

SELINGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2007 - 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 Dawne Long; Borough Employee Janet Powers; DH&L Representative Ken Stettler; Daily Item Reporter Damian Gessel; Borough Residents Joseph and Margaret Siro; Councilperson Elect Erik Viker; Main Street Manager Debbie Rozelle

OTHERS ABSENT: Borough Treasurer Sheri Badman

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

Pres. Handlan requested that everyone keep Sheri Badman, Mayor Carroll and his wife, who is Sheri's sister, in their thoughts and prayers. Sheri and Mrs. Carroll lost a sister unexpectedly this past week.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, 2007:

Mayor Carroll stated the correct amount for the North Central Highway Safety Network grant funds is \$6,000 rather than the \$10,000 he quoted at the meeting, as noted on Page 18 in two places.

The last name of Linda, which is Costa, should be added to the section on Page 10 regarding the Junior Councilperson.

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

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

VISITORS TO BE HEARD:

Borough Police Chief, Thomas Garlock – Presentation of Police Report for October 2007 –

Mgr. Bickhart asked if some bolt cutters that were discovered missing by Corby were included in the items that were recovered along with the radio. Chief Garlock replied that he is not aware of any bolt cutters being recovered. Mayor Carroll stated there has been a rash of burglaries over the last few weeks. Chief Garlock stated there were ten burglaries during the Thanksgiving holiday. Suspects have been identified and work on the cases is ongoing with no arrests made at the present time. The department is working on recovering the stolen property. The burglaries were clustered in the University Avenue, college and off-campus housing areas. C/P Hetherington noted that there seems to be a lot of vandalism taking place. Chief Garlock stated vandalism is running higher this year, with 116 incidents as compared to 95 incidents last year at this time. This is a 17% increase. Some vandalism is college-related but there is also vandalism taking place during the summer when college is not in session. It occurs throughout the Borough and can be caused by different issues. Vandalism is hard to address with patrol operations because much of it takes place during the dark hours and the vandals see the police cars' headlights coming, even if they are unmarked cars, and stop what they are doing. C/P Hetherington noted that a friend's truck was vandalized and kids were seen in the area at 2:30 a.m. Chief Garlock stated the department aggressively handles curfew issues in the Borough. While charges are not always brought, the offenders are always taken into custody. Issues of disorderly conduct are also addressed, but it is difficult to be everywhere when there is only one patrolman on duty. C/P Inch called attention to the

number of police calls relating to the university, off-campus housing and the school district, which is at 33%, the same as last month. Mgr. Bickhart asked if the department gets any crime information as to what is going on in the townships surrounding the Borough. Chief Garlock reported that he meets monthly with the state police investigators and the Shamokin Dam and Middleburg police. If something is not a major crime he does not hear about it other than reading about it in the newspaper. Some of the off-campus housing is in Penn Township and not in the Borough. The majority of dispatches are now handled by MDT, Mobile Data Terminals, and not by radio so the department no longer hears other departments being dispatched. Mgr. Bickhart supposed that if minor crimes are up in Selinsgrove that they would be up in surrounding communities also. Chief Garlock stated he could not address that issue.

DH&L Fire Company, Ken Stettler – Ken reported there were 18 incidents in November as follows: 5 automatic alarms, 1 false alarm, 4 good intent service calls, 3 vehicle accidents without extrication, 3 structure fires, 1 tree down and 1 water rescue recovery. The incidents occurred as follows: 1 in Freeburg, 3 in Monroe Township, 3 in Penn Township, 10 in Selinsgrove, and 1 in Upper Augusta Township. The loss within the jurisdiction was \$0.00. November man hours total 74, which Ken stated seems quite low. It is usually around 400 hours or more so he will double check this figure. He stated there are many hours that do not get reported from people who are just around doing stuff at the station. C/P Hetherington asked how things are going with recruiting volunteers. Ken replied that the department is in good shape now, with a lot of college students. He stated the numbers fluctuate, especially during the summer. Tonight there was a call for a tree down on a wire and 15 people responded.

