

**SELINGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 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, and C/P D. Mengel

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** C/P M. Inch

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Solicitor R. Cravitz; Mgr. J. Bickhart; Mayor P. Carroll; Police Chief T. Garlock; Borough Treasurer Sheri Badman; Recording Secretary Dawne Long; DH&L Ambulance League Representative Gary Griner; Daily Item Reporter Marcia Moore; Boat Launch Committee Member Tim Dodge and Pat Owens; Borough Business Owner Brian Farrell; Borough Residents Gordon Dietz, Donald Foreman, Joe Kleinbauer, Judy Kuhn, Joseph and Margaret Siro, Arthur Watt; Pool Issues Kate Andracchio, Brian Burke, Jamie Heintzleman, Patrick Rielly, CPA Steve Slaton, Dave Stroup; SPI President Judy Spiegel

**OTHERS ABSENT:** None

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM MEETING OF AUGUST 7, 2006 AND RECESSED MEETING OF AUGUST 21, 2006:**

Motion by C/P Reuning to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**VISITORS TO BE HEARD:**

**Borough Police Chief, Thomas Garlock – Presentation of Police Report for July 2006 –** No comments from Council. Chief Garlock stated he would answer any questions that came up.

**Police Department Staffing Evaluation and Operations Needs Report –** C/P Anderson asked for clarification on staffing the Borough 24 hours per day. The report shows six officers although the work load justifies seven officers. Chief Garlock clarified that the investigating officer is another person as this person is not figured into the staffing needs. The seven officer figure is based on the call for service volume and the six officer figure is based on a 24-hour patrol. C/P Hetherington stated that as a department head, Chief Garlock was requested by Council to prepare this report. He stated that unless a citizen works closely with a police department they do not understand all that is required to be a police officer and the exact duties performed by the officers. He stated that Chief Garlock has made a legitimate request for more full-time officers. The money is not available for seven full-time police officers but in C/P Hetherington's opinion this issue is more important than revitalization. Council must give this report serious consideration for the 2007 budget and it may even come to the point of having to raise taxes or make cuts in other areas. Pres. Handlan echoed C/P Hetherington's comments and she stated she has spoken with C/P Inch and he also agrees that Council needs to look seriously at this issue during the 2007 budget process. Pres. Handlan mentioned the possibility of a referendum being put to a vote in the community to help Council feel better about possibly raising taxes for the purpose of hiring more officers.

**DH&L Fire Company –** No report

**DH&L Ambulance League, Gary Griner –** Gary reported that the new membership applications came late from the printer. Old memberships will be honored for the time being. Gary reported that in August there were 62 ALS calls. The volunteers handled 12 BLS calls and the paid staff handled 18 BLS calls.

There was one transport with Life Flight and there were 28 wheelchair van runs. So far this year there have been 1,642 calls.

**Judy Kuhn, Request Consideration of loading/unloading zone for Keller's Beer Distributors** – Judy asked if the area in front of Keller's could be designated a loading and unloading zone so that if anyone parks there the police can enforce it. The curb is currently painted yellow but there is no ordinance to enforce it as a no parking zone. Mgr. Bickhart suggested Council consider an ordinance to make this a loading and unloading zone for the hours of operation of the business so that when the business is closed people can park there. C/P Herb asked if this has been done for other businesses and Solicitor Cravitz replied that most recently it has been done for the medical center.

Motion by C/P Herb to have Solicitor Cravitz prepare and advertise an ordinance amendment for the area occupied by the loading dock from the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. six days a week. Seconded by C/P Mengel.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Gordon Dietz, Request Consideration of Handicapped Parking Space at his residence** – Mr. Dietz reported that he lives two doors up from Keller's at 13 South Water Street. Both he and his wife are handicapped and he would like to get a handicapped or resident only parking sign for in front of his house. He has no off-street parking available to him and often cannot park in front of his property. Pres. Handlan expressed that this is not an unreasonable request. C/P Mengel cautioned that this will set a precedent and more people will request the same consideration. She also stated that Council has turned down similar requests in the past. Pres. Handlan stated that most municipalities have this for residents without off-street parking and Council must look forward and not make decisions based upon what has been done in the past. C/P Hetherington also expressed concern about setting a precedent. He stated also that if it were designated as a handicapped spot then anyone with a handicap tag could park there. Pres. Handlan corrected this to state that this type of permit is specific to one particular address. Solicitor Cravitz verified this. C/P Herb suggested that Council be prepared to deal with this on a case-by-case basis as Council has an obligation to help out citizens of the Borough. Mgr. Bickhart stated the discussion in the past centered around the exclusive nature of the permit for one person on a block to the exclusion of all the other property owners on the block. There were also issues in the past where Council felt that there were alternatives to the property owner, such as driveways off an alley or places where improvements could be made by the property owner. These are reasonable conditions that Council could establish in granting approval to requests such as this. However, in Mr. Dietz's case these alternatives do not exist. Mayor Carroll asked if someone requesting a permit such as this must be a homeowner or whether Council would also consider a request from a renter. Pres. Handlan said this is something to be addressed in the future as it comes up. She directed Solicitor Cravitz to explore this issue further and come back with a possible ordinance for Council to consider. Mr. Dietz also brought to Council's attention that the narrow street near the township parking lot is dangerous as it is too narrow to be a two-way street. In fact, he had always thought it was a one-way street but there is no sign other than an arrow that is faded out. C/P Hetherington will look into this with the Public Safety Committee.

