

SELINGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 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 Shane Hendricks, and C/P Rich Mease

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: C/P Erik Viker

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; PACFI Bob Derr; WKOK Lauren Koch; The Daily Item Marcia Moore; Selingsrove Chamber of Commerce Helen Walter; Parks and Recreation Vince Stoops; Selingsrove Residents Sean Christine, Buffy Ramer and Grant Neff

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 MEETING OF FEBRUARY 2, 2015 – Copy Provided

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

AYES: SIX (6)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

DH&L Fire Company/DH&L Ambulance League – Gary Griner reported that for the month of February 2015 there were 22 incidents and they are as follows: Four (4) automatic alarms; one (1) motor vehicle accident with extrication; one (1) false alarm; three (3) gas leaks; three (3) medical assists; six (6) motor vehicle accidents without extrication; one (1) odor investigation; one (1) structure fire; one (1) vehicle fire and one (1) flooding.

Incidents by Township are as follows: One (1) in Chapman Township; one (1) in Jackson Township; one (1) in Lower Augusta Township; three (3) in Monroe Township; six (6) in Penn Township; eight (8) in Selingsrove Borough; one (1) in Shamokin Dam Borough and one (1) in Washington Township. There was zero loss for the Borough. The total staff count was 97 for a grand total of 75.01 man hours.

Sean Christine took the podium and informed Council that Saturday, April 4, 2015 DH&L will be holding a Community Open House and it will be free to the public. It will consist of a basic introduction to the community about the fire company, tours of the station, equipment and apparatus, fire truck rides, an Easter egg hunt for the kids (up to age 12), the Easter Bunny will be there and they will have a chicken barbeque. In addition to the tours and fire truck rides, the children will receive a gift bag filled with different activity books that will include fire safety educational materials. Mr. Christine would like to see some of the Council members there.

Selingsrove Projects, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes – Copy Provided

Selingsrove Chamber of Commerce – Helen Walter

Meeting Minutes – Copy Provided

Ms. Walter stated that as a business owner and also Chamber President she has had a number of people come to her complaining about the snow. She would love to figure out a way to have the downtown area look as good as the block surrounding the Borough Office/Library. She would also like to see a policy put in place in the future, so when a certain amount of snow falls the snow can be cleared away from the curb and sidewalk so customers can get into the businesses without hurting themselves.

Ms. Walter would also like to see a Town & Gown meeting held in the near future. There is a perception that it is difficult to have a business in Selinsgrove. This has been presented in the newspaper a few times. She had read an article recently about personal/professional image and it mentioned that the three (3) things that are important are attitude, appearance and actions. Nationwide, malls are slipping and the trend is coming back to downtowns.

C/P Rudnitsky stated that he feels that the Chamber is doing a great job and Ms. Walter as President is doing a fine job.

Selinsgrove Parks & Recreation – Shane Hendricks

Meeting Minutes from February 24, 2015 – Copy Provided

C/P Hendricks stated that they are still without a chairman and there are three (3) vacancies. There was a quorum at the meeting and it is the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Board (PnR) unanimously to reappoint Vince Stoops to the PnR Board.

Request for Appointment of Vincent Stoops (tabled from 2/2/15 meeting)

Motion made by C/P Hendricks to appoint Vince Stoops. Motion seconded by C/P Charles.

C/P Rudnitsky stated that when Council takes a vote to appoint any person to a Board or Commission of the Borough it is an endorsement of that person and for that reason his vote will be no.

AYES: FIVE (5) NAYS: ONE (1) – C/P Rudnitsky MOTION CARRIED

C/P Hendricks stated that during the meeting, since there is not a Chairman, the Committee asked for people to volunteer to be the Chairman and Mr. Stoops was the only one that extended an interest in serving as the Chair to fulfill this year. In January of 2016 the Committee will see another reorganization meeting.

Mr. Stoops took the podium at this time. He stated to Council that PnR was not planning on continuing to have the ice rink open. However, with the weather it had been extended about three (3) weeks. There was a big volunteer effort to keep it open. Zartman Construction and two (2) of the fire companies both donated time. A list of the needs and wants for next year will be put together. They are still in need of firewood. They will stockpile it for next season. The wood needs to be free. They are also in need of size 9 hockey skates. Mr. Stoops stated they will reach out to the Hershey Bears for old skates, hockey sticks, etc.

Mr. Stoops stated that it was quoted in The Daily Item that \$12,600.00 was spent for an ice skate sharpener. This was money that was set aside for consulting fees for the Environmental Center. The skate sharpener cost \$600.00.