Debbie Rozelle, Selinsgrove Main Street Manager – Debbie reported her first few weeks have been quite hectic, with most of her focus so far being on White Christmas and Late Shoppers' Night. She has had meetings with fundraising committees and has done some training. Her office will be in the former chiropractic center just past All Saints Church. Work is being done there and when she has her contact information she will see that Council gets it. Right now she is in the Kind Café. C/P Anderson expressed concern about volunteerism dropping off because there is a paid person and Debbie replied that the need for volunteers will actually go up now because there are a lot of plans to be implemented. Mgr. Bickhart stated that Debbie will be focused full time on the downtown and making the downtown a vital part of Selinsgrove. Debbie is an ambassador for Selinsgrove and is starting off in the best possible place due to the past and present cooperation between Selinsgrove Borough, SPI and the Selinsgrove Chamber of Commerce. Mgr. Bickhart stated he was involved a little bit with the hiring of Debbie, noting that there were some excellent candidates. The committee realizes how fortunate they are that Debbie submitted her application and resumé. He noted that after having four children, Debbie went back to Susquehanna University and got a degree in Communications Studies. He stated that Debbie was a perfect choice for this job. Pres. Handlan stated the Main Street Manager's responsibilities include events that occur downtown, but Debbie also has many other important responsibilities directly related to the businesses. She has the support of Mifflinburg and Lewisburg, who currently have excellent Main Street programs, as well as the Pennsylvania Downtown Association. Pres. Handlan noted that Debbie is welcome at the Borough Council meetings any time.

Resolutions – Pres. Handlan took this opportunity to recognize two long-time Borough Council members who will be leaving Council after this month, Bill Reuning and Bill Hetherington. She read the following resolutions for the record and asked each Council member to sign them, after which they will be framed.

Resolution # 2007-08: "Whereas William D. Hetherington, Jr. has served as a Selinsgrove Borough Councilman from January 1984 to December 2007, a consecutive period of 24 years, and Whereas William D. Hetherington, Jr. has served as President of Selinsgrove Borough Council from January 1988 to December 1991, and Whereas William D. Hetherington, Jr. has served as Chairman of the Public Safety Committee and as Co-Chairman of the Town Gown Committee of Borough Council for many years, Now therefore be it hereby remembered and entered in to the official record of the Borough of Selinsgrove that William D. Hetherington, Jr. has served the Borough of Selinsgrove with dedication and distinction and will forever be a part of the Selinsgrove community. To be entered into the official record of the Borough of Selinsgrove effective on the last day of December in the year 2007."

Pres. Handlan thanked C/P Hetherington for all he has done, noting that 24 years is an amazing amount of time to donate as a volunteer to the community. Pres. Handlan hopes C/P Hetherington would consider continuing to help out on some committees. C/P Hetherington stated he will miss everyone. He stated he had the opportunity to meet a lot of wonderful people and to serve with a lot of wonderful people. He stated sometimes people disagree and he was never shy about stating how he felt about things. He apologized if he hurt anyone's feelings over the years. He hoped that over the years he has been able to do some good for the Borough. Pres. Handlan stated that he certainly has.

Resolution # 2007-09: "Whereas Wilhelm Reuning has served as a Selinsgrove Borough Councilman from January 1998 to December 2007, a consecutive period of 10 years, and Whereas Wilhelm Reuning has served as Chairman of the Public Facilities and Services Committee of the Borough Council for many years and as Chairman of the Special Committee on the History of Selinsgrove Borough through the planning and celebration of the Borough's Sesquicentennial, Now therefore be it hereby remembered and entered into the official record of the Borough of Selinsgrove that Wilhelm Reuning has served the Borough of Selinsgrove with dedication and distinction and will forever be a part of the Selinsgrove community. To be entered into the official record of the Borough of Selinsgrove effective on the last day of December in the year 2007."

Pres. Handlan thanked C/P Reuning for his years of service. C/P Reuning stated he would have kept going but age is catching up with him. He stated he joined the Council to make a difference and he hopes that he has produced some important change. He stated to C/P Hetherington that they have disagreed but have never held it against each other. C/P Hetherington stated sometimes you get angry, you win some and you lose some, but after the vote you go with it and move on. C/P Reuning stated if there is a project that is short-lived, taking place within a year, he will be glad to help out with it – anything except the library.

Pres. Handlan again thanked both C/Ps Hetherington and Reuning for their service and noted that they will be missed. Mgr. Bickhart stated he appreciates their dedication, being available day in and day out for the Borough.