**Selinsgrove Area Recreation, Inc. report on Selinsgrove Community Swimming Pool** – Brian Burke, a member of the SARI Board and currently the Treasurer, addressed Council. He reported the SARI Board is in the midst of a change in members and officers. The off-season focus will be on identifying area residents with business and professional experience who have an interest in the pool. Brian introduced Steve Slaton, the accountant who is working with the IRS on the tax issues facing the pool. Mr. Slaton, a CPA and attorney, reported that there are two issues involved. One issue has to do with payroll taxes and returns that he is trying to match up with payments that have been made. It appears that all payments have been made but they need to be matched up with the 941 forms, some of which he cannot find in the SARI files. He has requested additional copies from the IRS and this takes several months. The second issue has to do with the information return that tax exempt entities are required to file annually. There is usually no tax due with this form. Because of the voluntary nature of SARI there is a high turnover and things get missed. The 990 forms have all been filed but some were late and have been assessed penalties. Mr. Slaton is now in the process of going through the proper procedures to

request abatement of the penalties based upon reasonable cause. He believes the reasonable cause is the voluntary nature of the organization and the fact that there is high turnover in management and administration. He stated this situation did not happen overnight and it will take some time to rectify. He anticipates it being resolved about six months from now. He stated that each return that is filed late is assessed a penalty. SARI has four returns that were filed late so the correspondence with the IRS includes information on each return and a request for abatement of penalties. In answer to a question regarding the payroll taxes Mr. Slaton explained that four payroll tax returns are normally required to be filed in a year. In this situation there are two active periods, the summer months. He reported that there was a change in the law governing payroll returns and the association fell underneath a new requirement which now states that they only have to file one form for the entire year. Rather than four 941 forms they now only have to file one 944 form. Pres. Handlan asked for clarification that as of today everything that needs to be paid has been paid including the penalties. Mr. Slaton replied that the penalties have not been paid because he is hoping to have them abated without having to make payment. However, he is 95% sure that everything else has been paid that needed to be paid. He will know for sure once he receives the requested information from the IRS, who has acknowledged that they have the money but they do not know where to apply it. Mr. Slaton will make sure it is the proper amount of money and it is applied correctly.

Pres. Handlan asked Brian Burke what scenario has been put into place to ensure that this situation does not occur again. Brian replied that two things have been done. The first is that as soon as it became clear that there were questions about the accuracy of filling out forms a professional with the experience to interact on SARI's behalf with the IRS was hired. The second is that even before the tax issues were known SARI associated itself with Jerry McClellan's tax accounting firm to set up a structure of communication on payroll and filing. Brian stated that he as the treasurer has the books and pays the bills. He gives a monthly treasurer's report to the entire SARI board. This report shows the outstanding balances and any other points of interest that would be mentioned by Jerry McClellan or Steve Slaton.

C/P Anderson asked when the last audit was and Brian Burke stated he cannot say when the last one was. He stated when he sat down with Jerry McClellan he asked if an audit process should be undertaken and Jerry's answer was that if he or his firm found anything of concern about procedure and information then he is obligated to report that to the board. It is Jerry's experience that as long as there is accurate accounting he could look at the money flowing in and out and at the end of the year on his company letterhead he will say that all accounting practices are accurate and there is no need for an audit. C/P Herb asked how much money the pool handles in a year's time. Brian stated the general amount is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$60,000. The payrolls are around \$7,000 and there are six to eight payrolls depending on weather. C/P Herb asked if the determination of a need for an audit would be made by the board and Brian replied that the determination will be made by Jerry McClellan based on the information that is turned over to him at the end of the year. Brian stated that in order to establish a solid basis for 2006 the board reviewed the 2005 return with Jerry McClellan and then made an amended return so that every single point was to his comfort level. C/P Herb stated that given the difficulty with the turnover in an organization such as this he thought this would be a reason to consider an audit to go over the books. He stated the fact that an audit has not been done for a number of years gives him cause for concern. Steve Slaton explained that there is an expectation gap between what an auditor thinks an audit is and what a user thinks an audit is. He stated an audit by a CPA is not a forensic audit. The CPA's job is not to look to see if money is missing. The purpose of an audit is to see whether or not the financial statements that are being presented to the public are basically in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A lot of people believe that an audit would show that nothing bad has ever happened in an organization but that is not in fact what an audit is. An audit does not comprise looking at every check and every invoice. If something comes to light during the normal auditing procedure such as a check is not signed or it is signed by someone without the authority to sign it then there is an obligation to pursue that item. Other than that a more specific type of audit would have to be performed, such as a forensic audit. He suggested having an informal review of the procedures that get the money from the tickets into the coffers.

C/P Herb asked how errors from oversight or carelessness are discovered and whether SARI is concerned with trying to find those things at this point. Brian Burke replied that the immediate concern is

making sure that there are board members with the business and professional experience to ask these very same questions so that there is a mindset of professionalism from beginning to end. He has observed in the past that there was a lack of administrative support and follow-up. If something was received in the mail it was given to the tax accountant and there was no follow-up call to see what was done with it. He stated SARI actually welcomes what has occurred this year because it requires the diligence that is now occurring for administrative follow-up. He stated he has not seen any form of negligence or anyone intentionally making bad decisions and ignoring information.

C/P Anderson stated something needs to be done by SARI to help cure the public perception, which is very bad at this point in time. Brian stated that SARI is acknowledging the lack of administrative support, citing the board and its performance as the problem. They are then putting in place individuals with business and professional experience who will follow up. They are also associating themselves with professionals who understand the routine of tax filing, payrolls, and keeping communication open between these professionals and the board. C/P Anderson stated that SARI is in essence running a small business and she wonders what and how the constitution requires reporting or responsibility to the public. She stated she understands that the board is self-perpetuating and there seems to be a missing sense of accountability to the public when running a public program. Brian stated that earlier this year Mgr. Bickhart was invited to a board meeting to give them his expertise regarding broaching the issue of a private incorporated board with the perception of public accountability. Mgr. Bickhart gave some feedback showing that due to public perception there has to be turnover of board memberships and specifically board officers. Brian stated SARI does not want board members to have term limits if they are not officers. However, the officers will have term limits.

C/P Anderson asked if there is a provision for an annual meeting. Pres. Handlan stated she would like to see a designated monthly meeting of SARI which is open to the public. She stated the community needs to be educated that SARI is not part of the Borough, which is the perception now. Any negative publicity for Selinsgrove is a black eye for everyone. Council wants to work with SARI in any way that they can. C/P Anderson asked if the pool has current assets such as money in the bank. Brian replied that there is around \$30,000 in the bank. Operationally the pool is solvent with regard to money that is coming in for memberships and from daily fees and concessions to take care of all the routine pool issues into the month of August. The money that is in the savings account sometimes has to be used to take care of the shortfalls for the year, but this is a small amount. An outside consultant is doing a design feasibility study relating to renovations to the pool. C/P Anderson stated the Borough was to be of assistance in this by being the applicant for a grant to help with renovations. The consultant's report was due by the end of September and she doubts whether that will happen on time. Brian replied that the pool board feels its first responsibility is to take care of itself by making sure that the board members are in place who can properly operate the pool. Any soliciting of the community is secondary to this. He expects the consultant's report to be finished by the end of the year.

