

**SELINGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2015 - 7:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Pres. Brian Farrell, V. Pres. Pete Carroll, C/P Marvin Rudnitsky, C/P Tim Charles, C/P Rich Mease, and C/P Erik Viker

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: C/P Shane Hendricks

OTHERS PRESENT: Borough Manager/Secretary Paul Williams; Solicitor Bob Cravitz; Mayor Jeff Reed; Junior C/P Jonah Markle; Borough Treasurer/Assistant Borough Manager Sheri Badman; Recording Secretary Chele' Weaver; DH&L Fire Company Gary Griner; Tax Collector Michael B. Bolig; Library Pam Ross, Marsha Lemons, Janet Latchford, Anne Gates and Bob Bertram; Monroe Township resident Dan Kiesinger and Freeburg residents Natalia & Jack Holt

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Pres. Farrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Mgr. Williams called the roll, followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM MEETINGS OF DECEMBER 1, 2014 AND DECEMBER 17, 2014

Motion made by C/P Charles to approve the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by V/P Carroll.

AYES: SIX (6)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

DH&L Fire Company – Gary Griner reported that for the month of December 2014 there were 26 incidents and they are as follows: Eight (8) automatic alarms; one (1) CO alarm; one (1) chimney fire; one (1) gas leak; four (4) medical assists; four (4) motor vehicle accidents without extrication; one (1) odor investigation; two (2) structure fires; one (1) smoke in structure; two (2) traffic controls and one (1) vehicle fire.

Incidents by Township are as follows: One (1) in Chapman Township; one (1) in the Borough of Freeburg; one (1) in Middlecreek Township; seven (7) in Monroe Township; ten (10) in Penn Township; four (4) in Selingsgrove Borough; one (1) in Shamokin Dam Borough and one (1) in Spring Township. The total incident count was 26 and total staff count was 116 for a grand total of 136.09 man hours.

Mr. Griner also stated the year end report has been done. He informed Council that DH&L went to 27 different types of alarms for an incident count of 364. There were also 21 different Townships/Boroughs that DH&L responded to and there was a \$418,000.00 fire loss. There was a total staff count of 2,181 for a grand total of 2,352.37 man hours.

Mr. Griner reported that DH&L spent a small fortune on security cameras so the fire company is monitored 24 hours a day/seven (7) days a week.

Selingsgrove Projects Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2014 – Copy Provided

Selingsgrove Chamber of Commerce – No Report

Parks & Recreation Commission – Shane Hendricks

Mgr. Williams informed Council that Parks and Recreation has spent some time doing preparation work to get ready for the opening of Little Norway II, the Borough's ice skating rink.

Others in Attendance

Dan Kiesinger – Stated to Council that he is a customer of one (1) of the four (4) regional municipalities involved with Eastern Snyder County Regional Authority (ESCRA). He is interested in fair share. His interest is in how Selinsgrove feels about their share in the past and he is more interested in what the future brings as far as continuation of the shared cost.

Mr. Kiesinger has spent approximately 40 years in the water and wastewater business. He has also attained a Class A Wastewater License. He does feel with his experience that he can provide or help to give back. He is not looking to say that this one (1) is right or this one (1) is wrong.

V/P Carroll stated that if Mr. Kiesinger does have the time to come out on the evenings of the Borough's public meetings and there is something that he would like to bring to Council that they might not be hearing – it would be greatly appreciated. V/P Carroll stated that he does understand that ESCRA is limiting Mr. Kiesinger because he is asking questions. Mr. Kiesinger replied that a coin has two (2) sides and there are two (2) sides to every story.

Natalia and Jack Holt – Pres. Farrell stated they are here tonight addressing an issue with Central Keystone Council of Government (CK COG) regarding their rental at 537 S. Market St.

Mr. and Mrs. Holt took the floor and Mr. Holt stated that in his 63 years on this planet he has come to understand that there is a certain proportion of people who are bigots, a certain proportion that are fools and a certain proportion that are just plain mean. This is the issue – every Council of Government and every Regulatory Agency has to have some way of mitigating. This is the heart of the issue with CK COG.