Janet Powers, report on the results of the Borough's application under the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System – Janet reported that she has been working on this project for over a decade. The NFIP Community Rating Service allows the Borough to get better flood insurance rates for people in the floodplain by completing certain things. Janet reported the Borough has successfully gotten to a Rate Code 7. Most communities start out at a 9. Council has been given a letter noting the things that have been done, such as keeping elevation statistics for new homes and substantially improved homes in the floodplain. This project was started with Wyoming Valley Flood Rating monies. Tom Bresenham of SEDA-COG helped Janet with the process and the applications involved. Being a Class 7 community equates to a 15% reduction in flood insurance premiums to the average homeowner. This should be done automatically on the insurance notices sent to the homeowners. Janet noted she did not see it on her bill so she will be checking into this. C/P Herb stated he thought he did see a reduction in his bill. On behalf of the people who will benefit from this, C/P Herb thanked Janet for her hard work and all the effort she put into this. C/P Anderson stated that the Borough needs to be sure to get good press out of this, especially with the bad news recently that went with increasing the levels of the floodplain. C/P Herb noted that as a Class 7 community, Selinsgrove ranks in the top 30% of communities in the commonwealth. Pres. Handlan asked if Selinsgrove was a 9 at one time and then gradually went down to a 7. Janet replied that Selinsgrove actually started out as a 10 and went straight from there to a 7. The process takes a long time and the first application was submitted in 2001. Pres. Handlan thanked Janet for her work on this. Mgr. Bickhart stated that CK-COG, as the third party building inspector, had to do a review or the Borough would have only received a Class 8. CK-COG was able to get their reviews done to enable the Borough to receive the Class 7 classification. C/P Mengel asked if the Borough could continue on to a Class 6 and Janet replied that this is reevaluated every year. If the Borough meets more difficult criteria it would be possible. This would involve such things as buying and removing houses in the floodplain.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:

Review List of Council Issues – No report.

COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS:

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: C/P Inch, Chairman

Payment and Ratification of Bills

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

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Statewide Tax Recovery, Inc. - Exoneration Requests – None

Tentative Adoption of the 2008 Budget

Motion by C/P Inch to adopt the 2008 Budget with a 2.15 mill real estate tax increase to a 12.45 mill rate for 2008. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

This budget adds a fulltime police officer but does not increase the budget for part time and overtime. C/P Anderson noted that in order to hire a new officer the Civil Service Commission will have to create a pool and the process will take several months. Therefore, a new officer will most likely not be hired until March or April. There are three different salary lines in the budget: fulltime police, part time police, and overtime pay. The Chief has the authority to move monies around in those categories. The 2008 budget includes a salary for one year for a new fulltime officer. However, if this officer is not hired until March or April, the unused salary for the months before the hire can be used throughout the year for part time and overtime pay. The additional police officer will add around 2,000 hours to the police program for the year. C/P Reuning noted that this budget is in line with the past practice of gradually increasing items such as this. He stated it is a unanimous recommendation from the Committee to stay with the motion as it is. C/P Inch noted that of the time spent on the budget, an hour and a half was spent on just this issue. C/P Herb asked if this proposed increase in the police budget required changing or reducing any other parts of the budget that had been looked at last week. The Committee members replied that it did not. C/P Mengel asked if Chief Garlock understands that he has the ability to use the unearned fulltime monies for part time and overtime pay. Mgr. Bickhart stated he did review the Committee's recommendation with Chief Garlock today and he was okay with it. The Committee's intent is that the line item for Salaries and Wages will have a balance in it at the end of the year due to the new officer not being hired immediately, and in order to maintain the same level of police service that money will be distributed to part time and overtime expenses that exceed the line items as printed in the budget. In putting the budget together 10/12 of the salary and benefits could have been put in as a diminishment in the bottom line for the police budget. Rather than do that, the Committee left the money in with the intention of allowing for the transfer of the money. All the money is in Chief Garlock's budget and will be used at his discretion. Chief Garlock had expressed a concern as to how he would know where things stood and Mgr. Bickhart stated he and Sheri will keep Chief Garlock apprised of the money situation. When the new police officer is hired the amount of money available for part time and overtime will be known. Chief Garlock understands this and is attempting to match the hiring with his needs. The hiring process will begin immediately but Chief Garlock will determine the actual start date of the new fulltime officer. Pres. Handlan expressed concerns about overtime pay and asked for a guesstimate as to what will be available for overtime pay. Mgr. Bickhart estimated that \$4,000 or \$5,000 will be available for each month the new fulltime officer is not in place. If the new officer is hired March 1 then \$8,000 to \$10,000 will be available for part time and/or overtime pay. Pres. Handlan stated part time is in the budget at \$11,468 and \$8,800 is available for overtime wages. She asked if the monies from the months before a fulltime officer is hired would average out to what was discussed had there been a 2.5 mill tax increase. C/P Anderson replied that the available monies as proposed will be sufficient to maintain the level of services from 2007. Pres. Handlan noted the Borough wanted to increase the level of services and

C/P Anderson replied that this will be done once the new officer is hired. There is only one part-time officer now and no other part-time officers are being considered. Mgr. Bickhart stated that his memo notes that if the taxes were raised 2.5 mills then another \$6,468 would be put into part time and another \$5,800 would be put into overtime for a total of \$12,268. With a two-month delay in hiring a police officer, the Borough will have \$8,000 to \$10,000 to be used for this purpose. If the police officer is not hired for three months the amount would be higher. C/P Reuning mentioned the health insurance and other fringe benefits involved also. Mgr. Bickhart noted that the proposed budget will do what the 2.5 mill increase would have done without having to raise the taxes more than the proposed 2.15 mill increase. Pres. Handlan called for a vote on the motion.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Authorization for publication of proposed Ordinance # 762, levying the taxes required by the Budget, for adoption at a Special Meeting to be held prior to the end of December

Motion by C/P Anderson to authorize the solicitor to advertise the tax increase. Seconded by C/P Herb.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mgr. Bickhart noted for the record that the only thing being increased is the real estate tax by 2.15 mills. All the other taxes remain the same as in prior years. The budget that Council was provided has budgets for nine different funds. None of the other eight funds require any kind of increase in taxes, but Council is accepting those budgets as well.

