street from the north side of the road over to the Anthony Selin Park. He stated there is no curb there but there is sidewalk. He stated Susquehanna has a crosswalk like this at their new field complex. Mgr. Bickhart stated the Borough would have to apply for

a permit from PennDOT to have the crosswalk added. After obtaining the approval from PennDOT the Borough would paint the crosswalk and put in signs at its own expense.

Motion by C/P Herb to apply to PennDOT for the permit. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:

Review List of Council Issues – C/P Inch reported that PennDOT spent three days last week cleaning out Weiser Run. Mgr. Bickhart reported that the inlet at Bob Slivinski's was not taken care of in April. Some final inspections on projects have been noted on the issues list including two sanitary sewer lines. The school district has obtained a permit from the Soil Conservation Service for the work on the Weiser Run washout and they are proceeding with getting a contractor in to repair this. There are some small areas to be done yet on the cleaning out of Weiser Run but the majority of the work has been done.

Pres. Handlan stated that the Landlord Ordinance Committee needs to be resurrected. C/P Mengel and Pres. Handlan are part of that committee. Someone is needed to replace George Kinney so that the process can move forward to completion by the end of June. Pres. Handlan stated she has input and comments from the landlord's association on the ordinance. C/P Hetherington stated he will serve on the committee. Pres. Handlan stated she heard on the radio that Lykens is implementing the same type of landlord ordinance on rental properties only. She will try to get a copy of their ordinance.

Request for Consideration of Economic Development Projects, PLCB License Requests, Railroad Station Restaurant Project – Mgr. Bickhart reported that after completing his feasibility study, Anthony Sanutti has withdrawn his interest in the railroad station project and will not be pursuing this issue further. However, Mgr. Bickhart has been contacted by two other individuals who expressed interest in acquiring a PLCB license through economic development means, one possibly later this year and one next year.

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 Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Consider Proposals for Purchase of an Additional Roll-Off for the Recycling Center – C/P Inch reported that the funds are available to purchase another recycling container at a bid price of \$5,930 from Winner Equipment Corporation.

Motion by C/P Mengel to award the bid to Winner Equipment Corporation and purchase an additional roll-off container. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Consider Sale of Recycling Trailer to Spring Township – C/P Inch reported that the Borough has a trailer that is not working out. Spring Township would like to purchase this trailer for \$1,893.30.

Motion by C/P Anderson to sell the trailer to Spring Township for \$1,893.30. Seconded by C/P Mengel.

Mgr. Bickhart stated the Borough has contacted DEP and he has a letter from them authorizing the Borough to make this sale. The sale to another municipality is a requirement and Spring Township is proposing to use the container for their recycling program. Pres. Handlan called for a vote on the motion.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Statewide Tax Recovery, Inc. - Exoneration Requests – Mgr. Bickhart reported there is one exoneration request for Joan M. Tressler for the year 2005; she was deceased in that tax year.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to grant said exoneration. Seconded by C/P Inch.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

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

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

Recommendation Concerning Selinsgrove Library's Use of Area Formerly Police Department – C/P Mengel reported that she, Mgr. Bickhart and Elizabeth Fordon met to walk through the facilities downstairs. C/P Mengel's concern was regarding storage for the Borough. The library currently has storage in the Borough's downstairs storage area and in the United Way office and in a room off the United Way office. Mgr. Bickhart assured her that if all the items are moved the Borough will have sufficient storage space. The United Way office is the proposed area to be used for the Main Street Manager's office. C/P Mengel reported that the Committee's recommendation is to allow the library to use the former police department facilities. C/P Hetherington asked if anyone checked into the possibility of renting the area to an outside entity. He stated he is not opposed to the library using the space but it would also be beneficial if someone would rent the space to help offset expenses in the building. C/P Reuning stated it is essential that Council help the library clear up an impossible situation, as it will take several years until a new library facility is built or the old facility expanded. C/P Mengel asked if the library will use Brian for cleaning in the downstairs offices. Mgr. Bickhart stated the library pays for Brian's services so the additional space would be additional hours of cleaning that the library would pay for. In answer to a question from C/P Hetherington, Mgr. Bickhart stated that Brian is a fulltime employee. He keeps track of his time for cleaning the community room and the library and the library pays for this time. Mgr. Bickhart suggested at budget time taking a look at the direct and indirect monies that go to the library so that Council can have an updated amount.