C/P Anderson addressed concerns of citizens regarding the safety issues of the pool and whether these were adequately addressed. Brian stated there was a difficult personnel matter this season which resulted in conflict between the management of the pool and the pool board and ultimately it did not serve the best interests of the pool. This conflict was due to communications regarding daily operational needs. When communications were understood then immediate corrective actions were taken. He stated the pool is safe and the water is clean. The Borough sends out biweekly water tests and reports are given to the Borough and to the pool. The Department of Health has given the pool a clean bill of health with some points that need to be addressed by the opening of the 2007 season. These include replacing a window in the pump house and some other minor things.

Jamie Heintzelman spoke up on behalf of concerned citizens. She stated her daughter was the assistant manager of the pool for the past couple of years. Jamie spoke out on behalf of Jill and Ellen and their dedication to the pool. She stated she was at the pool many times helping out with cleaning, painting and mowing the grass and she did not see any board members there helping out. She stated she went to the pool as a teenager and when she returned when her daughter started working there she was shocked to see that everything looks the same as it did 40 years ago with the exception of the outside of the building. She stated she would like to be on the board and cited her qualifications as a business owner in the

restaurant industry. She stated she helps out with the pool concession stand. She stated the current board officers have discouraged some very good people from serving on the board. She expressed concern regarding the shortcuts on safety, stating they are inexcusable. She stated the pool had someone to take their water samples for free and now they are paying someone to do this. When Jill, Ellen and the lifeguards, who hear the complaints of the people using the pool, brought some things up to the board they were ignored. They were not asking for new things but only that the things that they already had would be in working order. Jamie stated everything got blown all out of proportion and there was no unprofessionalism on her daughter's part. She stated some of the lifeguards are paid through the Degenstein Foundation and not by the pool board and she thinks the pool would want more people like that. Jamie summed up by saying that more of the community needs to be involved. Pres. Handlan encouraged Jamie and the citizens to share their concerns with the current board and she also encouraged Jamie to get other people involved because the community as a whole lacks lots of volunteers. Pres. Handlan stated she finds some of Jamie's comments quite concerning and she is going to look to Brian Burke and the rest of the board to begin term limits for board officers and to address the issues and the public perception.

C/P Anderson asked if Council could have copies of SARI's by-laws. Brian stated that the board clearly heard from some members of the community that some of the board's officers should immediately resign and stop serving. The board did not act on this immediately but is moving forward with a different mindset than in the past. Unfortunately, the lack of immediacy was perceived by the public as the board's not hearing them. C/P Herb stated that people may be under the impression that these problems have emerged as a result of disloyal staff who had problems communicating with the board officers when in fact that is a mischaracterization. In the long run the people who brought all this before the public have done the community a service in that the problem is now being addressed. C/P Reuning suggested staggered term limits for the officers so that there will always be officers on the board who know what is going on. C/P Anderson asked what needs to be done now that the pool is closed so that this issue is not forgotten. Brian asked for SARI to be placed on Council's agenda for the January meeting. This allows them to have three months to work on the issues as well as close the accounting year and get feedback from the accounting firm as to how the books were kept. Hopefully at that time Steve Slaton will have some answers from the IRS also. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has a copy of the constitution and by-laws dated January 2006 with an attachment for conflict resolution. He will make copies of this for Council.

**Arthur Watt, regarding properties at 304 and 306 East Chestnut Street** – Mr. Watt reported that he brought these two properties to Council's attention a few months ago and nothing has happened other than one property owner mowed his lawn once. The one property has no roof. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has been corresponding with both of the property owners and obviously they have not taken it seriously yet. One property is for sale. The other property is owned by Rick Romig who promised to keep the weeds cut. He will be trying to fix this property up to rent or sell. Mr. Watt stated his own house is up for sale and he will not be able to get the money he wants for his property because of these other two properties. C/P Mengel asked if CK-COG is involved with this and Mgr. Bickhart stated they have an open file with the one property and they, along with the Borough, caused the property owner to stop doing what he was doing because they were renovating the structure without permits or approval. Now the property owners need to find a way to start the renovations back up again with the proper permits. The property will most likely be sold and then demolished. This means the current owner will take a significant loss on the property because it will be the value of the land less the demolition costs. C/P Mengel asked about the Griner property on South Third Street which has not had anything done to it since a couple years ago. Mgr. Bickhart stated this was Gary Griner's mother's property. In terms of the ordinances it is kept up but there is nobody living in it. The grass is kept cut and the structure is not falling apart. He stated this would not be high on the priority list. Mgr. Bickhart stated he will follow up with Rick Romig and he will contact the other party to see what she is intending to do with the property. Pres. Handlan asked if a notice has been posted on the properties and Mgr. Bickhart replied that they are not posted because the one is not habitable in its present condition and the other has no issues with habitability. He stated 304 is the one that is all ripped out inside; 306 is the one that is being renovated and they are not keeping the grass cut. Mr. Watt stated that he has not seen any work being done other than people in trucks coming to take anything of value out of it. He stated the house with no roof had all kinds of lumber stacked up in the garage and he happened to be out in his yard and the people told him they did not have

any more money to do anything else with it so they were taking what they could out of it and leaving. Mgr. Bickhart stated the next step for the Borough would be to condemn the property and proceed with demolition. Solicitor Cravitz stated that the Borough would then have a lien against a vacant lot. Mgr. Bickhart stated that if the property owners have truly decided to walk away from it then the likelihood is that the Borough will have to pay to have it torn down after the notifications and time limits have gone by. He stated there is a legal process for all this including legal notices, hearings, etc.