Establish date(s) and time(s) for Continued/Special Meeting(s) to further consider 2008 Budget and/or to adopt Tax Levy Ordinance – C/P Inch suggested setting this meeting date for December 27, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting should last about an hour. Tonight's meeting will be recessed to that date.

Request approval to pay all bills received through end of 2007, to the extent that revenues are available for this purpose and following the review and approval of the Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee

Motion by C/P Mengel to approve this as noted above. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mgr. Bickhart noted that this is a convention that is used every year in order to get as many of the 2007 expenses paid in calendar year 2007. There should not be a lot of bills that this will apply to. It is usually those that would require penalties and fees if payment were delayed.

Recommendations on revised schedule of fees – This is being tabled to the January Council meeting.

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 – Interviews are ongoing for the public works position. No offers have been made yet.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION: Earl Moyer, Chairman

Review Land Development Plans for Susquehanna University – New Science Building –

Mgr. Bickhart stated there will not be a review of the land development plans for the new science building. The Planning Commission is not prepared to make a recommendation yet. This will be postponed to January. It is under active review. Some neighbors came to the meeting to express their opinions. A land development plan is anticipated that will be good for the university and for the community. Mgr. Bickhart stated he has been advised that there will be land development plans forthcoming for additional dormitories. C/P Anderson noted the Planning Commission is meeting again in December. C/P Inch asked if the dormitory plans will go forward this summer and Mgr. Bickhart stated that is his understanding.

C/P Anderson asked about the ordinance regarding the discontinuation of a nonconforming use and Mgr. Bickhart stated that a draft should be ready for the January Council meeting. Pres. Handlan asked if this will be a specific or blanket ordinance and Mgr. Bickhart stated it would be a blanket ordinance relating to everyone in the Borough. C/P Anderson stated it will authorize a special hearing for people in that circumstance and will make provisions to go back if it makes sense to do so. Mgr. Bickhart stated the Planning Commission's solicitor, Karen Hackman, was asked to help with the language of this and she proposed some language which was reviewed by the Planning Commission. At the first discussion there was some question about setting a time period to make the election and the Planning Commission decided not to put a time limit on it. The process is tied to the special exception process, which is a very public Zoning Hearing Board process that includes notice to adjoining property owners. The Planning Commission's recommendation will be to allow this at any time as long as it meets the conditions of a special exception and is approved by the Zoning Hearing Board.

ZONING HEARING BOARD: Glen Rohrer, Chairman

Accept with regret the resignation of Glen Rohrer from the Zoning Hearing Board effective 12/31/07

Motion by C/P Mengel to accept the resignation of Glen Rohrer. Seconded by C/P Inch.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Consider the appointment of a person to serve on the Zoning Hearing Board to fulfill the uncompleted term of Glen Rohrer until 12/31/08 –

Mgr. Bickhart stated that Pat Morris had expressed interest in serving on the Planning Commission but this occurred just after the Planning Commission assigned Brian Farrell to the open position. Mgr. Bickhart approached Pat Morris about the Zoning Hearing Board position and she is interested in it. She will attend the next meeting and submit herself as a candidate. Mgr. Bickhart asked that names of other interested people be given to him. The current members are Jim Forster, Bob Burd, Dena Praul-Gentner and Cyril Runkle. C/P Anderson suggested Pam White but Mgr. Bickhart stated she has never expressed an interest in zoning issues.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: Dalton Savidge, Chairman – C/P Reuning asked if Dalton is aware that he needs to compile a new list for police officers. Mgr. Bickhart stated he will inform him tomorrow.

