

SELINGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Pres. C. Handlan, V. Pres. E. Viker, C/P D. Anderson, C/P P. Carroll, C/P T. Charles, C/P B. Farrell, and C/P S. Hendricks

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Solicitor R. Cravitz; Mgr. J. Bickhart; Mayor S. Christine; Borough Treasurer Sheri Badman; Recording Transcriptionist Dawne Long; Borough Landlord Debbie Brouse; Borough Residents Elaine Herrold, Deanna Moyer, Dee Moyer, Earl Moyer, Mike Moyer, Kim Riegel, Joseph & Margaret Siro, and Matt Slivinski; SEDA-COG Representative Glenda Ruch; Snyder County Libraries Representatives Pam Ross and Rick Savidge

OTHERS ABSENT: Junior C/P Kathryn "Katie" Kirchner

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM MEETING OF APRIL 4, 2011:

Motion by C/P Viker to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by C/P Hendricks.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

DH&L Fire Company – No report

Debbie Brouse, Public Works Department List – Ms. Brouse stated at last month's meeting, which she attended, there was a discussion about a list held by the Public Works Department. She asked if this list is public or private. She stated there was discussion about some work not getting done and the list getting longer. Pres. Handlan stated that each department, including Public Works and the Borough office, has a list of tasks that need to be done, and any new assignments get added to that list. Each department prioritizes the items on their list to get things done. Mgr. Bickhart stated that he believes the reference last month was to a list of tasks that needed to be completed at the pump house. The only list he knows of is one that the Director of Public Works would have in his own mind because it is his own personal list of things to be done. Ms. Brouse stated that Mrs. Siro had mentioned the pump house floor and some other items as being on the list. Ms. Brouse asked who adds things to the list, if such a list does exist. Pres. Handlan stated things are added to the list every day depending on what issues surface, just as in any business. Council members and the public can add to the list as things come up. C/P Viker asked Ms. Brouse if she had anything she wanted added to the list and Ms. Brouse replied that she is asking questions. C/P Viker asked Pres. Handlan if she had any concerns about the question he asked and Pres. Handlan replied she did not. Ms. Brouse asked if the list is available for the public to review and both Pres. Handlan and Mgr. Bickhart replied it is not. Ms. Brouse asked how long the list has been in existence, whether it was in existence in 2010, or whether it is something that has just been started. Pres. Handlan replied that any listing of tasks is ongoing. Ms. Brouse asked specifically how long the so-called list from the Public Works Department has been in existence. Pres. Handlan stated she does not believe there is an actual physical list. Ms. Brouse stated at the last meeting it was mentioned that the list kept getting longer, and she is wondering what the size of the list was in 2010 when the Borough had a full staff at the Public Works Department or whether the list is something new that has come up since the staff at the Public Works Department has shrunk. C/P Hendricks stated the

list refers to a list of 15 to 20 things that Margaret Siro made when she inspected the pump house. The list includes such things as stain on the carpet, stain on a chair, a ripped window screen, the pointing of bricks, and other minor items. These tasks are accomplished as time permits, and most of them have been completed. Ms. Brouse asked for clarification of whether this was a list made by Margaret Siro or a list made by the Public Works Department. C/P Anderson stated that Mrs. Siro was speaking about a list that she had made. Ms. Brouse asked if she is being told that the Public Works Department does not have a list. C/P Viker stated they were given a copy of Mrs. Siro's list. Ms. Brouse asked if the Public Works Department has a list of other tasks throughout the Borough. Pres. Handlan stated the Director of Public Works knows his day-to-day tasks, his monthly tasks, and any tasks that have come up.