Motion by C/P Anderson to proceed with the legal process of condemning the structure that is gutted inside and has no roof. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Pat Owens, Susquehanna River Launch Project update** – Pat reported on some target dates for the project. He stated that even though the process has been slow and Council rejected everything at first, through it all the project has ended up with more money from the Fish Commission and about \$10,000 of free labor to clean up the dump site. A committee was formed and a better design was formulated. Pat is asking for approval from Council for the design plans in order to get the reimbursement started from the Fish Commission. He showed some changes to the original plans, including a two-tiered viewing area along the river and a different traffic flow pattern for the parking area. One of the problems with the plan was regarding the bathroom and it was decided that portable, mobile units would be put in so that they could be removed in the event of high water or vandalism problems. However, the committee has come up with compelling reasons for permanent bathrooms. They will cost less to construct and less to maintain and the bathrooms will be under the watchful eye of Dave Bowersox, who lives next door. The bathrooms will be built in an area that does not flood; however, they will still be designed with a flow-through capacity. C/P Hetherington stated he has spoken with Dave Bowersox about this and Dave recommends an 8-foot slab with two 4-foot-square bathrooms with stainless steel commodes and sinks. There will be no mirrors or fancy stuff. It will be painted with epoxy and will have a locking outside water faucet. In the unlikely event of high water the bathrooms could be sprayed down. The permanent bathrooms will be much better in the long run. The portable bathrooms could float away in a flood or someone would have to be found to move them when needed and then put them back. There is also a maintenance issue on that type of building. C/P Hetherington stated that originally he was very vocally opposed to any restrooms but he is sold on this new plan. He asked if this is SPI's project with the Borough's backing or the Borough's project with SPI's backing. Pat replied that it is the Borough's project with SPI's backing because the Fish Commission contracts with the Borough. However, he has learned that SPI can assist the Borough much more than they have in the past. In future projects SPI will be of much more assistance to the Borough. If Council approves the plans with the fixed bathrooms the project can get started. If Council is not comfortable with the bathrooms being approved tonight plans can be put together without them but it may delay the project even further. Pat is asking that Council approve the plans with the bathrooms.

Motion by C/P Anderson to approve the plans with the bathrooms. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Joe Siro stated there was a recent article in the Harrisburg paper regarding water quality and beaches being closed due to E. coli. He expressed concern about public toilets and sewer drains in a flood zone, referring to the living creatures in the water that could be affected by sewer water getting into the river. He also stated that he read that the river water is not tested regularly for bacteria. Mgr. Bickhart stated the bathrooms will be connected to the public sewer system. Pat Owens stated the bathrooms would be hooked up just like the homes in the area so if there is a problem with the sewer system the bathrooms would not be the only source of the problem. Pres. Handlan stated that Joe is asking if there has ever been a problem with the sewer lines and flooding on the Isle of Que. C/P Hetherington stated in 1964 there was a flood on the island and the sewers backed up and came into the homes. C/P Anderson stated this predates the sewage plant. It was the consensus of Council that there would be no problems due to this project that do not already potentially exist with the houses on the Isle of Que. Sheri asked about a notation concerning reimbursement by 9/30/06 and Pat replied that once approval is obtained

from the Fish Commission then work can proceed on stabilizing the area with concrete. The notation does not refer to the entire grant amount. C/P Hetherington stated he has pictures of the area before anything at all was done to it. He will bring them in to the Borough office so people can look at them. Pres. Handlan asked if other committee members were present at the meeting. Pat Owens introduced Tim Dodge and Brian Farrell as the committee members who are present.

**Brian Farrell, Public Hearing concerning the Borough requesting the issuance of a Restaurant or Eating Place Retail Dispenser License for the Purpose of Economic Development** – Mgr. Bickhart reported that Brian made an application for the Borough to approve the issuance of an additional liquor license under the terms for economic development purposes as it was discussed with Anthony Sanutti and his request concerning the train station. This opportunity was advertised to the public so other applications could be submitted. No other requests have been made. Brian stated that he has done some more research on the license and he is not ready to accept it at this time if he is approved for it. However, he would like to go through the process anyway as a backup to some other options that he has, one of which is to purchase another business that is for sale in Snyder County with a regular liquor license and to switch that license to the Fire House business. He still has reservations about the economic development license which requires 70% food sales and 30% liquor sales. The 70% is strictly food and does not include any other non-alcohol products such as music or games. Pres. Handlan asked what Brian's time frame is on this so that if Council approves the economic development license and Brian does not end up using it they can make it available again. Brian stated two months should be fine. Mgr. Bickhart stated that one of the provisions of the economic development license is that no other licenses are available. If Council approves the license for Brian and Brian sends in his application and money the Liquor Control Board will reject the application if another license is available in the county.

**Brian Farrell, Consider revised Conditional Use request of Brian Farrell for The Fire House** – C/P Anderson suggested that this item be considered before Council decides whether or not to approve the economic development liquor license. Mgr. Bickhart reported that Brian was given conditional use approval by Borough Council for one particular use of the former fire company property. This process relates to the inability of the owner of a property to comply with the off-street parking requirements. Under DH&L's ownership they should have had 92 parking spaces and they only had 20. Due to Brian's proposed changes to the use of the building he would have needed 105 parking spaces but he only had 20. Borough Council granted a conditional use for not having to comply with the parking requirements. Now Brian has revised the use of the building again, adding a bar to space that was previously marked as an arcade, decreasing the number of employees, and decreasing the capacity of the second floor banquet area. As a result of this Brian has gone from needing 105 parking spaces to needing 94 parking spaces. He is asking Council to grant conditional use approval for this revised plan. The Planning Commission has reviewed the application and is recommending approval.

Motion by C/P Mengel to approve the conditional use request of Brian Farrell. Seconded by C/P Herb.

**AYES: SIX (6)                      NAYS: NONE                      MOTION CARRIED**

Returning to the issue of the economic development liquor license, Pres. Handlan stated that because Brian is unsure if he currently wants this license a time restriction would need to be put on Council's approval of this.