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD: Richard Norman, Chairman – No Report

SHADE TREE COMMISSION: Karl Maul, Chairman – No Report

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR: Pete Carroll – No Report

BOROUGH SOLICITOR: Robert Cravitz

Consider Adoption of Resolution # 2007-05, pertaining to the Borough's participation in the PSAB Junior Councilperson Program and establishing guidelines

Solicitor Cravitz reported that he checked with PSAB, who are really keen on this program to help teenagers get involved in local government, and he has come up with a resolution as follows: "Whereas the Selinsgrove Borough Council seeks to educate and involve youth in their local government and to reach out to involve possible future members of Council to benefit both the youth and all residents of the Borough, and Whereas the Junior Councilperson program as established and fostered by the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs seeks to encourage Boroughs to have high school age students participate in the workings of the local government by appointing Junior Councilperson(s), and Whereas the Borough Council intends to seek assistance from high school faculty members and guidance counselors to recommend prospective Junior Council candidates, Council plans to select student(s) to serve as Junior Council members during the school year, and Whereas the Council wishes to extend to the youth of Selinsgrove High School a voice in the operation of the Borough and this Council. Now therefore be it resolved that 1) the Council of the Borough of Selinsgrove hereby creates the position of Junior Councilperson; 2) the term of the office shall be during the school year from September through May; 3) candidates for the office shall submit a written application to Borough Council with a one-page cover letter highlighting the applicant's interest in the position and after considering all submissions Borough Council shall appoint a student or students at a regular scheduled meeting; 4) the Junior Councilperson shall be a resident of Selinsgrove Area School District and a student in the Selinsgrove Area High School; 5) the Junior Councilperson shall be sworn in upon appointment and take the "oath of office"; 6) the Junior Councilperson shall not receive compensation; 7) the Junior Councilperson shall be permitted to attend all meetings of the Council and all Committee meetings, have a seat at the Council table and shall be permitted to participate fully in those proceedings except that he or she shall not be afforded the right to vote and shall not be permitted to attend Executive Sessions; 8) the Junior Councilperson shall be permitted to attend PSAB conferences/seminars and/or the Pennsylvania State Mayors Association conference upon the Borough Council's approval. Approved this ____ day of ____ 2007."

Solicitor Cravitz noted that No. 4 could be amended to include just Borough residents if Council so chooses. He also noted that the "oath of office" is different from what the Council members take. C/P Inch stated he is in favor of this program but he feels the Junior Councilperson should be a resident of Selinsgrove. If Freeburg had a program and someone from Selinsgrove participated because Freeburg did not have one of their own residents, then that person would be at a disadvantage as far as knowing the town, the people and the situation. It is more realistic if the individual is from the Borough and one of the goals of the program is to have someone who may possibly one day be in a position to run for election to the Council. He stated that once the word gets out someone will jump at this opportunity. C/P Hetherington and C/P Reuning agreed. However, C/P Reuning suggested adding wording that if no one is available from Selinsgrove Borough then it would be opened to any student from the school district. C/P Hetherington asked if the student would be appointed from year to year and Pres. Handlan replied the position would be for the school year, from September to May. She noted that so far efforts to find someone in the Borough have been unsuccessful. C/P Reuning suggested going to the social studies teachers at the high school and Pres. Handlan replied that Mayor Carroll has done this and has been working on this for a number of months. C/P Mengel suggested going to the National Honor Society and any appropriate committees at the school to do a presentation. Mayor Carroll stated that he approached Mr. Messmore, the principal, and Harvey Edwards, who advises the student council. Mayor Carroll stated he liked C/P Reuning's idea of seeking out a resident of the Borough first but opening it to other students in the school district if no one from the Borough comes forward. Solicitor Cravitz replied that the resolution could be left as it is and Council can just select someone from the Borough if they choose to do so. He stated that in fairness it would need to be stated that preference would be given to a Borough resident. C/P Herb suggested making this as non-exclusionary as possible and thus not limit it to Borough residents. He stated he did not think it would be right to make a presentation to the National Honor Society as a whole and then tell the students it does not apply to them if they do not live in the Borough. He also suggested opening it to students who live in the school district but who may be home schooled or who may attend a parochial school and not limit it to students at the Selinsgrove High School. He stated that Council may be the principal beneficiaries of this, especially if a student is found who is