Mr. Holt proceeded to tell Council that their tenants had complaints and that when he and his wife attempted to follow up on these complaints all the tenant did was point to outlet that didn't work. The tenant then said that it is okay; they don't want to use plug-in heaters.

Mr. & Mrs. Holt had a week earlier made a phone call and what the person on the other end of the line did not know was that it was on speaker phone because Mrs. Holt had told her husband that earlier CK COG had not treated her with much respect, so Mr. Holt just wanted to listen in and in fact what he heard on the other end of the line was a fairly chatty kind-of pleasant person. Their question had to do with what kind of heating is required. What had happened according to Mr. Holt is that their gas heat/gas furnace had gone out and they tried to light the pilot light a number of times and had workmen in and then finally someone said that no, this furnace needs to be replaced. Mr. & Mrs. Holt were calling CK COG to find out what they themselves could do and what is Mr. & Mrs. Holts' time frame?

Mrs. Holt stated they did not include the gas furnace on the lease because they were suspecting something was wrong with it, so they included electric. They did explain to the tenants prior to them moving in and signing the lease that there would be space heaters. The tenants stated that this would be fine with them. The tenants proceeded to call CK COG and then called the Holts second. The tenants never approached the Holts about the problem. The tenants approached the Holts' only after they scheduled an inspection. The tenant then informed Mrs. Holt that CK COG stated that the unit is illegal. Mrs. Holt proceeded immediately to contact CK COG and this is the conversation that Mr. Holt was referring to previously about Mrs. Holt being treated with no respect. At this point CK COG asked Mrs. Holt if the tenant was HUD approved and Mrs. Holt stated no. CK COG then stated that okay this is fine. For such a small apartment what you have is fine and proceeded to tell Mrs. Holt that in a week the inspection will be done and that she doesn't have to worry about it - the inspector will come and support you and stated that the tenants are wrong and it is good that you are scheduling your inspection now because it will help you out. This made Mrs. Holts' day because she was getting ready to install electric baseboard heaters which would cost her \$3,000.00. Mrs. Holt stated that wow – now she doesn't have to do it!

Mr. Holt stated that a week later CK COG was to come for the inspection. They had made arrangements for the inspection and then CK COG never came. They had actually arrived earlier and the Holt's were not even part of the inspection. They were then told that the apartment was uninhabitable because it didn't have hardwired heaters.

Mrs. Holt stated that at that point she had no idea what was going on. She asked the tenants what was going on because she was assured that the heating was absolutely fine because the tenants are not supported by HUD. The tenant then phoned after hours to CK COG (right in front of Mrs. Holt) and stated that she was talking with the person that Mrs. Holt spoke with regarding the heating issue and was told by this person that she never said that to Mrs. Holt. Mrs. Holt then asked the tenant if she could speak with this person and was told that no this person does not want to talk with you. Mrs. Holt stated that she almost fainted.

Mr. Holt then proceeded to say this never should have happened. They were ready to install baseboard heaters and were told they didn't have to. Mrs. Holt stated if this were the case, they would have installed them prior to the inspection. The tenants then used this as an excuse for not paying rent and also sued the Holt's.

Pres. Farrell stated that he would like Mr. & Mrs. Holt to call the Borough Office and set up an appointment to speak with Manager Williams and also himself.

C/P Viker stated that Mr. & Mrs. Holt are not the only landlords who have concerns about how CK COG manages their inspections. There is currently a committee of Council persons who are looking at how the Borough handles these inspections.

Library – Marsha Lemons took the floor and wanted to inform Council about a fundraiser that the library is very excited about. The library does need to raise additional funds. There is a company called libraryminigolf.com – many other libraries have used this site. The company comes in and uses the libraries floor plan and they setup a miniature golf course. The library would like to do an evening for adults on Friday night March 6, 2015 and then a daytime event for families and teams on Saturday, March 7, 2015.

Mrs. Lemons stated that at the adult event on Friday night they would like to serve refreshments including beer and wine. The library is asking for a waiver to serve alcohol in the library.