Motion by C/P Anderson to grant the request of Brian Farrell regarding the economic development liquor license with a three-month time limit for Brian to take advantage of it. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

**AYES: SIX (6)                      NAYS: NONE                      MOTION CARRIED**

**Donald Foreman, Neighboring Property Issues** – Mr. Foreman asked when the building that was started next to his property would be taken care of. Solicitor Cravitz replied that he got a letter from Mr. Andretta's attorney today and he has not had a chance to study it yet. However, if things move forward as expected the foundation, the footers and the fill will be removed. Mr. Foreman again addressed the issue of his dissatisfaction with the alleged actions of Mgr. Bickhart including the cutting

down of Mr. Foreman's flowers. He stated his property line was moved by Mgr. Bickhart, Dave Bowersox and Mr. Lutze. C/P Hetherington stated he thought this was all finished business as Mr. Foreman dropped his lawsuit. He asked if the property was surveyed and if the survey agrees with the one that Mr. Lutze has. He stated that he has heard that Mr. Foreman's chimney is on the adjoining property. Mr. Foreman stated that the concrete porch on the other property is eight inches onto his land. He stated he does not care about his chimney because he feels he has squatter's rights due to living there since 1932. Mr. Foreman made some inflammatory remarks bordering on threats concerning the Borough crew and Mgr. Bickhart. He also complained about the neighbors blinking their headlights into his house. Pres. Handlan informed Mr. Foreman that Solicitor Cravitz will follow up with Mr. Andretta's attorney and he will get back to him when he receives a response. Mr. Foreman stated the judge made his ruling regarding the property next door to him on January 6, 2004 but everything has still not been removed. Mr. Foreman then left the meeting. C/P Hetherington stated he understands Mr. Foreman's frustration as to why this has gone on for so long. Pres. Handlan stated the foundation can be removed and the property restored to the way it was, but it will not stop people from parking there. Mgr. Bickhart stated for the record that he did not cut Mr. Foreman's flowers. Pres. Handlan advised Council to not believe everything they hear in this situation because some things have been exaggerated to some point. She strongly recommended that from now on everyone let Solicitor Cravitz handle this situation. If something is brought to a Council member's attention she asked that they pass it on to Solicitor Cravitz. She stated she has concerns about Mr. Foreman.

**Kate Andracchio, Comments on Selinsgrove Pool** – Kate had left earlier with the rest of the people regarding the pool issues. She came back to the meeting to address Council on the issue because she felt Council may have gotten the wrong impression on some things and she wanted to clear them up. She stated she has been on the SARI board for about eight years. When she first joined things were a lot worse than they are now. Buildings needed work and the budget was much lower. They could cover the payroll but there was no money left over for improvements. She stated over the past few years Wal-Mart has donated hundreds of dollars worth of paint and community members have come together to do the work that needed to be done. A new roof was installed for which her husband donated the labor. She stated there is finally money in the bank for improvements due to the efforts of some of the board members who raised money through donations. New lifeguard chairs and new umbrellas were purchased this year. She did not want Council to be under the impression that nothing has been done at the pool for 40 years. She stated things are moving forward and so much of what has gotten done has been eclipsed by the problems and the bad press that the pool has gotten this year.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:**

**Review List of Council Issues** – Mgr. Bickhart reported the he got the proposed floodplain ordinance back from DCED, who reviewed it and made some minor comments. Mgr. Bickhart suggested adopting this along with the floodplain maps in the next couple months.

A contractor's estimate has been received for reroofing the Borough building. The library made Mgr. Bickhart aware of a Keystone grant application but the submittal deadline is in June. This information will be included with the materials to consider for the 2007 budget as the renovations will cost approximately \$30,000. Pres. Handlan pointed out that the issue of mold was investigated and no mold was found.

Mgr. Bickhart reported that Weiser Run work is continuing regarding some of the sediment downstream of the Orange Street box culvert. Because of the washout due to the school district issue there is still a tremendous amount of sediment still washing downstream. It only took a few weeks to fill up the void that was made when sediment was removed in the spring. Near C/P Inch's property on the upstream side of the culvert that runs from Broad Street to Orange Street the original constructed bottom to the stream is showing, meaning that the sediments have moved past that point and the inlet to the pipe is not obstructed.

Mgr. Bickhart reported that PennDOT did not mention the crosswalk near Kidsgrove when they reported back on their study and they did not do anything to lessen the speed limits in that area. Dick Norman has

asked for a mid-block crosswalk but Council never made a formal decision on this. Mgr. Bickhart suggested having the Public Safety Committee look at this in detail to determine whether it would be too unsafe to create a crosswalk in that location. C/P Hetherington stated the committee will look into this and also mentioned the possibility of an overpass. This would be much more expensive but a price cannot be put on a life saved. He also mentioned that at the crosswalk on University Avenue he saw one student out of five trying to use the crosswalk and traffic was not stopping for the student at the crosswalk.

**Response from Selinsgrove Area School District on Weiser Run Reconstruction Project –**

Mgr. Bickhart reported that he got a letter from the school district indicating that Randy Varner is the contact person. The best thing would be for the Borough engineer, Mgr. Bickhart and Randy meet to discuss the severity of this issue so that Randy can then report back to the school district.

**COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS:**

**FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: C/P Inch, Chairman**

**Payment and Ratification of Bills**

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

**AYES: FIVE (5)      NAYS: NONE      MOTION CARRIED**  
**C/P Herb was out of the room when the vote was taken**

**Statewide Tax Recovery, Inc. - Exoneration Requests –** Mgr. Bickhart reported on one request for exoneration for Deborah Bowersox for 1989 due to being deceased. A copy of the obituary was sent in.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to grant the exoneration as read by the Borough Manager. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

**AYES: FIVE (5)      NAYS: NONE      MOTION CARRIED**  
**C/P Herb was out of the room when the vote was taken.**

**Report on the preliminary review of the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) Worksheet and the Determination of State Aid for the 2007 Uniformed and Non-Uniformed Pension Plan –** C/P Reuning reported that this has been reviewed. The committee agreed with the assumptions and copies will be provided in October.

**Consider terminating Public Officials Liability Insurance (E&O) with Selective Insurance Company and initiating a similar policy with National Casualty Company –** C/P Reuning reported that the committee agrees that the Borough should switch from Selective Insurance Company to National Casualty Company. The current insurance company would not handle a recent fraud issue. Solicitor Cravitz explained that in Mr. Foreman's case against Mgr. Bickhart and others, when the Borough tried to obtain reimbursement Selective stated that under the language of their policy any allegation of fraud is excluded from coverage, including defense costs. National Casualty Company, rated A+ by AM Best Company, will provide coverage for defense costs if there are allegations of fraud. If the claim was material with regard to fraud, meaning that the fraud claim was the ultimate determination of liability, then they would not pay because it would not be covered. If someone intentionally commits fraud then that is not covered, which is a standard clause in most insurance policies including homeowners policies. However, if the fraud was just incidental to the claim they would pay the full claim and the Borough would have coverage. C/P Reuning pointed out that this also applies to Council members. When Council inquired about the cost Sheri replied that this year the Selective Insurance coverage cost \$7,340 from April to April. The National Casualty policy would cost \$6,347 per year. Solicitor Cravitz reported the new coverage would be put in place before the old policy is canceled so there would be an overlap period.