articulate and not afraid to speak up on issues. Council will be able to see things from a point of view that they do not normally have. C/P Anderson supported the idea of enabling a home schooled or parochial school student to apply. Solicitor Cravitz noted that the clearinghouse mechanism for this would be the high school faculty and guidance counselor, but if Council wants to extend it to home schooled or parochial school students then the resolution could say that anyone could apply. In response to a question from C/P Anderson, he stated that the resolution is from the PSAB model and they recommend the applications go through a committee at the high school so they can filter them and then recommend the students that they think would do a good job. C/P Inch asked if the PSAB requires it to be a resident of the Borough. Solicitor Cravitz reported it does not have to be a Borough resident, but it usually is. C/P Hetherington stated it would not have to be an honor student, although that would be preferable. He stated someone running for office only has to get a petition signed to run and education has nothing to do with it. If there are enough votes the person gets elected. Pres. Handlan stated the position has to be filled by someone with an interest in doing it and C/P Hetherington stated the students with an interest may not necessarily be honor students. C/P Inch stated the teachers should know their students and whether they have an aptitude and interest for government. The teacher could take the student aside and encourage him or her to submit an application. C/P Anderson asked if this should go to the Community Activities and Public Affairs Committee for selection in addition to the recommendations of the high school teachers and guidance counselors. That way a student that does not attend the high school can still apply through the Committee. Pres. Handlan stated some publicity has been done on this but no formal letters have been sent to anyone and this needs to be done. She stated C/P Anderson's suggestion was a good one. C/P Mengel stated it would be nice to have two students so they feel more comfortable speaking up at Council meetings. Pres. Handlan stated this will require some additional work from the Council members as they mentor these students. She stated there will be no vote on the resolution tonight and suggested modifying the language so as not to be boxed into the Selinsgrove Area School District, allowing any student in the district and any student residing in the district but attending a parochial school or being home schooled to apply, with a preference on students who are residents of Selinsgrove Borough.

Adopt Resolution # 2007-06 pertaining to waiving 100% of the employees contributions to the PMRS Pension Plan for 2008 for the Borough's Non-Uniformed Employees – Solicitor Cravitz read: "Whereas Selinsgrove Borough, Snyder County, Pennsylvania, by Ordinance # 740 entered into an Agreement dated November 7, 2005 of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board by the Non-Uniformed Employee Pension Plan, and Whereas Paragraph 11 of said Agreement allows the Borough to annually waive or reduce the required employee contribution, and Whereas Selinsgrove Borough now desires to waive the required member contribution for calendar year 2008, Now therefore be it resolved this 3rd day of December 2007 that in accordance with Ordinance # 740 and the Agreement dated November 7, 2005 the Borough agrees to waive the required member contributions to the Non-Uniformed Employee Pension Plan for calendar year 2008, and be it resolved further that this copy of this Resolution will be filed with Pennsylvania's Municipal Retirement Board to so indicate the Borough's intent."

Motion by C/P Anderson to adopt Resolution # 2007-06. Seconded by C/P Hetherington.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Adopt Resolution # 2007-07 pertaining to waiving 100% of the employees contributions to the PMRS Pension Plan for 2008 for the Borough's Police Officers – Solicitor Cravitz read: "Whereas Selinsgrove Borough, Snyder County, Pennsylvania, by Ordinance # 693 entered into an Agreement dated March 5, 2001 of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board to provide a Police Pension Plan, and Whereas Paragraph II of that Agreement allows the Borough to annually waive or reduce the required employee contribution, and Whereas Selinsgrove Borough now desires to waive that member contribution for calendar year 2008, Now therefore be it resolved this 3rd day of December 2007 that in accordance with Ordinance # 693 and the Agreement dated March 5, 2001 the Borough agrees to waive the required member contributions to the Police Pension Plan for calendar year 2008." The resolution will be filed with the Retirement Board.

Motion by C/P Hetherington to adopt Resolution # 2007-07. Seconded by C/P Inch.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mgr. Bickhart stated for the record that these two resolutions are possible because the Borough knows that there is state aid that will do this on behalf of the employees. This is not done with taxpayers' money but rather Sheri's creative use of state grant money that is intended to help support the retirement plans of Borough employees. For the last couple of years the Borough has been good at maximizing this.

Consider adoption of Ordinance # 762 pertaining to an Amendment to § 133-5 of the Code of the Borough of Selinsgrove, to permit other persons to perform some duties currently limited to Police Officers – Solicitor Cravitz reported that prior to this, enforcement of parking regulations was limited to police officers. He spoke with Officer Mark Wolfberg on behalf of the Selinsgrove Police Officers Association and they reviewed this and agreed with the creation of an additional position, which will be a parking regulator. Solicitor Cravitz read from the old Ordinance: "This Chapter shall be enforced by police officers of the Borough of Selinsgrove who are hereby authorized to direct traffic on highways, streets, alleys and intersections of the Borough in accordance with the provision of this Chapter and the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania." Solicitor Cravitz read from the new provision, which adds: "The position of Parking Regulator is hereby established which shall be a temporary position to be filled at the discretion of the Chief of Police and funded by grants and income sources other than from the General Account of the Borough. The Parking Regulator shall not be a fulltime employee, shall not receive the benefits of a fulltime employee, shall not have any of the authority to arrest or detain persons, and shall not be a member of the Selinsgrove Police Officers Association. The Parking Regulator shall only assist in the enforcement of the parking provisions of this Chapter by patrolling the streets and alleys of the Borough, documenting in writing any observed violations and the identity of the vehicle involved and report such violations to the Police Department for enforcement proceedings." Solicitor Cravitz stated that Officer Wolfberg stated there would be no objection to adding that the person could issue a ticket. This would not be a citation, but just a ticket indicating that a violation had occurred. The ticket would be given to the police officers, who would confirm the violation and if the ticket were not paid they would issue a citation and go forward with the enforcement proceedings. The Parking Regulator would be a witness in court, but he would not issue the citation or take the person to court. Officer Wolfberg also stated there could be two Parking Regulator positions created.