C/P Viker moved that the Borough create an exception for this event with the understanding that the library will accept all insurance liability and costs for this event. Motion seconded by C/P Rudnitsky.

V/P Carroll stated for the record that he will be voting against this because the Borough shouldn't be allowing alcohol on any of their properties. This will open the door for other things. This could get out of hand.

C/P Charles stated that this can be done on a case-by-case basis.

AYES: FIVE (5) NAYS: ONE (1) – V/P Carroll MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS:

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE – Tim Charles, Chairman

Payment and Ratification of Bills

Motion made by C/P Charles to authorize Treas. Badman to pay all outstanding bills. Motion seconded by V/P Carroll.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Statewide Tax Recovery, Inc. – Exoneration Requests – No Report

Approve Tub Grinder Agreement with Lycoming County for 2015 – Copy Provided

Motion made by C/P Charles to approve agreement effective January 1, 2015. Motion seconded by C/P Rudnitsky.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Gelnett Request-\$10,000.00 for Energy Conservation Initiative – Copy Provided

C/P Charles stated that this will be addressed at the Borough Council meeting on Monday, February 2, 2015.

Appoint Deputy Tax Collector as per Act 165 of 2014 – Copy Provided

C/P Charles stated the Deputy Tax Collector will be Susan L. Bolig. Tax Collector Michael Bolig stated this is his wife and her services would be used if something would happen to him (illness, death, accident, etc.) Mr. Bolig would also like to get a second Deputy Tax Collector from outside the family.

Motion made by C/P Charles to appoint Susan L. Bolig as the Deputy Tax Collector. Motion seconded by C/P Rudnitsky.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE – Shane Hendricks, Chairman – No Report

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION / PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT – Pete Carroll, Chairman – No Report

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Richard P. Mease, Chairman

Establish appropriate conditions/limitations/waivers necessary for the conduct of special community events as contained within the list enclosed – Copy Provided

Motion made by C/P Mease to approve. Motion seconded by C/P Viker.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Marvin Rudnitsky, Chairman – No Report

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Erik Viker, Chairman

C/P Viker stated that the Public Safety Committee members met with other members of the public safety community about a request to parade race cars from Selinsgrove Ford to Selinsgrove Speedway. Mgr. Williams pulled a meeting together with the Fire Company, Chief of Police, Selinsgrove Speedway and Selinsgrove Ford. The tentative date would be Saturday, August 8, 2015. Council should be prepared for something more official to happen in the not too distant future.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Earl Moyer, Chairman – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated that Cynthia Price was present at the Wednesday, December 17, 2014 meeting. She is the new owner of 308 S. Market Street. There were two (2) motions made about advisory recommendations to Borough Council. There is a parking restriction posted on the west side of South Market Street in front of 308 S. Market Street and it is associated with its former use as a nursing home.

It was reserved parking for ambulatory reasons or transport for emergency response vehicles. Mgr. Williams would like Council to authorize the Solicitor to prepare an amendment to the Ordinance (called the Vehicle Ordinance) to eliminate the emergency parking space. It will free up possibly four (4) on-street parking spaces in front of the building for its new use as a thrift store.

Motion made by V/P Carroll to approve. Motion seconded by C/P Viker.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

ZONING HEARING BOARD – Cyril Runkle, Chairman

Mgr. Williams stated that on Thursday, December 4, 2014 there was a meeting held which has been continued. An extension has been granted by the applicant who is the Area Agency on Aging. This deals with a variance request for the Senior Center. This will be re-advertised to occur on Thursday, February 5, 2015.

CIVIL SERVICES COMMISSION – Dalton Savidge, Chairman

Mgr. Williams informed Council that the Borough has shared an advertisement for the filling of the vacancy in our Police Department for a full time police officer. Shamokin Dam Borough is sharing this advertisement with the Borough and also the costs. The Commission is anticipating to establish an eligibility list.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION – Bo and Joan Fasold

Mgr. Williams stated that Mr. & Mrs. Fasold provided the Borough with a factual report where they actually contracted with a person who does tree trimming and gave the Borough a detailed report on some of the other conditions of their street trees. The payment was made by the end of 2014.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR – Jeff Reed

Presentation of the Police Reports for October & November 2014 – Copies Provided

BOROUGH SOLICITOR – Robert Cravitz, Esq.