Pres. Handlan stated her patience with Ms. Brouse is wearing thin, and she asked that going forward Ms. Brouse limit her questions at Council meetings to concerns related to the property that she owns in the Borough. Pres. Handlan stated that Ms. Brouse is taking up a lot of Council's time and stated that if Michael Boyer wants to know about these issues, he can ask the questions. Ms. Brouse asked if Pres. Handlan is saying that she cannot speak. Pres. Handlan replied that she is telling Ms. Brouse what she can speak about. Ms. Brouse read from a copy of a newsletter signed "Best regards, Carol L. Handlan," which states, "I also believe that we need to hear more from each of you. We encourage you to speak up, let us know what we do right and what we could be doing better. Feel free to attend a Borough Council meeting." Pres. Handlan replied to Ms. Brouse by stating that the newsletter was given to all the residents in the Borough. Ms. Brouse stated that she pays taxes in the Borough and asked if she is being told that she may not speak unless she asks about her rental properties. Pres. Handlan replied that is correct. She again stated that Ms. Brouse is taking a lot of Council's time. Ms. Brouse asked if Pres. Handlan is stating that if Ms. Brouse comes to a Selinsgrove Borough Council meeting, unless she specifically has a question about her rental properties, she is being forbidden to speak. Pres. Handlan replied that she is asking Ms. Brouse to not speak about any issues not related to the property she owns in the Borough. Ms. Brouse asked if she is being forbidden to ask questions about any other subject regarding the Borough. Pres. Handlan asked Ms. Brouse why Council had not seen her prior to the elimination of the Public Works position. Ms. Brouse stated she does not have to answer questions and she is not here to answer questions. She noted that Pres. Handlan stated that she wants people to come to meetings with their questions. Pres. Handlan replied that she encourages everyone to do so; however, Ms. Brouse has gone to the extreme. Ms. Brouse stated she is only asking questions. Pres. Handlan asked her what her next question is.

Debbie Brouse, Grease Traps and Sewer Situation – Ms. Brouse stated that at last month's meeting Council discussed the grease traps and the sewer situation. There was an article in the Daily Item regarding the situation. Ms. Brouse asked who in Selinsgrove checks the grease traps. Pres. Handlan replied this is done by the Public Works Department. Ms. Brouse asked if they are on a schedule and was told they are. Ms. Brouse asked who checks the maintenance schedule. Mgr. Bickhart stated that Corby Bowersox supervises this. Brad Simcox is the person in charge of the sewer and he is the one who did the last inspections. The inspections are annual. Corby is in charge with Mgr. Bickhart in the secondary position. Ms. Brouse asked if someone needs to be licensed to do this. Mgr. Bickhart stated the Borough has an ordinance that defines the responsibilities and that ordinance is being enforced. Ms. Brouse stated that answers her question. She thanked Mgr. Bickhart and informed Pres. Handlan that she was finished asking questions. She thanked Pres. Handlan, who in turn thanked Ms. Brouse.

C/P Viker stated that, speaking as a member of the Personnel Committee and Vice President of Council, he respects the ruling of the Chair on this matter as far as how and how long people attending the meeting can speak. He stated that he personally welcomes the comments that are coming from everyone who is publicly disgruntled about the Borough's recent downsizing of a position. He stated he does not feel the comments do what those who are disgruntled intend them to do. All the tasks on the lists, either the list that was mentioned regarding Pump House Park or the informal but very real list managed by any good director or manager, still do not add up to sufficient hours to justify the reinstatement of a fulltime Public Works position in this troubled and difficult economy. Since Mr. Moyer has gone to the press about being downsized in a climate in which dozens of our fellow residents have also been downsized, C/P Viker is able to mention that Mr. Moyer has been downsized. Before Mr. Moyer went public, Council could not have mentioned it out of respect for his privacy. However, since Mr. Moyer has

been downsized, he and his family have come to every meeting to complain about every pothole in the road and every crack in the sidewalk. C/P Viker reminded both Council members and citizens that the 5,000+ residents of Selinsgrove have not complained about the quality of the services they have received this year, and the 5,000+ residents of Selinsgrove have not complained about not paying a tax increase this year. Outside of any misleading information that may be put forth at a meeting, those numbers tell Council that they have done right by the citizens of Selinsgrove in matters of personnel and taxes during this very difficult economic situation.