Motion by C/P Anderson to terminate the current policy with Selective Insurance and to enter into a policy with National Casualty. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Consider changing the Medical Insurance Plan with Highmark Blue Shield, essentially doubling the plan deductibles and providing a Health Reimbursement Plan for the employees to reimburse the employee for the increased deductible costs** – C/P Reuning reported that this has been included with the police officers' contract, which Council will be voting on after the Executive Session. Mgr. Bickhart reported that one meeting has been held with the employees and they have been notified. He stated he has heard no adverse comments about the proposed changes.

Motion by C/P Reuning to put this in place effective October 1, 2006. Seconded by C/P Herb.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Mgr. Bickhart mentioned an issue that he wanted Council to be aware of it. There is a situation with an employee who may have exhausted all of his opportunities to stay in network. With these policies the benefit is to stay within the network. If medical care is sought outside the network the costs often double and this also applies to deductible. There is an employee who has exhausted his resources of staying within the network. Christine Miller indicated that in that circumstance the employee needs to ask Blue Shield for permission to go out of network for this particular circumstance. If Blue Shield does not approve this then Mgr. Bickhart is suggesting that Council indicate their willingness to consider on a case-by-case basis how that employee would pay the deductible because these expenses would double. Mgr. Bickhart hopes that the insurance company would agree to cover the employee because he can show that he has exhausted all of his alternatives within the network. If Blue Shield denies the request then the employee could go to the Personnel Committee for consideration and the Committee would then come to Council with a recommendation.

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

**BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION / PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT: C/P Mengel, Chairwoman** – No Report

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS: C/P Herb, Chairman** – No Report

**PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: C/P Anderson, Chairwoman** – C/P Anderson asked for an Executive Session at the end of the Council meeting for a personnel recommendation.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: C/P Hetherington, Chairman**

**Report on the review of the PennDOT In-Depth Speed Limit Study and Traffic Safety Reviews** – C/P Hetherington reported that some of the issues involving speed limits also involved Penn Township and most of PennDOT's recommendations deal with the Penn Township part of the study. PennDOT got some street directions incorrect in the report. The biggest issue is extending the 25 mile per hour speed limit on North Market Street. The Committee wanted to put the sign north of the railroad tracks but PennDOT has recommended it be placed south of the Selinsgrove Inn. The Committee thought next year they could ask for another study to be done during a time when school is in session. The Committee is recommending accepting the report at this time but would like to revisit the issue in the future. C/P Herb stated PennDOT uses the word "recommend" and this should be taken at face value, which is not the same as saying they require that something be done. He suggested going back to PennDOT to ask if they would approve changing the location of the proposed sign on North Market Street to further north. C/P Hetherington suggested having the sign at the north or south corner of Spruce and North Market Streets. He thought going back to PennDOT with this request was a good idea. He also expressed that having the State dictate policy to a municipality was not a good idea. Pres. Handlan suggested contacting PennDOT, thanking them for their recommendation, stating what the Borough would like to do

and asking PennDOT if they have a problem with that. C/P Hetherington asked Mgr. Bickhart if he would draft a letter. He agreed to do this and to submit the letter for the Committee's review before sending it.

**PLANNING COMMISSION: Earl Moyer, Chairman** – All issues resolved earlier.

**ZONING HEARING BOARD: Glen Rohrer, Chairman** – No Report

**CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: Dalton Savidge, Chairman** – No Report

**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD: Richard Norman, Chairman**

Reminder of the Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan Advisory Committee meeting to be held September 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at Monroe Township

**SHADE TREE COMMISSION: Karl Maul, Chairman** – No Report

**BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

**MAYOR: Pete Carroll** – Mayor Carroll reported that Susquehanna University is having an extended Homecoming weekend on September 30. The Borough police will work with the campus security staff and Tom Rambo on this issue.

**BOROUGH SOLICITOR: Robert Cravitz**

**Update on the Rivers case and ACLU involvement** – Solicitor Cravitz reported that no lawsuit has been filed and it looks as though no action will be brought against the Borough. Mgr. Bickhart stated that Chief Garlock indicated that the Selinsgrove officer has been left out of any potential action on this.

Mayor Carroll asked where the \$20,000 grant monies for the police department are being spent and Mgr. Bickhart reported that Chief Garlock has gone over his priorities list now that he has been in the police department building for a while and the plan is for the money to be used on the phone and the security systems. Permission has been received to spend the money.

**BOROUGH ENGINEER: J. A. Coukart & Associates**

**Update on pending projects** – No report. It is possible that the solicitor was not aware that the meeting was changed from September 11 to tonight. He did not even send in any invoices.

Joe Siro stated when the sewer project went in on University Avenue a manhole was installed in a different location from what had been originally identified. Easements were made for deed rights of way and these will have to be revised. Mgr. Bickhart stated he saw revised easements which the homeowners will be asked to sign. Solicitor Cravitz stated he will look into this.

**BOROUGH TREASURER: Sharon Badman**

**Review Treasurer's Report for August 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.

C/P Hetherington stated he does not feel that Sheri should be required to attend Council meetings. Mgr. Bickhart replied that Sheri attends because of her interest and he does not require her to come. Sheri stated C/P Inch feels more comfortable if she is at the meetings in case a question arises.

Sheri reminded Council that budget time is coming and they should get their requests in during the month of September. C/P Anderson stated that she will be in Egypt when the Borough budget work session is scheduled. She asked if that meeting could be moved from November 20 to November 13.

Motion by C/P Herb to change the meeting date as requested. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BOROUGH MANAGER / SECRETARY / ZONING OFFICER: Mgr. Bickhart**

**Non-Police Complaint Update** – Mgr. Bickhart reported he is keeping up with issues as best he can and resolving them as he is able. Pres. Handlan asked what Mgr. Bickhart has in mind when he mentions a Borough-wide initiative on abandoned vehicles in the fall. Mgr. Bickhart replied that the Property Maintenance Code has changed the way the Borough can deal with abandoned vehicles. In the past the ordinance was taken to the district magistrate and the police department had to prove that there was a secondary health/safety issue related to the abandoned vehicle, such as weeds, rats, mice, safety with children playing around broken glass or metal, etc. When the new Property Maintenance Code was adopted the language in it allows the Borough to deal with abandoned vehicles in a different way, without the burden of having a secondary hazard issue. Mgr. Bickhart plans to identify all the vehicles in the Borough that are abandoned and to notify property owners to take care of them and to give them a reasonable amount of time to do so. The Borough receives many complaints about abandoned vehicles.