Motion by C/P Mengel to allow the library to move into the downstairs facilities subject to the Borough Manager's conditions. Seconded by C/P Anderson.

Margaret Siro asked if this included the Friends of the Library also. Mgr. Bickhart stated he tried to make this a condition when he talked with Betsy Fordon, but he has no authorization to compel her to do this. However, the deal included the Friends vacating the space where they are currently storing books. He stated he identified a space for the Friends of the Library that he felt Betsy was satisfied with, but ultimately this is between the Friends and the library. Pete Carroll asked what will happen with the mural. Pres. Handlan stated the library would like it moved and Mgr. Bickhart stated he is working on arrangements to have it moved.

Pres. Handlan stated it was brought to her attention that there was an incident downstairs in the bathrooms. A teenage boy had come up to the librarian to report that there were people in the men's room having sex. One of the library workers went downstairs and yelled at the people to get out and they did leave. Even with the library moving downstairs there will be some times during the day when no one is downstairs. Pres. Handlan stated these are public restrooms but she is concerned about the area. It could have been a small child down there and something could have tragically happened. She suggested locking the bathrooms and having people go to the library desk for a key to the restrooms. She has talked with the library and they are very concerned about this and they are willing to have a key at their desk. C/P Herb stated these are the only public bathrooms that he is aware of in the Borough. He feels that if they are locked they will be pretty much inaccessible to casual users. Chief Garlock stated that tonight is the first he was aware of this incident. He stated he is distressed that the library did not inform the police department of this. He will express his concern to the library staff regarding their failure to report this to law enforcement. He hoped that Council will also express their displeasure. The police department cannot address problems of which they have no knowledge. Mgr. Bickhart stated the library

reported the situation to him and he never thought about it as a police matter. Chief Garlock stressed that this type of incident should not be reported to the Borough Manager but rather to law enforcement. The report should come from the library because it is a public decency issue and a violation of the law. He stated had the library reported it he could have talked to the boy who informed the library of the incident. Now he has no idea who this boy is and it is entirely possible the library has no idea who the boy is either and he cannot follow up on this. He stated it is not the library workers' responsibility to yell at the offenders, but rather to report it to the police so the police can take care of it. Mgr. Bickhart stated the restrooms were locked years ago and a key system was used. However, it got to be an unnecessary inconvenience. There have been three or four issues with vandalism, including this current incident, in the 4½ years that he has been Borough Manager. He was concerned when the police moved out and he observed groups of young children running through the building unsupervised and no one being in the basement. He is trying to get the library to participate in keeping the community room doors locked with a master key. C/P Mengel stated that with the small number of incidents over the years she is not sure the bathrooms should be locked. C/P Hetherington cited some other incidents of vandalism in the past before Mgr. Bickhart was Borough Manager and suggested putting a sign on the doors stating that a key must be obtained from the library. Margaret Siro related an incident that happened when she was in Philadelphia involving a young child being badly molested. She cautioned Council to be aware that an incident can happen at any time. Pres. Handlan asked what is done with the bathrooms at the park. Mgr. Bickhart replied that the Kidsgrove bathrooms are unlocked all the time. The bathrooms at the pavilion at Anthony Selin Park are only made available to coaches or to people who rent the pavilion. Mayor Carroll suggested having the bathrooms locked during the times that the schools let out, such as from 3:00 to 3:30. He asked if the bathrooms are open when the building is open. Mgr. Bickhart replied that the building is locked when the library is closed unless there is a group in the building. When the library leaves they lock the outside doors. C/P Anderson suggested that Mgr. Bickhart meet with the library people to work something out. Mgr. Bickhart stated he will follow up on this.

Pres. Handlan called for a vote on the motion to allow the library to use the downstairs space.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS: C/P Herb, Chairman – C/P Herb reported that a proposal was put together for the use of the Pump House by the Kiwanis. He stated the proposal is for a fee of \$25 per month to cover utility expenses, plus some minor groundskeeping such as mulching and trimming. Mgr. Bickhart sent the outline of the proposal to the Kiwanis along with some definitions about usage and information on limitations. The Kiwanis has not yet gotten back to the Borough on this. Mgr. Bickhart stated the Committee dealt with the issues of compensation and indicated they would like to have a lease drawn up. He looked at some leases that the Borough has had and some rules and regulations. He came up with some other issues to be looked at before a lease is drafted. He updated the rules and regulations, with a copy being provided to Council. Pres. Handlan stated there are no penalties listed for violation of the agreement. Mgr. Bickhart stated the violation would result in the termination of the agreement, with the Borough not leasing to that organization in the future. He stated he also would consider adding a security deposit to the agreement, with the sanction for violation being loss of the deposit. He stated that violation of the alcohol regulation is actually an ordinance violation and a police offense. Pres. Handlan asked Council to forward any comments or suggestions for additional language to Mgr. Bickhart.