Matt Slivinski, Little League Indoor Facility – Mr. Slivinski stated that the warehouse right across the road on the corner near the pump house will be ready to be utilized within the next two weeks for an indoor Little League facility. It is a 6,000 square foot facility which will be available free of charge to all individuals enrolled in Little League. This will benefit around 350 kids and will be open year round. It is not being operated for profit in any way. There has been tremendous support from local businesses in this tough economic time. They have provided money, labor and supplies. Once the carpet is installed throughout the entire building it will be opened for use. The long-term plans include exterior work, such as painting or siding and some landscaping. The company who owns the facility is and always will be nameless out of respect for them. There will be a grand opening some time in late May or early June. Mr. Slivinski stated if anyone has questions they can call him at his office. Mgr. Bickhart stated that the building is in a commercial zone and the proposed use is a conditional use which requires Council's consent.

Motion by C/P Viker to approve the conditional use. Seconded by C/P Charles.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS:

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: C/P Anderson, Chair

Payment and Ratification of Bills

Motion by C/P Anderson to pay the bills. Seconded by C/P Hendricks.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Statewide Tax Recovery, Inc. - Exoneration Requests – Renee Guyer for 2010 due to the tax being paid elsewhere; Sheila Hasty for 2010 due to there being a duplicate filing in her name; William Mowery for 2010 due to him being deceased; William & Toni Lynn Coiley due to each of them paying previously.

Motion by C/P Hendricks for exoneration of these people. Seconded by C/P Viker.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Consider award of Contracts to the Lowest Responsible Bidders for Borough Hall and Community Library Building Project – Mgr. Bickhart asked Solicitor Cravitz if there is anything that needs to be approved for DCED concerning the Borough's financial request. Solicitor Cravitz stated that DCED has 21 days in which to act and they are still within that timeframe. He stated they cannot be hurried. C/P Anderson asked if any motions made tonight should be contingent on that approval. Solicitor Cravitz stated yes, if the motions involve using borrowed money. He stated approval could take up until the end of May. Mgr. Bickhart stated the architect would like a conditional award so that he can notify the four low bidders so they can begin the process of putting information together. Glenda Ruch stated that SEDA-COG received the environmental approval from DCED this morning giving the Borough the grant for the funding of the elevator.

Motion by C/P Anderson to award the following contracts conditioned upon the Borough receiving approval from DCED to borrow the money. 1) Contract 1 for general construction to Palmer Construction

Company in Lemoyne, PA for the base bid amount of \$2,875,000 and for Alternates G-1, G-5, G-9, G-11 and G-13 in the additional amount of \$112,195, or a total amount of \$2,987,195. 2) Contract 2 for HVAC construction to Matchline Mechanical in Ephrata, PA for the base bid amount of \$696,000 and for Alternates H-1 and H-2 in the additional amount of \$21,500, or a total amount of \$717,500. 3) Contract 3 for plumbing construction to LTS Plumbing and Heating in Paxinos, PA for the base bid amount of \$256,780 and for Alternates P-1, P-2 and P-3 in the additional amount of \$13,500, or for a total amount of \$270,280. 4) Contract 4 for electrical construction to TRA Electric in Watsontown, PA for the base bid amount of \$698,850 and for Alternates E-1, E-4, E-5, E-6 and E-8 in the additional amount of \$71,095, or a total amount of \$769,945. Seconded by C/P Carroll.

C/P Charles asked if the Council will vote on this without having a construction agreement with the library. He stated when the contracts are awarded the Borough is responsible and without a construction agreement with the library the Borough would be responsible for the full amount. C/P Anderson and Pres. Handlan stated they thought there was a construction agreement. Mgr. Bickhart stated it not signed yet. C/P Anderson stated the bids have to be awarded so the construction document can be prepared and then signed by the Borough and the library.

C/P Viker suggested a friendly amendment to the motion stating that it is contingent upon the signing of the proposed construction agreement. C/P Anderson stated she is fine with that.