Lease Agreement for One Acre of Vacant Land along Sassafras Street – Sol. Cravitz stated this is ready to move forward and a motion is needed to authorize the President of Council and the Secretary to sign the lease agreement. Mgr. Williams stated that Susquehanna University, who owns this land, is fine with the agreement as per a discussion he had with them in the afternoon. Sol. Cravitz stated then the Borough is ready to go forward.

C/P Rudnitsky stated that the Borough will lease this land from Susquehanna University for 25 years for a \$1.00 per year for one (1) acre. Sol. Cravitz stated that the Borough must provide insurance.

Motion made by C/P Charles to approve the lease agreement. Motion seconded by C/P Viker.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Approve Land Development Agreement with Northumberland National Bank – Copy Provided

Sol. Cravitz stated that Atty. Joe Michetti from Northumberland County who represents Northumberland National Bank is reviewing this agreement and doesn't feel there should be any problems. However, they did want to know if Council would accept an irrevocable letter of credit from Northumberland National Bank. Normally irrevocable letters of credit from the developer are not accepted, but since it is a bank

and they have lots of assets in the area and are federally insured there shouldn't be a problem. C/P Rudnitsky asked how much it was and Mgr. Williams replied it is not a large sum of money maybe about \$150,000.00. C/P Rudnitsky stated he feels they should be good for it.

Motion made by V/P Carroll to approve. Motion seconded by C/P Rudnitsky.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Mgr. Williams would also like a motion to authorize signature on the final plan of record. Once the Borough has the letter of credit in place and the Solicitor and the Borough Engineer are satisfied with that security the Borough can work towards the recording of this plan.

Motion made by V/P Carroll to approve. Motion seconded by C/P Rudnitsky.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Sol. Cravitz stated that the Borough's counter offer to ESCRA has not been accepted to date.

BOROUGH ENGINEER

Update on pending projects – Coukart & Associates, Inc. – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated that the Streetscapes project has received comments back from PennDOT. The goal for the let date for this project is late February 2015.

The 2014 Street Program and the 2014 Public Works Project are being closed out.

The Broad Street/Spruce Street Storm Water Project has Engineer Coukart working on the completion of the final design of the ponding issue on Broad Street and with the improvement on Spruce Streets storm water. This is a project for later this year.

BOROUGH TREASURER – Sharon M. Badman

Approve Treasurer's Report for Month of December 2014 – Copy Provided

Motion made by C/P Charles to approve. Motion seconded by C/P Viker.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH MANAGER / SECRETARY – Paul A. Williams

Manager's Monthly Activity Report – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated he attended a Managing Floodplain Development course in Philadelphia. He is pleased to announce that he did receive a passing grade and certificate as a Certified Floodplain Manager by ASF.

Mgr. Williams informed Council that there is a party interested in leasing a portion of the former Weis Markets. It is in the planning stages.

Adopt Resolution 2015-01 – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated that this resolution acknowledges the terms of office, affirmation of appointments/vacancies and modifications of assignments for 2015.

Motion made by C/P Viker to adopt Resolution 2015-01. Motion seconded by C/P Charles.

AYES: SIX (6)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Approve CK COG request for 2016 Dues Proposal – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated that he and President Farrell attended CK COG's annual meeting in the fall. It was announced that Tom Sauers is planning on retiring at the end of January 2015. There was also discussion about the annual payment of dues for membership. It was tabled by those that were in attendance at the meeting because some of these people either were not elected officials or were not prepared to cast a vote on this particular night. It was decided that there would be a letter that would go out to the member municipalities and the letter would clearly state that CK COG would like to receive a decision from Borough Council by the end of March 2015 as to whether or not the Borough would agree to the \$250 annual fee beginning in 2016.