C/P Rudnitsky asked how the Go Fund Me effort is going. Sean Christine answered that he took it upon himself to start this fund. He has spoken with Walt Nichols about the things that they are in need of at the ice skating rink and Mr. Nichols replied that a water pump would make it so much easier along with resurfacing equipment to skim the rink and a clay foundation would be a big asset to help to retain the water in the rink. This fund was started a little over a week ago and it has brought in \$2,423.00 to date. The goal is \$2,500.00.

Mr. Christine stated that the ice rink is closed for the year because it cannot be resurfaced at this point in time due to lack of equipment. C/P Charles stated he would like to see if there is a way that a phone number or computer program could be used for people to see if the ice skating rink is open or closed.

Mr. Stoops stated that there will be a Fall Festival held this year at Kidsgrove. He also informed Council that the PnR members recognized and congratulated PnR Coordinator Jess Runkle for her outstanding work. She was featured in The Daily Item and on WBRE Eyewitness News.

SARI (Pool) – Richard Mease

C/P Mease stated that SARI met with the YMCA Board a week and a half ago and they are renegotiating the contract with the YMCA. They are looking into opening the pool early this year, so they could be open for the Memorial Day weekend. This does seem like it will happen and they plan on possibly having a barbeque or something similar with the VFW and American Legion present. All veterans will be able to swim for free. The food will be free for everyone.

Others in Attendance

Bob Derr – Hoopie Bar Crawl – Mr. Derr stated this is the 15th year for this event and he is asking Council for some sort of Police presence. This event will take place on Saturday, March 14, 2015. It begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Moose with registration from 7:00-8:00 p.m. From 8:00-9:00 p.m. the event will be at Bot's; from 9:00-10:00 p.m. the event will be at BJ's; from 10:00-11:00 p.m. the event will be at the Selinsgrove Hotel and then back to the Moose for music from K&S Music out of Williamsport from 11:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. There is a \$35.00 fee that entitles the person to a Hoopie Bar Crawl t-shirt, giveaways, a wristband and beverages. This event is sponsored by Budweiser, E.H. Kleckner out of Montandon, Hess Eye Care, Pappa John's, L/B Water of Selinsgrove and Green Ridge Graphics of Mifflinburg.

The monies raised will go to help Amanda (Mandy) Eisenhower who has cystic fibrosis (CF). Her brother died about 1 ½ years ago from CF and she has a younger sister with the disease. Mandy is on the donor list for a lung transplant at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. PACFI combined with the Children's Organ Transplant Association has raised almost \$24,000.00 of a needed \$40,000.00 for expenses not paid by insurance. Mandy's insurance will pay for the cost of the transplant which is about \$650,000.00. The \$40,000.00 that is needed will pay for the back and forth to Pittsburgh and the time that Mandy stays in Pittsburgh (living expenses). The expectation is that the patient live there for three (3) months.

COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS:

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE – Tim Charles, Chairman

Payment and Ratification of Bills

Motion made by C/P Charles to authorize payment of the bills as presented. Motion seconded by C/P Rudnitsky.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Statewide Tax Recovery, Inc. – Exoneration Requests

Mgr. Williams informed Council that Ned Campbell received a duplicate bill that was paid prior so the request is for the relief of \$5.50 from the Per Capita Tax.

Motion made by C/P Charles to grant the exoneration. Motion seconded by C/P Hendricks.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Award Contract for 2015 Spring Borough Cleanup – Copy Provided

C/P Charles stated that the low bidder was Hometown Disposal of Sunbury.

Motion made by C/P Charles to award the contract for the 2015 Spring Borough Cleanup to Hometown Disposal. Motion seconded by C/P Rudnitsky.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Approve purchase of 2015 Chevrolet 2500 HD – Copy Provided

Motion made by C/P Charles to approve the purchase. Motion seconded by C/P Hendricks.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Yearly Update provided by Rudy Gelnett Trustees – Copy Provided

The committee met with Robert Laudenslager, Scott Heintzelman and Thayer Potter. They gave a presentation on the Gelnett Trust. The balance on 12/31/13 was \$5,455,666.44 and the balance on 12/31/14 was \$5,829,354.02 for a market adjustment increase of \$399,140.04. The rate of return was 11.65%.

C/P Charles stated that Council had approved an Act 141 Election. It allows for a much broader investment and to give a flat 4% return. The Trustees would like Council to approve this again. C/P Rudnitsky stated that the approval is being given to prove that the Trustees are distributing to the Borough a 4% Unitrust amount by the statute rather than just distributing income as it is defined. This has improved the Borough's distributions from \$160,000.00 to \$223,000.00/year.

