

**SELINGSGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2006 - 4:00 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 M. Inch

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** C/P D. Mengel

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Solicitor R. Cravitz; Mgr. J. Bickhart; Mayor P. Carroll; Borough Treasurer Sheri Badman

**OTHERS ABSENT:** None

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Pres. Handlan called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

**VISITORS TO BE HEARD:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:**

**Adopt Ordinance # 750 pertaining to a proposed tax levy for the year 2007** – Solicitor Cravitz reported that this Ordinance allows the Borough to put 10.3 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation, which equals 103 cents on each \$100. This includes the 5% change of assessment allowed by law and also brings the Borough into alignment with the County.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to adopt Ordinance # 750. Seconded by C/P Inch.

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

**Adopt the 2007 Budget, as advertised**

Motion by C/P Herb to adopt the 2007 budget. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

Pres. Handlan asked if there have been any responses to the advertisement of the budget. No one has heard anything from anyone. Pres. Handlan called for a vote on the motion.

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

**Authorize the borrowing of funds from the Water Fund as may be needed to provide adequate monies for the January 5, 2007 payroll** – Mgr. Bickhart reported this has been standard practice at the January Council meeting. However, because there is a payroll before the January meeting Council's authorization is needed for this expenditure. At the January meeting authorization may or may not be needed to do this into 2007 because revenues do not always come in as quickly as expenses.

Motion by C/P Inch that Council authorize the borrowing of money from the Water Fund as needed. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

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

**Adopt Ordinance # 751 pertaining to additions to stop intersections and amendments to 25 MPH speed limit zone on North Market Street** – Solicitor Cravitz reported that this Ordinance clears up the problems with stop signs at intersections of streets and alleys, and allows the speed to be dropped from 35 to 25 MPH on one section of North Market Street. This will amend Section 133-7, Speed Limits, by

moving the 25 MPH speed limit for southbound traffic only from West Snyder Street to a point 300 feet north of West Snyder Street, approximately in front of the Selinsgrove Inn. The stop signs apply to Section 133-25, Stop Intersections, with stop signs being included at Blueberry Alley, Elderberry Alley, Liberty Alley, River Alley, Strawberry Alley, and Union Alley. Mgr. Bickhart added that the initial authorization a few months ago pertained just to the four locations on Strawberry Alley where stop signs were added or replaced. In going through the Borough, other stop signs at alleys were identified that were not covered under the Ordinance. Most of these were at intersections with state roads and were placed by the state. The stop signs were turned over to the Borough when the roads were turned over, but the stop signs were never picked up on the Borough's records. Chief Garlock was involved in the discussion on this, stating that in order for the police department to enforce a stop sign it must be in the Ordinance. The Safety Committee reviewed the list and approved it.

Motion by C/P Anderson to adopt Ordinance # 751. Seconded by C/P Herb.

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

Pres. Handlan asked that Steve Leason, who brought the 25 MPH on Market Street issue to Council's attention, and Don Bower, who notified Council that the stop sign at Strawberry Alley and East Pine Street needed to be replaced, be contacted to let them know that this action has been taken.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Accept Retirement Notice of Gary A. Klingler effective at midnight on December 29, 2006 –**

Mgr. Bickhart stated that Council acknowledged receipt of Gary's notice of retirement when he submitted it, but they did not accept it at that time to allow for flexibility in the final date.

Motion by C/P Anderson to accept Gary Klingler's retirement notice effective at midnight on December 29, 2006. Seconded by C/P Inch.

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

**Adopt Resolution No. 2006-11 acknowledging the 38 years, 5 months and 14 days of dedicated service of Gary Allen Klingler, Director of Public Works –** Mgr. Bickhart stated a copy of this resolution has been given to Council, and a framed copy was given to Gary.

Motion by C/P Anderson to adopt Resolution No. 2006-11. Seconded by C/P Inch.

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

Pres. Handlan suggesting have the picture of the Borough crew that was in the newsletter signed by the guys and then framed to give to Gary.

**Skateboarding Issue –** Mgr. Bickhart reported that there will most likely be people at the January meeting to address this issue. He gave Council copies of a letter from Mr. Ron Cowan. C/P Hetherington disagreed with the part of Mr. Cowan's letter that stated that Council feels the skateboarders are delinquents, criminals, hoodlums and punks. Discussion revolved around the fact that this issue has come up various times in the past. The ordinance was passed in 1988, and a copy of the Ordinance was included on the back of the letter. C/P Hetherington stated that when the ordinance was passed there was very little traffic on Industrial Park Road. C/P Anderson suggested referring this to Parks and Recreation to see if a suitable skateboarding area can be developed. Pres. Handlan asked Council to be prepared to discuss this in January and to pass along their comments regarding this issue. Mgr. Bickhart stated he would be especially interested in knowing what the issues and thought processes were in 1988 when the ordinance was passed. He stated he spoke with Tom Rambo at the university about this, because they have issues there with skateboarders. Tom Rambo stated that the university's position is that if skateboarders are transiting through on sidewalks or streets the university does not hassle them. However, if they are on stairs or railings, then they remove them. Mgr. Bickhart stated that one big issue

in 1988 was skateboarding on sidewalks. Skateboarders are more prevalent recently and Chief Garlock has instructed his officers to stop the skateboarders and give them a warning first. Mgr. Bickhart expressed concern about the skateboarders finding their way to the Life Trail. Some neighboring boroughs have skate parks and Selinsgrove had looked into it, but the cost to build one is high and there is also a liability issue. C/P Anderson suggested getting some information from Lewisburg and Sunbury as to how their skate parks work for them. C/P Herb expressed some thoughts on allowing skateboards to share the sidewalks with pedestrians as long as the pedestrians have the right of way. The general consensus of Council seems to be that skateboarding as transportation is not a problem; the problem lies in the stunts that skateboarders often try to do and the risk of personal injury and property damage that could result from these stunts. C/P Reuning stated that in the past Council has offered to help the skateboarders find a location for a skate park if the skateboarders will raise the funds to build the park.

**Economic Development Liquor License** – Mgr. Bickhart reported that Toby Skinner, who purchased M&T Bank, is interested in pursuing this license for her restaurant, “Irene’s”. This will be advertised for the February meeting. C/P Hetherington asked how “Bring Your Own Bottle” clubs work. Solicitor Cravitz replied that there is no liability to the restaurateur, who is not providing or serving the alcohol. Mgr. Bickhart stated that he saw Brian Farrell today and learned that he is no longer interested in pursuing this license for the Fire House and he would not object to Toby Skinner’s pursuit of it for her restaurant. Mgr. Bickhart stated that Ms. Skinner is willing to price her alcohol in such a way as to fall within the 70% of income from food requirement of the PLCB for this particular license, including giving a complimentary glass of wine with dinner.

**Weiser Run Improvement** – Mgr. Bickhart reported that on Friday, January 5, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. there will be a meeting on this issue with the school district’s contractor, Schlegel Excavating, Randy Varner from the school district, Corby Bowersox, John Coukart, Mgr. Bickhart and some Council members. The meeting will begin at the Borough Office.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Attachments: None