C/P Anderson stated that she thought Chief Garlock wanted to use one of the PHEAA students and the payment for these students comes in part from the general funds of the police department. Solicitor Cravitz stated the new provision could be modified as Council wishes. C/P Anderson stated she likes the idea of having the position funded by grants and other income sources, but the reality is that if Chief Garlock is going to be able to do this it will come through the PHEAA student money. C/P Mengel suggested using wording such as "limited funding from the general fund" and C/P Anderson suggested the wording of "designated funding from the general fund". Mayor Carroll stated there is a 90/10 split for the PHEAA program. He stated this provision was expanded quite a bit beyond the very generic language that other police departments have in place. Solicitor Cravitz replied that he wanted to be sure a position was not created that would cause a problem with the Police Officers Union, and a created position will take work away from the officers which could result in a grievance. He stated he had to make the provision as specific as possible, so it is not so much expansive as it is limiting by being specific. Mayor Carroll stated he went over the wording with the Sunbury Chief of Police. Sunbury has parking meters and they use the wording that Mayor Carroll read at the regular November Council meeting, which notes "such other persons". Pres. Handlan asked if issuing a ticket obligates the Parking Regulator to go to court for a dispute. She noted that this could be a problem, although the person who accepts the position would know this when they took the position. Solicitor Cravitz replied that the Parking Regulator would have to go to court as the witness for a disputed ticket. C/P Mengel asked what happens if the ticketed car is gone when the regular police officer goes to verify the information on the ticket. Solicitor Cravitz replied that the ticket is a notice that the person is in violation. If they do not pay the ticket then the citation is issued and taken to the magistrate. The ticket is an administrative notice and if the person pays it everything is done administratively. If the person does not pay the ticket then it goes through the court. C/P Mengel noted that the ticket system is a good one, because if information is only gathered and

then reported to the police by the time the police officer goes out to look into the situation the vehicle may be gone. Mayor Carroll stated the license plate number would be recorded and it could be followed up on that way. Solicitor Cravitz stated that since this will not be needed until the summer intern program begins he will revise the new provision, send out a copy to Council members for discussion at their December 27 meeting, and then they can vote on it at the regular January Council meeting.

BOROUGH ENGINEER: J. A. Coukart & Associates

Update on pending projects – Solicitor Cravitz reported on the 2006 Street and Alley Program that he has not heard back from the contractor's attorney regarding the letter that was sent out to her. This was a "take it or leave it" offer and the last payment is still pending to the contractor.

Mgr. Bickhart reported that in checking out the storm sewer systems throughout the Borough, Corby found a culvert on Bridge Street that goes across the street and empties into Penn's Creek. Just like the one that was repaired by the Pine Street bridge, several sections of pipe have fallen into the creek. The engineer was asked to look into this to determine if it was the Borough's or PennDOT's responsibility. If it was the Borough's then the engineer was to determine what could be done about it. It is not something that the Borough crew can just go fix without some guidance. It is a very steep, highly eroded, long distance of fall from the pipe to the water and would be a difficult thing to resolve. The engineer believes this is PennDOT's responsibility. The Borough will make PennDOT aware of this because it needs to be attended to or the erosion will continue and it could eventually have an impact on Bridge Street, which is the Borough's responsibility.

BOROUGH TREASURER: Sharon Badman

Review Treasurer's Report for November 2007 - The report is not prepared at this time. Mgr. Bickhart noted it should be available at the December 27 meeting.

BOROUGH MANAGER / SECRETARY / ZONING OFFICER: Mgr. Bickhart

Non-Police Complaint Update – Mgr. Bickhart reported there were no more additional complaints, but there were many calls about leaf pickup. He stated Thanksgiving fell a week early and all the leaves seemed to fall while the Borough crew members were hunting. They are working hard to catch up and get all the leaves they can. By this week everything should be under control. C/P Inch asked if there is an ordinance against raking leaves into the street, noting that this practice is quite widespread. Pres. Handlan replied that there is an ordinance. C/P Hetherington stated he has a neighbor who was not aware of this, and there is a concern that the rain will block up the storm sewers with leaves. He and other Council members praised the Borough crew's efforts in this regard.