C/P Hetherington asked if anyone on Council ever attends the Boroughs Association meetings. He suggested sending someone to the annual meeting to find out if other communities in the state or in the area have similar problems or have problems with PennDOT's decisions and to find out what other communities do about these issues. Pres. Handlan stated this is a good suggestion but that most of the meetings are during work days and they go into a weekend. Mgr. Bickhart stated that Mayor Carroll had asked the representative from the Boroughs Association to come to Selinsgrove, where the representative met with Mayor Carroll and Mgr. Bickhart over lunch. At that meeting Mayor Carroll suggested organizing a regional Boroughs Association for Mayors and Council members. This would be a good place to address some of these issues and problems that local communities share. Mayor Carroll stated that if this were approved by the Boroughs Association then they would provide the location, pay for a breakfast or lunch, and do all the mailings so there would be no money out of the community's pocket. There currently is a northern regional meeting in Lackawanna County. C/P Hetherington stated something similar was tried in the past, with local officials meeting with state officials but while the state officials had a good showing not many local officials showed up. He feels the meeting was poorly attended due to political issues at that time and hopes a new attempt will be successful.

**Update of PROPERTY TRANSFERS and BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED, Janet Powers, Deputy Zoning and Permit Officer** – Report supplied for Council's information. Pres. Handlan asked if a permit was issued to someone who is doing something with telephone poles along the alley behind Chestnut Street. C/P Hetherington stated the person is trying to make a parking place on his property by putting some poles in horizontally along the hump and filling it in with dirt from his basement in order to have a parking place. The homeowner has children who are or will soon be driving and they need off-street parking. Mgr. Bickhart stated this does not sound like anything that would require a permit but he will take a look at it. Pres. Handlan asked if Cleon Bauman needs a demolition permit to take down the house on Market Street. Mgr. Bickhart replied that Mr. Bauman just started taking the building down and then work on it stalled. He agreed that a demolition permit should have been obtained. He will discuss this with Janet.

**Review and adopt Snyder County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Mgr. Bickhart reported that he has given Council copies of the essential elements of the plan. This is a plan that the County hired a consultant to do. Mgr. Bickhart attended a meeting and was surprised to be sent the plan in its final form with a resolution for adoption. In the Borough's best interests, Mgr. Bickhart made sure that the Borough's known hazards and the equipment and money needed to mitigate these hazards are taken care of and are listed in the plan. The County used the old Luzerne County Levee Raising Projects list that Dave Nichols had and did not use the amended list that the Planning Commission went through about a year ago. The Borough can still take projects off the list, which the Planning Commission had removed from the original list, even though the amended list was not used by the County. The two stream stabilization projects, Weiser Run and South Tributary, are both listed in the plan because they

would mitigate the hazards of flooding and would supply erosion control. Mgr. Bickhart met with Gary and some staff members to look at power outages as one of the most probable hazards that the Borough would encounter. They came up with a list of needs such as portable power generating equipment at various locations to ensure that in the event of a prolonged power outage the water system, Borough government and police department could be maintained. The fire company is self sufficient in that they have their own generating capacities and in the event of an emergency the Borough could go there to operate their business; however, it was felt that the Borough should have some equipment for their own use. Mgr. Bickhart gave Council a copy of the risk assessment listing all the possible hazards that could befall the County. The listing rates the relative risks and then sets out to accept projects to solve those risks. The most hazardous risks to the Borough are flooding, hurricanes and tropical storms in regards to wind damage rather than flooding, severe winter weather, power failure, radon, public health emergencies, and various other lesser risks. The Borough has already had experience with severe winter weather during the President's Day snowstorm. Sheri kept excellent records and applied to the State for reimbursement of expenses and the State sent a significant amount of money to the Borough. The County is telling the Borough that if they do not adopt the hazard mitigation plan then the Borough will not be able to get into the reimbursement conduit in the future. The County is asking every municipality in Snyder County to review the document and to adopt a resolution making this their hazard mitigation plan for the community. Since Selinsgrove has its own Planning Commission the County required that the Planning Commission review the document and adopt a resolution that recommends that the Borough adopt the plan. The Borough Planning Commission has done this. C/P Anderson stated the only dissent on the Planning Commission's recommendation was that Dr. Rohrbach objected to the fact that the updated list that the Planning Commission worked so hard to modify was not used. Mgr. Bickhart stated that because Selinsgrove has already adopted a hazard mitigation plan for flooding then the Council's resolution will be to adopt the County's plan as a supplement to the Borough's plan. The other plan stays in place and this will supplement it by dealing with the hazards other than flooding that might befall the Borough. Mgr. Bickhart stated there is no downside to the County's plan and he recommends adopting it in the hope that it leads to additional monies. He stated that Selinsgrove is very well represented in the plan and some of the projects have very high relative points. The \$1.443 million project to deal with flooding and the Weiser Run and South Tributary stream stabilization projects for which Mgr. Bickhart has prepared grant applications to DCED and the Department of Natural Resources has a score of 8 which puts it in the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile. If these things find their way to grant money based upon priority then some of the Borough's projects have very high scores. Mgr. Bickhart stated he is disappointed that the County did not allow opportunity for comment on the document before they submitted it for adoption.

Motion by C/P Herb to adopt the Snyder County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as a supplement to the Borough's existing plan. Seconded by C/P Anderson.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Cleanup Plan for AMP, Inc. property submitted to PA DEP** – Mgr. Bickhart reported that he has received notice that the cleanup plan to put an easement around the area and not build on it has been filed with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for their review and approval.

**Letter of appreciation from Penn Valley Airport on annual donation** – Mgr. Bickhart reported he has received a letter from Sue Sprenkel, manager of Penn Valley Airport, thanking the Borough for their annual contribution of \$1,500.