SAFETY COMMITTEE: C/P Hetherington, Chairman

C/P Hetherington reported that a meeting was held on April 11 with Mayor Carroll and C/Ps Herb, Inch, Hetherington present. Chief Garlock was sick and Mgr. Bickhart was at a SPI meeting that evening. The Committee has decided that regarding the trucks and RVs parked on Borough streets they will try using the letter. Mayor Carroll felt that the officers on duty on the 11:00 to 7:00 shift could put notices on the windshields of the vehicles. The officers would let Mgr. Bickhart know the location of the vehicles on which the letters were placed. The Committee would also like to put this information in the next newsletter. They will try this approach for three or four months before moving on to more drastic measures involving an ordinance.

C/P Hetherington reported that the Committee touched on the Crime Watch issue but there is a lot involved with this program, such as would it be the entire community or just a certain area of the community and is there enough support for the program. Training is required and there are manpower, liability and cost issues. He stated the Committee did not have input from Chief Garlock and while the Committee is not opposed to the program they do not have enough information at this time to make a recommendation to Council. He stated the Committee looked at police records to see if there are any areas within the Borough that are suffering from more crimes than other areas. He stated the corner of Sherman and Eighth Streets, as reported on by Matthew Cover at last month's meeting, has been a problem for a while. Pres. Handlan asked Chief Garlock what the Crime Watch Program actually does for the residents other than what the residents are already doing, which is reporting crimes if and when they see them. Chief Garlock reported that the Crime Watch Program can institute citizen patrols and has organized block wardens. The issue is that whatever is done must be managed. You cannot have people doing things under the aegis of the Borough through the Crime Watch system without some type of supervision, training and upkeep of the individuals who are involved. He stated if it is not managed properly a lot of bad things can happen and the liability lies with the Borough. C/P Hetherington stated there are expenses for things such as jackets or hats, radios, etc. Chief Garlock stated that some of this can be financed through grants. He stated the process is more complicated than just having some citizens say they want to do this. He stated he checked the number of calls arising from the people who sent the original letter to the Borough and there were no calls from September of 2005 until the time that the letter was written. The father of the person who wrote the letter made a call and it was on an incident when the police department was not staffed, over Labor Day weekend. When Chief Garlock came in to work at 8:00 Labor Day night the call had been turned over to the State Police. He stated he is not aware of any more activity from that particular area than from any other area of the Borough. Mgr. Bickhart stated when incidents are brought to his attention he asks if the person called the police and usually the answer is no. He stated the most important thing is to educate the public to call the police when they see something. Chief Garlock stated one of the advantages of a Crime Watch system is education of people, but only the people who express enough interest to join the Crime Watch and show up at the meetings can be educated. Mayor Carroll pointed out that no one who signed the letter even followed up on it or returned to Council to press the issue of a Crime Watch program.

C/P Hetherington reported that the Committee has suggested that no action be taken on the issue of brake retarders, or Jake brakes, at this time. There might be a need for the trucks to use these brakes when descending the grade on Route 522 at Broad Street. With the reduction in the speed limit within the Borough to 25 miles per hour, unless it is an emergency there should be no need for brake retarders to be used, especially on Market Street.

C/P Hetherington reported he did not have the opportunity to speak with Mr. Dagle regarding his lighting problem on South High Street. He also reported that he spoke with one person at Wood Metal near the liquor store regarding the issue of getting trucks in and out. This person was not aware of any issue so C/P Hetherington will go back again to see what he can find out about this.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Earl Moyer, Chairman – No Report

ZONING HEARING BOARD: Glen Rohrer, Chairman – No Report

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: Dalton Savidge, Chairman – Meeting May 2 at 6:30 p.m. to review Rules and Regulations