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

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Approval to Submit for CDBG-DR funding if project is identified – Copy Provided

C/P Charles stated this is for disaster relief. It was received with very short notice and the dead line is Friday, April 10, 2015. This is from the flood of September 2011. FEMA had the first go around of money and stated that if there was any left they would come back. The good news is that there was money left and the bad news is the quick turnaround time.

Motion made by C/P Charles to submit eligible requests to the CDBG-DR funding. Motion seconded C/P Hendricks.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Request for a Proposal for Architectural and Engineering Services to Elevate Two (2) Dwellings on the Isle of Que

C/P Charles stated that this has been an ongoing process for the two (2) properties that were recognized. The money has been approved for the two (2) projects.

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

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Approval for Grant Administrator for the Two (2) Dwellings on the Isle of Que

Motion made by C/P Charles to solicit for proposals for the Grant Administration of the two (2) properties.
Motion seconded by C/P Rudnitsky.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Request for Gelnett Funding

DH&L Fire Company for Easter Open House - \$500.00 – Copy Provided

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

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE – Shane Hendricks – No Report

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

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

Request for Street Closure and No Parking for Ta-Ta-Trot on 7/11/15 – Copy Provided

C/P Mease stated that the run/walk will start at the Middle School and will come down 18th Street to University Avenue proceed to Pine Street and then to Orange Street and continuing onto High Street and then back up to the High School. The closure is actually temporary from the Weber Chapel Auditorium at Susquehanna University down to Orange Street until the last person gets through which should take about 30 minutes and then the street will be reopened. The other streets that will be closed will be North Broad Street at West Penn Street.

They are estimating 4,000 people to come into Selinsgrove. DH&L will be posted up by Weber Chapel Auditorium, the Selinsgrove Police will be posted at Broad & Pine Streets and also at Broad & Penn Streets. The Ta-Ta Trot has 75-100 volunteers that will man all the other intersections. They have done this so many times that they know exactly what is going on. As the last runner/walker comes through they open everything up. This whole event should take between 1-1 ½ hours to complete.

Mgr. Williams did state that the Borough did receive a commitment that the Ta-Ta Trot will reimburse the Borough for expenses that are over and above what their normal levels of service might be for Police services and Public Works.

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

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Marvin Rudnitsky, Chairman

C/P Rudnitsky stated that a few months ago the Personnel Committee began looking at some updates to Borough policies on child abuse and background checks. C/P Rudnitsky stated he received back comments from the Borough's professional staff and he feels the Borough is ready to go to the next step. The new child abuse reporting law came into effect in January 2015. C/P Rudnitsky would like to send the proposed policies to Sol. Cravitz for his review before the committee comes back to Council to adopt them.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Erik Viker, Chairman – No Report

PLANNING COMMISSION – Earl Moyer, Chairman

Meeting Minutes – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated that Cole's Hardware was issued a Zoning Permit rather than the processing of a Land Development Plan for the occupancy of a portion of the vacant Weis store. There are still conversations taking place as to the Sign Ordinance update.

ZONING HEARING BOARD – Cyril Runkle – Chairman

Meeting Summary – Copy Provided

Mgr. Williams stated that they had their reorganization meeting and Cyril Runkle was nominated and re-elected as Chairman and Ed Mann re-elected as Vice Chairman; Robert Slivinski was retained as Solicitor.

There was an approval of the Snyder Union County Area Agency on Aging for the variance for the front ramp and to cover the existing front porch. They are located at 8 North Water Street.

A special exception has been granted with conditions for the "mural" at Original Italian Pizza (OIP). A stenographer was present at both of these hearings. It appears that the decision with OIP may be appealed.

There is a hearing scheduled for Thursday, March 5, 2015 for a use. It deals with an auto repair business proposed at 7 South Water Street (the former firehouse).

CIVIL SERVICES COMMISSION – Dalton Savidge, Chairman

Mgr. Williams stated that interviews are still taking place for the Selinsgrove Police Department. Mgr. Williams informed Council that the Borough will be informed what the written exam grades are followed by the oral exam grades. A meeting of the Civil Service Commission will then take place to establish the eligibility list. A background check, psychological and physical check will be performed and then the conditional offer of employment. The Borough is hoping to hire by mid-year.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION – Bo and Joan Fasold

Mgr. Williams stated the Commission has a project to do that will require some coordination between the proposed Street Program that involves conflicts with some of the mature street trees. The Commission has volunteered to walk the project streets with Director of Public Works Corby Bowersox and Engineer Coukart.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR – Jeff Reed

Presentation of the Police Reports for January 2015 – Copy Provided

Presentation of the 2014 Annual Police Report – Copy Provided

Proclamation for Friedman Electric 80th Anniversary – Copy Provided

C/P Hendricks stated that Friedman has really been helpful to Parks and Recreation and Little League through the years. They have always been great with helping the community.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR – Robert Cravitz, Esq.