**Review and comments on the September 2006 Newsletter** – Sheri asked Council to review the newsletter and to notify her of any changes or corrections by Thursday. She stated that Trick or Treat is usually set by the Mayor but she has already put a notice in the newsletter for October 31 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Mayor Carroll stated this is fine with him. Mayor Carroll suggested doing a story on the Council members now that the Borough crew has been put in the newsletter. It was also suggested that the office staff have an article done on them.

## **SELINGSGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Donald Bottiger, Chairman**

**Recommendation concerning revised lease agreement with Cingular Wireless** – Mgr. Bickhart reported that the Municipal Authority retained the services of a consultant for some recommendations concerning the proposal to reduce the lease payment from Cingular Wireless. The consultant suggested that the Authority respectfully decline any such attempt to reduce the lease payment. The consultant is pretty certain that there is no redundancy and that the tower is important. The consultant feels that the reduced lease payment is just an attempt to make some money for a third party. Mgr. Bickhart stated that based on the consultant's recommendation and the recommendations of some other people he expects the lease will not change and the current lease will stay in place for a number of years as is.

**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:**

#### **OTHERS**

Mgr. Bickhart stated that Scott and Melanie Garman-Shaffer had dropped off the **Pineapple letter** that Council members all received soliciting suggestions or comments from the community on the Selingsgrove Inn. They anticipate opening at the end of September. The facility is beautiful and they have spent a lot of money and used some new techniques for sound dampening. The Shaffers' intent is to be a first class operation. Sheri stated if Council has comments they can write them on the Pineapple letter and return it. They can sign their names or not.

Mgr. Bickhart reported on the **Solid Waste Management Survey** form which Council had in their packets. They are soliciting comments throughout the community.

Mgr. Bickhart called Council's attention to the **Community Partner Kidsgrove Fundraising letter** which Dick Norman dropped off and Mgr. Bickhart copied for Council's information.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pres. Handlan stated that at the Snyder County Library Board meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> she addressed the issue of the security of the municipal building with the Board. It was discussed in great detail and information was given to the Building Committee chair, Jan Foss. Pres. Handlan stated there was some misunderstanding of what the library staff's responsibilities were as far as closing the building after hours and maintaining the downstairs. This includes locking up, turning off lights, making sure faucets are off, etc. The Board agreed that the Borough was not making any unreasonable requests. At that meeting, which ran late, two of the Board members went downstairs around 10:00 p.m. to check on things for themselves and found all the lights on and all the doors unlocked including the kitchen. The library staff had already left for the night so the Board members saw for themselves that there is a lapse in building security. One of the concerns raised in a letter from Barbara McGarrity was the issue of someone going downstairs by themselves at night to lock up. The Board is looking for alternatives including a suggestion by Pres. Handlan to talk with the police department about having an officer in the area to make sure all goes smoothly. The Board feels the bathroom doors should be locked but where to keep the key is an issue as it cannot be upstairs part of the day and downstairs part of the day. This needs to go to C/P Mengel's committee to discuss these issues with the Library Building Committee, who now understands the concerns. C/P Hetherington suggested buying automatic locks that would need a key to be opened but would then lock automatically when the door is closed. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has investigated and found the locks that need to be purchased. The bathrooms are handicapped bathrooms so the locks need to be functional for handicapped individuals, including certain mounting heights and a certain kind of lever. They will lock from the outside and can be opened from the inside without a key.

The doors already have an automatic closure on them. Pres. Handlan stated there is a possibility that some grant money may become available to the library fairly quickly for downstairs renovations such as painting and furniture in order to move staff downstairs into those offices. She suggested that the library look to the University for volunteers to help with the painting. She also suggested obtaining some video equipment for downstairs in order to monitor that area when the staff leaves for the day. Margaret Siro stated the night the Library Board met she was at a meeting downstairs from 6:30 to 8:30. She asked who is responsible for closing up after a meeting such as that. Pres. Handlan replied that whoever is using the facility is responsible to lock up and turn off the lights. She stated the organizations that use the facility have a sheet documenting what they need to do. Mgr. Bickhart stated this was a recurrent program so this was documented for the library so that they could give a list of the procedures to the organizations they lease the basement to. He has made a checklist so that he could go through the building and see what is not being done. He has identified patterns by certain groups that use the facilities and totally ignore the procedures. Margaret Siro stated the meeting she attended is a fairly new group and she apologized for the building being left open and lights on. Mgr. Bickhart stated that the library needs to tell the organizations they rent to that along with the key to the building they have an obligation to follow the procedures as outlined.

## **MAYOR**

Mayor Carroll reported that he would like to move forward with the Junior Councilperson Program and is asking for Council's input on someone in ninth or tenth grade who might be interested in serving in this position. The student would go to some training conferences, sit through Council meetings and be mentored by Council members. The student would not sit in on Executive Sessions and would not have a vote. The student must be a resident of the Borough. If Council does not have any suggestions then Mayor Carroll will contact a teacher for suggestions. He stated there will be a cost factor to the Borough for the student to attend conferences. Pres. Handlan asked for comments or any aversion by any Council members. The consensus was that this is a good idea.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION - Council Meeting recessed to an Executive Session at 10:20 P.M. for discussion of Personnel Issues and discussion of Contractual Issues. Council meeting reconvened at 10:50 P.M.**

Motion by C/P Reuning to approve the police contract pending Solicitor Cravitz's working through it for a final copy. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

C/P Anderson asked that the minutes show that this was a very smooth process. C/P Reuning stated the contract was arrived at in three meetings. Mgr. Bickhart stated the record should show the excellent cooperation that the police association provided to the Borough. C/P Anderson stated she was fearful of the process but it was a very pleasant experience.

Motion by C/P Anderson to hire Corby L. Bowersox as the Director of Public Works beginning on October 1, 2006 at a starting salary of \$40,000 per year plus benefits and the usual probationary period to apply. Seconded by C/P Herb.

**AYES: SIX (6)**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Pres. Handlan asked if the other three candidates who were interviewed will be sent a letter and Mgr. Bickhart replied that he would be calling the other three who were interviewed and sending a letter to all the other people that the Borough received applications from. He had already advised the applicants of the Committee's intent to readvertise the position and to seek more applicants.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 10:53 p.m. following Motion for adjournment by C/P Herb.

Attachments: None