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD: Richard Norman, Chairman – Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan Advisory Committee meeting to be held May 18, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. at Susquehanna University Physical Plant for a tour and at 7:00 p.m. at the Monroe Township Building. The Committee is in the process of identifying people to participate in this process. Anyone who is interested can attend the meeting.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION: Mark Vergauwen, Chairman – C/P Mengel stated she had a telephone call from Bob Burd before the meeting tonight. He is wondering what is going on with the tree he had to pay to have removed due to his wife's accident in which she ran into a tree in front of Serendipity on Market Street. His insurance company had to pay to have the tree removed because it was considered a hazardous condition to let it there. The tree has not been removed and now it is blooming. If the tree is not going to be removed Mr. Burd would like the money to be used to plant more trees somewhere in the Borough. Mgr. Bickhart stated the tree was investigated by one of the landscapers whose professional opinion was that the tree would not survive. Because it is not the time of year to be taking trees out nothing was done and the tree is growing so far. This is not to say that it will continue to grow or that it will not have to be replaced in the future. It may be premature at this point to decide what is being done with Mr. Burd's money in regards to that particular tree. C/P Mengel asked Mgr. Bickhart if he will call Bob Burd and talk to him about it. She stated Bob was very upset that he has served on Committees in the Borough for a long time and he was not even informed that his insurance was being assessed \$900 for the tree. If it was such a hazard that his insurance company had to pay for it he wants to know why the tree has not been taken down. Mgr. Bickhart stated he would call Bob about this.

C/P Hetherington asked if anything was ever done regarding the local businessman who planted a tree that he was told not to plant. Mgr. Bickhart replied that to his knowledge the Shade Tree Commission has not done anything about this. He stated he does not believe the Commission has even met since then. C/P Mengel stated Council needs to find out what the Shade Tree Commission is doing. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has an issue that is mentioned in John Coukart's report regarding another street project with some curbing that affects some trees that need to be addressed. He stated he will be writing the trees up for suggested removal and seeing what the Shade Tree Commission has to say. This is a potential Eighth Street situation all over again.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR: Pete Carroll – Mayor Carroll reported that the Seals Den ribbon cutting will be tomorrow with Council being invited for refreshments on Thursday, May 11 between 12:00 and 6:00. This is the house that Cindy Vennie from the school district approached Council about last year.

Mayor Carroll reported that regarding the signage on the police department building, the small sign that had been on the Borough building was approved by Council to be placed on the end of the building on the High Street side. He stated he and Mgr. Bickhart have had a disagreement on what was approved so Mayor Carroll is asking for some clarity on this issue. According to Mayor Carroll, Mgr. Bickhart would like the small sign from the Borough building placed under the oval sign that is being paid for by the university. If that is the case Mayor Carroll asked that the "Police Department" letters be placed on the High Street side of the building so that people coming up Pine Street can see it. He stated that he does not want there to be overkill on the front of the building since it already says "Selingsgrove Police Department". C/P Anderson felt that the small sign on the side of the building all by itself would be lost. Mayor Carroll stated the Borough already has the small sign; if letters were put on the side of the building there would be a cost associated with that. Pres. Handlan suggested not putting anything on the side of the building. Mgr. Bickhart stated that when Mayor Carroll first started talking about putting signs on the building Mgr. Bickhart told him that he thought the oval and the Police Department bar should be put on the front of the building. Only the oval would have to be purchased. Mayor Carroll was not satisfied with this so he went over Mgr. Bickhart's head and came to Council with the proposal for the lettering on the front of the building and the bar on the side of the building. Council approved this and Mgr. Bickhart stated he accepted this and he is not fighting with Mayor Carroll on this. Mgr. Bickhart stated the buildings are his responsibility and his opinion meant nothing to Mayor Carroll. He stated the only sign for all the years that the police department has been in the Borough was the bar sign under the oval on the Borough building. C/P Reuning stated he feels all the signs are not needed and Council has wasted too much time on the issue. Mgr. Bickhart stated he is not trying to get Council to rescind the motion; he was more curious to see how far Mayor Carroll would take this issue. He stated this is indicative of a larger problem and this issue was, in his mind, an experiment to find out how the cooperation or lack of cooperation will play out moving forward. He stated he has seen no cooperation. C/P Reuning stated he did not want to see Mayor Carroll go to Susquehanna University behind Mgr. Bickhart's back for the