Authorize preparation and advertisement of Ordinance for curbing/sidewalk assessments

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

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH ENGINEER

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

Mgr. Williams stated that Engineer Coukart had to upload some additional information on the Downtown Streetscape for PennDOT's behalf as to quantities, unit costs, etc. Everything now is in PennDOT's hands for review.

The former Weis Markets site saw Engineer Coukart participating in review comments for the occupancy by Cole's Hardware.

Mgr. Williams stated that the storm water project will necessitate a General Permit from DEP because of the Outfall Structure into Weiser Run.

Sol. Cravitz wanted to make Council aware as part of the Engineers report that the Borough in effect has dodged the bullet at the new Weis Markets. Since its inception, the on-lot pre-treatment system they established has not been working. They have re-seeded the bed four (4) or five (5) times with bacteria and each time the bacteria was killed. Weis Markets is directly discharging their waste into the Penn Township sewer system instead of Selinsgrove Borough's sewer system as the Borough had approved. Penn Township is anticipating some fall out from ESCRA because Weis Markets flows are very high in BOD's and suspended solids.

Update on pending projects – Larson Design Group

Approve Draft Letter Regarding ESCRA – Copy Provided

Motion made by C/P Rudnitsky to approve. Motion seconded by C/P Hendricks.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH TREASURER – Sharon M. Badman

Approve Treasurer's Report for Month of February 2015 – Copy Provided

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

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Approve March 2015 Newsletter – Copy Provided

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

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Approve Selinsgrove Saves – The Energy Project (to be inserted with newsletter) – Copy Provided

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

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH MANAGER / SECRETARY – Paul A. Williams

Manager's Monthly Activity Report – Copy Provided

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

Statements of Financial Interest due by May 1, 2015

Notice: Putting for Pages at Gelnett Library-March 6, 2015 and March 7, 2015 – Copy Provided

Snyder County Tax Collection Commission Meeting – Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Meeting Minutes – Copy provided

Mgr. Williams stated that Jeff Hummel (Business Manager of the Selinsgrove Area School District) was re-elected to serve as Chairperson; Lyn Naugle (Business Manager of the Midd-West School District) was elected as Vice-Chairperson and Truman Purdy (Freeburg Borough) was elected as Secretary.

The meeting was called to order around 7:00 p.m. There were 18 members in attendance; therefore, a quorum was established. Swineford National Bank was appointed to be the depository. The Borough's participation will cost no more than it has been for a number a years. By the percentage of EIT collected in the County, the Borough's share is \$93.98.

The budget was balanced this year for a second subsequent year by using reserves. There will still be a projected cash carryover going into the year 2016 of greater than \$5,000.00. Although there has not been many negative comments about the services of Berkheimer they have a five (5) year contract and next year there may be an opportunity to either re-appoint or seek proposals.

C/P Rudnitsky re-stated the purpose of this committee is to select, monitor and audit the work of the EIT collector which is Berkheimer.

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 Jessie is very active in the local role that she plays but she is also active in neighboring municipalities and outside of the Borough Office doing networking.

She has been very instrumental in helping to keep the ice skating rink operational and safe through the month of February 2015.

Pres. Farrell stated that Council is very happy with Jess and that she is doing a great job.

SELINGSGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Donald Bottiger, Chairman – No Report

EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY REGIONAL AUTHORITY – Ed Mann

Meeting Minutes – Copy Provided

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

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

C/P Mease would like to see in the Borough's Streetscape plan (in the next phase) to extend the lighting program from the Borough Building on Pine and High Streets to the railroad tracks and on University Avenue from the Post Office to the railroad tracks. He would like to see communication with Susquehanna University to get them to run their street lighting program down to meet our street lights. This will make a safer environment for everyone walking to and from Susquehanna University to the downtown.

OTHERS

Treas. Badman stated that on Wednesday and Thursday, March 11-12, 2015 Raise the Region will be taking place for 30 hours of online giving and supporting of non-profits.

Chamber of Commerce President Helen Walter stated that the Market Street Festival Committee is looking for a lot more volunteers. Please contact Joyce Hendricks if interested.

Pres. Farrell requested a 5 minute break at 8:33 p.m. followed by an Executive Session for the purpose of litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:20 p.m. – No action taken.

Motion needed to prepare Memorandum of Understanding to settle grievance from SPOA.

Motion made by C/P Rudnitsky to approve. Motion seconded by C/P Hendricks.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by C/P Hendricks to adjourn at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Chele' Weaver
Recording Secretary