Update of PROPERTY TRANSFERS and BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED, Janet Powers, Deputy Zoning and Permit Officer – Information only. Pres. Handlan stated that she heard that the game room serves free beer after midnight. Main Street Manager Debbie Rozelle stated she spoke with the owner about this today, and he told her that the article that was in the paper was completely wrong and he has been talking to someone about filing a complaint about it. The owner stated it is a BYOB situation after midnight, but he does not serve any alcohol. Mayor Carroll stated he heard the car wash at the north end of town is changing hands. Mgr. Bickhart confirmed this and stated the new buyers have expressed interest in tearing down that car wash and putting up a more modern one. Pres. Handlan stated that Indulgences, the bakery on North Market Street, is now open to the public.

Review and approve Council Meeting dates for 2008 – Mgr. Bickhart stated these dates will be advertised. It was decided to hold the September meeting on Tuesday, September 2, the day after Labor Day. The November 17 date is the second meeting of the month, for budget discussions. Mgr. Bickhart was authorized to advertise the dates as presented.

Appoint or Reappoint the following:

Don Bottiger to Selinsgrove Municipal Authority until 12/31/11

Dottie Anderson to Selinsgrove Borough Planning Commission until 12/31/11

Dena Gentner to Selinsgrove Borough Zoning Hearing Board until 12/31/12

Richard Norman to Selinsgrove Parks and Recreation Commission until 12/31/12

Don Rowe to Selinsgrove Shade Tree Commission until 12/31/12

Motion by C/P Hetherington to appoint or reappoint those people as noted above. Seconded by C/P Mengel.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Accept the resignation and retirement of Robert "Sheeny" Wendt, effective December 31, 2007, as per the Agreement dated September 5, 2007 – Mgr. Bickhart reported that Sheeny's retirement plans had been converted to an agreement, and Council now needs to accept his resignation and retirement subject to the agreement and effective the end of the year.

Motion by C/P Inch to accept Sheeny's resignation. Seconded by C/P Reuning.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

SELINGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Donald Bottiger, Chairman – No Report

EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY REGIONAL AUTHORITY – Bob Dagle and George Kinney, Chairmen

Review additional documentation on Administrative Salaries and Wages from ESCRA's Proposed 2008 Net Budget – Mgr. Bickhart stated he got additional information from John Abromitis on the increases in the administrative salaries and wages. He noted the explanation makes sense and there is nothing out of line. The increases are just how the costs associated with the wages are itemized. These things had been included in operation and maintenance and were put into salaries and wages this year, making it look like there was a larger increase than there actually was.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Press Release – Mgr. Bickhart stated he will work something up for the reporter, who had already left the meeting by this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Council Meeting recessed to an Executive Session at 8:37 P.M. for discussion of Potential Litigation. Council meeting reconvened at 8:47 P.M.

Boat Ramp – Mgr. Bickhart stated that he met with the representative from the Fish and Boat Commission, who indicated that although they had given approval for the Borough to build the boat ramp, in seeing it finished they had a concern about the side slope and asked if some bumper blocks could be put along the edge as an additional safety feature. Pres. Handlan questioned what a bumper block is and Mgr. Bickhart explained it is a concrete item, like a curb stop. Four or five will be placed along one edge. Pres. Handlan noted that this would take away from the beauty of the boat ramp. Mayor Carroll stated the concern is that a wheel may slide off the side of the boat ramp because of the slant of the boat ramp. C/P Hetherington suggested putting some signs up for people to use the ramp at their own risk because if people use it during the colder months and there is ice on the ramp someone could end up in the river. Another solution would be to put a cable across so it cannot be used during the winter months. Pres. Handlan asked if the bumper blocks were a suggestion from the Fish and Boat Commission or a directive from them. Mgr. Bickhart stated it was only a suggestion but they asked for a picture to be sent to them once it was done. Pres. Handlan asked if there is money left to do this and C/P Inch replied there

is several hundred dollars left from the grant amount. Pres. Handlan asked if the Borough crew could install these and Mgr. Bickhart stated they could. They installed some recently at the ends of the roll-off at the compost yard. C/P Hetherington suggested using some railroad ties and rebar. C/P Mengel asked if the slope is different than it was before and C/P Herb replied the ramp is longer now. Pres. Handlan asked if a motion was needed from Council or if this should be referred to SPI. Mgr. Bickhart stated it is SPI's grant and he was going to take this to them.

Legislation Issue – Mgr. Bickhart had given Council additional information he got from the Boroughs Association after the November meeting. The issue seems like a good idea, but he is unsure of the role of individual municipalities in supporting legislation. That is what the Boroughs Association is for.

RECESSION:

At 8:52 P.M. the meeting was recessed to December 27, 2007 at 4:00 P.M.

Attachments: None