money for the sign because there are other issues involved other than raising funds. Mayor Carroll stated he does not like the approach Mgr. Bickhart is taking. He stated he is the mayor in an elected position, as are the Council members. Mgr. Bickhart serves at the Council's wishes and Mayor Carroll stated he did not go behind his back or over his head. He stated he talked to him and then he came to Council as he should. Council heard his presentation and discussed it and made a decision. If Council does not want the sign put up he has no problem with that, but Council did vote unanimously. Mayor Carroll had also stated to Council that he would seek outside people to pay for the sign and no one had an objection to that. He stated he takes objection to C/P Reuning's comments because the university supports the Borough. The sign cost \$925 and the university stepped up to pay for it to save the Borough some money. Mayor Carroll stated he does not feel this will damage any relationship with the university. He stated he does not want overkill on the front of the police department either, but it is a separate building and needs to be clearly recognized in the community. He feels signage is necessary on the side of the building. The bar sign really is not adequate in size but at least it is something and it is available at no cost. If it is not satisfactory it can be taken down. C/P Mengel stated that she feels a sign on the side of the building is necessary. Mayor Carroll stated he does not want to go over Mgr. Bickhart's head, and he does not feel that he is, but he wants to make the police department stand out in the community. He stated he and Chief Garlock are working together on this and are having weekly meetings. C/P Reuning pointed out that Selinsgrove has a weak mayor form of government and not a strong mayor form of government. He stated this makes a big difference. C/P Hetherington stated that since it was properly moved and seconded and voted upon to install the sign then that is what should be done. If Council did not properly understand what they were voting on then they will have to suffer the consequences but the sign should be put on the side of the building. C/P Herb asked if the large letters could be removed from the front of the building and installed on the side without disfiguring the building. He stated it is unfortunate that this issue has gone beyond an issue of aesthetics, and that Council probably did not understand the significance of what they were doing at the time they did it. He stated this has divided people in a way that to him seems silly and it has consumed entirely too much time. Mgr. Bickhart assured Council that the issue has not caused a division, but it has served to explain things that Council needed to know. He stated it is not a big issue, but he allowed it to go this far because he was looking to find out other things and he has found out what he needs to know. The sign is of absolutely no consequence whatsoever and it will not affect his working relationship with Mayor Carroll. Pres. Handlan, after hearing the discussion, stated that the sign will go on the side of the building, as had been voted on previously by Council.

Mayor Carroll reported that the Civil Service met for a full-day training course and the members appreciated Council allowing them to go to the training.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR: Robert Cravitz

Update on High Street Manor and Market Street Manor Real Estate Assessment Appeals – Solicitor Cravitz reported that he brought the agreements from Tom Clark's office, the Selinsgrove School District and the County regarding the resolution of the High Street Manor and Market Street Manor real estate assessment appeals. He stated he needs authorization from Council for Pres. Handlan and Mgr. Bickhart to sign the agreements on behalf of Council.

Motion by C/P Anderson to authorize Pres. Handlan and Mgr. Bickhart to sign the agreements.
Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Solicitor Cravitz reported that it was advertised that a public hearing would be held this evening on the matter of DH&L. There are two resolutions to consider. The first resolution is to pay off the interim loan for the construction of the new fire house, which balance is \$194,772 and for which the bank wants DH&L to get permanent financing in place. The second resolution is with regard to authorizing DH&L to apply through Swineford National Bank, who gave them the best rate and has held to the rate even though interest rates have gone up, to borrow the money for a closing sometime this week or early next week. This is similar to what Council did last November when DH&L borrowed money for their trucks. This has

nothing to do with the social club, which is not going anywhere at the present time. The fire company originally borrowed \$400,000 and anticipated getting grants and contributions to pay this off. This has not happened and the bank is asking that DH&L make this a permanent loan. This will not bind the Borough to anything but it will assure the bank that this will be a tax-free obligation by the fire company. If the fire company would go out of business, dissolving themselves as a public non-profit entity, by state law the fire company, the ambulance league, and all their assets and debts would come back to the Borough. The Borough owns the building and the land that the building is on. If regionalization came about then the Borough would still get the building and all the equipment. The length of the loan is 10 years. The fire company has additional debt related to the equipment recently purchased. C/P Herb asked what the fire company's total debt is and Solicitor Cravitz stated it is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$700,000. The Borough does not guarantee any of the fire company's loans.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to approve both resolutions, Nos. 2006 next in order, to pay off the interim loan and to obtain financing from Swineford National Bank. Seconded by C/P Mengel.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Update on Train Station Proposal and Letter to Troy Hendricks – Solicitor Cravitz reported that he wrote to Troy Hendricks, who dropped off the agreement with Anthony Sanutti, stating that the agreement would take care of the issue. However, since Mr. Sanutti has withdrawn his offer Solicitor Cravitz will contact Troy Hendricks again to inform him that he has until August 1 to do the work.