It will require 100% approval of the membership. Mgr. Williams stated that they do charge \$60/hour for their services but they have other expenses that may not be covered by the annual rate. CK COG is experiencing some of the same issues that other municipalities are right now with the increase in costs of health care and they have a fleet of vehicles to maintain.

Motion made by C/P Rudnitsky to agree to the \$250 dues. Motion seconded by C/P Charles.

AYES: SIX (6)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Complaint Filed with Court of Common Pleas in Snyder County – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated that last summer the Borough had someone fall down while attending a summer concert at the Gazebo. Selective Insurance has responded and the matter has been referred to one (1) of their counsel out of Scranton, PA. The filing party is looking for \$50,000.00. This is just for Council's information – no action needs to be taken.

Notice: PSAB 2015 Annual Conference, April 26-29, Lancaster Marriott & Convention Center

Cover Letter from Tom Sauers of Central Keystone Council of Governments (CK COG) – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams told Council that this letter is announcing the retirement of Tom Sauers from CK COG and who will succeed him. They have come up with a Management Team that consists of Mr. Rodney D. Neitz, Mr. James Emery, Mr. Matthew Sauers and Ms. Terry Matrey.

CK COG will be holding an "Open House" on Thursday, January 29, 2015 from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. in honor of Mr. Sauers. Council members have been invited to attend.

2014 YMCA Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 – Copy Provided

Letter from Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated that he received an email today from William Creason of PEMA stating that he would like the Borough to review and execute and return an agreement which Mgr. Williams does not presently have a copy of.

The letter is talking about the award to elevate two (2) homes on the Isle of Que. This is something that the former DZO Janet Powers started while she was still employed with the Borough. The letter is requesting that the Borough return the original signed agreement and all attachments no later than January 26, 2015. Mgr. Williams realizes that Borough Council will not meet again before this date. He is asking Council that conditionally they authorize the signatures as long as it looks like the documentation is in order.

Motion made by V/P Carroll to approve on the contingency that the paperwork is followed through.
Motion seconded by C/P Viker.

AYES: SIX (6)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

ZONING – Deputy Zoning and Permit Officer – Jessie Runkle

Update of ZONING, SIGN, OCCUPANCY & DEMOLITION PERMITS ISSUED – Copy Provided

PARKS & RECREATION COORDINATOR – Jessie Runkle

Monthly Report – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated that there is a whole array of projects that Ms. Runkle has been working on. This goes past the yoga classes – she had been coordinating Selinsgrove Strong for young boys this past fall – this event was culminated by participating in a 5K in Lewisburg, PA. Most recently Ms. Runkle has been to New York City and back, planning other trips, cooking classes and a cookie exchange.

Ms. Runkle is also working on the Ta-Ta Trot and the Freedom 5K. These events are traditionally held in Sunbury, PA, but they are looking into coming to Selinsgrove.

Ms. Runkle has also opened a line of communication in the region as well as the Borough's neighboring municipalities.

She had also written a grant for \$1,500.00 to the Guyer Foundation to go toward the Supervised Summer Playground Program. It was approved.

SELINGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Donald Bottiger, Chairman – No Report

EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY REGIONAL AUTHORITY – Ed Mann – No Report

NORTH-EASTERN SNYDER CO. JOINT AUTH. – Bill Hetherington/Dianne Mengel – No Report

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

V/P Carroll wanted to pass on to Mgr. Williams and Treas. Badman that he had been down at recycling on Saturday, January 3, 2015 and there was some wet snow. Corby Bowersox the Boroughs Director of Public Works was working the recycling facility. He did a wonderful job of keeping the facility in great shape as well as policing patrons.

OTHERS

Treas. Badman stated that the first day to circulate and file nomination petitions is Tuesday, February 17, 2015 for those who are up for re-election. Treas. Badman also informed Council that the Statements of Financial Interest are due back to the Borough Office on or before Friday, May 1, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Chele' Weaver
Recording Secretary