BOROUGH ENGINEER: J. A. Coukart & Associates

Update on Pending Projects – No report beyond written information

BOROUGH TREASURER: Sharon Badman

Review Treasurer's Report for April 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 Complaint Update – Mgr. Bickhart reported that people have brought many things to the Borough's attention. He still needs to investigate and follow up on some of the new issues on the list.

Update of PROPERTY TRANSFERS and BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED, Janet Powers, Deputy Zoning and Permit Officer – Information only

Quorum for September 11 Meeting – Mgr. Bickhart stated that he knows that three Council members will not be present at the September 11 meeting; therefore, the other four members must be present to establish a quorum. He felt it would be best to reschedule the meeting. It was decided that the September meeting will be held Tuesday, September 5, 2006.

Workshop – "Financing Your Future", June 27, 2006, Cumberland County – Mgr. Bickhart reported that Pres. Handlan came across this workshop that the Township Supervisors Association is hosting. Sheri is interested in attending the meeting so she will take Mgr. Bickhart's spot, as they do not both need to attend. Pres. Handlan is attending and if anyone else is interested they should let Mgr. Bickhart know so arrangements can be made.

Memo on Property Ownership – Mgr. Bickhart stated this is for information purposes only. He did a count of the properties in the Borough that are not owner occupied and the numbers concern him greatly as there are fewer and fewer owner occupied properties in the Borough of Selinsgrove. He stated he does not know what can be done about this. Margaret Siro asked if this information could be shared or if there is a privacy issue. Mgr. Bickhart replied that it is public information. Mrs. Siro asked if this involves properties and businesses on Market Street that are vacant. Mgr. Bickhart replied that this is strictly

residential properties that are owned by one person and leased to another person. He stated it changes the nature of the community from a community where people are vested, live here and raise their families here to a completely different kind of transient temporary resident.

Flood Plain Meeting Scheduled for May 8, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Selinsgrove Area Middle School – Mgr. Bickhart reported that this is for the public to come in to see the new maps followed by an informational meeting. A letter was distributed door to door today to people in the affected area of Market Street. The rest of the properties will receive the letter tomorrow. Basically if a property had a foot or a foot and a half of water during Hurricane Agnes then the property is in the new 100-year flood plain. Representatives from the insurance companies that write flood insurance will be at the meeting so they can address questions from the public. There was some discussion of the maps, which are not very helpful. Mgr. Bickhart has modified them to allow people to see if their properties are included in the flood plain area but the official flood plain maps cannot be altered. The maps use 1,000 scale and they cannot be enlarged without losing the detail. He stated the dot patterns are currently superimposed and they obscure the data. He is hoping that when the maps come through digitally they will be more readable. He stated on the current map you cannot even see Market Street. The digital data will not come through until the maps are adopted. He stated he can adapt the digital map to his data but it may not be legal to use that information. He is waiting to hear back on this. Pres. Handlan thanked Mgr. Bickhart for all his work on this issue.

Town and Gown Committee Meeting Scheduled for June 26, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room, General Public and Landlords Invited – Reminder

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Training for Borough Council – Mgr. Bickhart reported he recently received a memo from the Boroughs' Association indicating that they do not see anything in the law stating that Borough Council members have to take this training. The Association is investigating further and for the time being this will be put on hold. The Borough has until September to comply, if necessary. Mgr. Bickhart is working with the employees in the public works department to get them certified because in the event of any kind of an emergency they will be first responders along with the police department and the fire company. Pres. Handlan stated she has a letter stating that Council members have to have the training. C/P Anderson asked if the employees will have the training in a group and Mgr. Bickhart replied that they are trying to schedule it during the work day. He had planned to pick a night for the Council members to all go to the comm. center for the training but he will now wait to hear from the Boroughs' Association. C/P Anderson suggested Council members could also go to the training session that the Borough employees will be attending or the training can also be taken online.

SELINGSGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Donald Bottiger, Chairman – No Report

EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY REGIONAL AUTHORITY – Dave Faust and Bob Dagle, Chairmen

Notification Concerning Fats, Oils and Grease Discharge – Mgr. Bickhart reported that ESCRA is having problems with fats, oils and greases. He stated the other day there was a grease obstruction in the sanitary sewer that runs from Linda Lane to Melody Lane. He stated there are no businesses or restaurants on that line so this was household grease. It could be grease coupled with garbage grinders, which add the solids that lead to clogged pipes. There is no way to go door to door looking at what people are doing with their grease and oil so the focus is on fast food places, restaurants and garages. In 2000 a letter was received by the Borough from ESCRA citing similar concerns and in response to that a listing was made of all of the businesses for which a grease trap was or should be installed. Mgr. Bickhart proposed beginning to work on this problem by revisiting the list of properties to determine their status with respect to grease traps. When the Selin Hotel was remodeled they took out their grease trap in direct violation of Borough regulations. The Borough just found this out last month and will be ordering them to reinstall the grease trap. C/P Anderson suggested a newsletter article be written with suggestions of how people can dispose of their grease. Pres. Handlan asked if people are fined if they are found to be disposing of grease incorrectly. Mgr. Bickhart stated he believes there is an ordinance that would permit the Borough to issue fines. As a member of ESCRA the Borough has ordinances regulating every customer's discharge. Mayor Carroll asked if the health inspectors look for grease traps

and Solicitor Cravitz replied that they should. Mgr. Bickhart stated the Selin Hotel was inspected after they remodeled and this should have been caught. In a restaurant the grease traps are a separate item under the floor near the sinks where grease would be disposed of. The traps are sized according to volume of water.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

C/P Anderson suggested Council do a resolution of thanks to the Penn State students and their teacher for the hours they put in. Pres. Handlan agreed, stating they put a lot of work into their project. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has the information and plans in the office and he will mount them so they can be used and referred to. Penn State will also provide him with a CD of the PowerPoint presentation so all the data gathered is available. A final printed document will summarize the students' findings and recommendations.

Motion by C/P Anderson to compose and send a resolution of thanks to the Penn State teacher and architectural students. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

MAYOR – Mayor Carroll stated that in a meeting with Chief Garlock it struck him odd that the Chief indicated that one of the duties that the officers have in addition to all their other duties is to handle tall grass complaints in the community. The police also deal with issues involving sidewalks that have not been shoveled. Mayor Carroll stated he thought the police department should be doing police work and not handling these types of issues. Pres. Handlan stated a lot of municipalities have their police departments doing code enforcement. Unless the Borough would hire a code officer this will continue.

OTHERS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Council Meeting recessed to an Executive Session at 9:38 P.M. for discussion of Personnel Issues and Pending Litigation. Council meeting reconvened at 10:27 P.M.

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: C/P Anderson, Chairwoman

Recommendations Concerning Retirement of Gary Klingler

Motion by C/P Herb to accept Gary Klingler's request that he work part time now through December 2006 to work off the 89.5 days of accumulated vacation time that he has as he heads toward retirement, contingent upon Mr. Klingler submitting a written letter of resignation. Seconded by C/P Mengel.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Motion by C/P Hetherington to allow Gary Klingler, after his retirement, to purchase the Borough health insurance program beyond the 18 months and until he is 65 years old and Medicare eligible, assuming that the insurance company makes this coverage available. Seconded by C/P Mengel.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Motion by C/P Inch to approve the ad and the position description for advertisement as soon as a letter of resignation is received from Gary Klingler. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

C/P Anderson stated it would be a good idea, as soon as the Borough receives Gary's letter of resignation, for the Borough to appropriately acknowledge his 38 years of service to the Borough. Pres. Handlan thanked Mgr. Bickhart, C/Ps Mengel, Anderson and Herb for their work on this. Mgr. Bickhart stated for the record that Gary turned 62 in April.

LITIGATION ISSUES

Pres. Handlan reported that the lawsuit against Mr. Bickhart has been discontinued and he is in receipt of a bill for legal fees in the amount of \$5,956.46.

Motion by C/P Anderson that the bill be submitted to the insurance company for their consideration of reimbursement and should the insurance company fail to reimburse it that the Borough reimburse Mgr. Bickhart since he was acting within the scope of his employment obligations. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: FIVE (5) – C/Ps Inch, Anderson, Herb, Reuning, and Pres. Handlan
NAYS: ONE (1) – C/P Mengel
ABSTENTION: ONE (1) – C/P Hetherington

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

With no additional business, **Motion** to adjourn made by C/P Herb at 10:32 P.M.

Attachments: None