C/P Charles stated a week ago there was a question regarding 375 square feet on the third floor and nobody knew what that was for. He noted it is \$57,000 and the library is also being charged \$57,000 for renovation on the third floor also. C/P Anderson stated she thought it was the stairwell that goes from top to bottom in the building. C/P Carroll stated he thought it was the elevator shaft. C/P Anderson stated the library and Borough are splitting the elevator shaft. C/P Charles stated the elevator shaft is 25 x 30 feet, or 750 square feet, which is an awfully big area. Mayor Christine stated he thought the logic was that it had to continue up past the space. C/Ps Anderson and Carroll stated this was their recollection as well. C/P Farrell stated he thought it was the landing out in front of the elevator. C/P Anderson stated it included that. C/P Viker noted the square footage would include the landing of the elevator, the lobby of the elevator and the elevator shaft itself. C/P Charles stated this is \$114,000 and he did not think anyone knew what it was for. He noted the architect did not say anything at the meeting last week. C/P Viker stated, to put things into context for people who may have come into the process late, that the Borough building is not quite falling down, but almost, and Council had determined it would cost close to \$1,000,000 to renovate the building to the point that it would continue to last into the next century for the citizens of Selinsgrove. He stated as the relative cheapskate he has fought tooth and nail to make sure the project was not any bigger than it needed to be. However, because of the downturn in the economy, there is an extraordinarily good construction climate for making these types of investments. The library discovered that it was uniquely positioned to grow also. C/P Viker stated that, to provide some sense of closure for the amount of grief he has given the Library Board and his fellow Councilpersons on financial issues, it is with reservations that he intends to vote yea on the motion, but only with the reservations that come from being a fiscal conservative. He stated he will maintain those reservations until, as a significantly older man, he is present for the mortgage burning of the building. C/P Viker thanked everyone for their patience as he dragged his feet through the process, and he stated that he is glad to see that this will be a very good investment for Selinsgrove and the people who have invested so much in the project. Pres. Handlan thanked C/P Viker, agreeing that it has been a long few years. C/P Charles stated that he would like to go on record as not being in favor of transferring the 1,095 square feet from the library to the Borough. This came out to \$167,000 additional expense to the Borough. C/P Viker stated he finds it encouraging that the Finance Committee, the bankers, and the Borough Treasurer report that the Borough of Selinsgrove has significant reserves that will enable the Borough to pay for its share if needed. It is encouraging that they are a debt-free municipality, which is very rare in Pennsylvania right now. If a lot of money is going to be spent on an investment in the community's treasure, he is convinced that this project makes sense. C/P Charles stated that if the Borough is going to borrow from itself to pay this, the money must be paid back somehow. He stated the process of repaying \$2.2 million will not be without some pain. C/P Viker agreed. Pres. Handlan called for a vote.

AYES: FIVE (5)

NAYS: TWO (2) – C/Ps Charles & Hendricks

MOTION CARRIED

Report on Spring Clean-Up Day – C/P Anderson reported the final cost was \$7,828 with \$12,000 having been budgeted. Treasurer Badman reported there was 49.25 tons collected this year, down from the 64.09 tons collected in 2010.

PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE: C/P Hendricks, Chair – No Report

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION / PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT: C/P Carroll, Chair

Report on Selinsgrove Municipal Building and Community Center Library Renovation and Expansion Project – C/P Carroll reported the two attorneys are wrapping things up. Mgr. Bickhart stated he received an email today from Bob Wayne, the attorney for the library. Mr. Wayne had one comment regarding some language. Mgr. Bickhart reviewed it and did not see a problem, so he sent it on to Solicitor Cravitz for his review and revision, if necessary. C/P Anderson asked if the committee will be meeting Wednesday and Mgr. Bickhart stated there is really no reason to meet. The committee can go to an as-needed basis for meetings with the presumption there will be no meeting unless notified.

Groundbreaking Ceremony – Pam Ross stated that the groundbreaking will take place at 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 19 at the Borough building.

Pres. Handlan thanked C/P Carroll and his committee for the tireless effort and countless hours they put into this. C/P Carroll thanked C/P Charles, who jumped right in after just a short period of time with good insights and questions.

Margaret Siro, People Addressing Council – Mrs. Siro stated she arrived late, and she has a question. She stated she was informed that someone was forbidden to address the Council. Pres. Handlan stated this has been resolved. Mrs. Siro stated she is a member of the community and a former member of Council. She stated people were always encouraged to speak out, and she asked where it is written that someone is forbidden to speak out. Pres. Handlan stated the word “forbidden” did not come out of her mouth; that was Ms. Brouse’s interpretation of what Pres. Handlan was saying. Pres. Handlan stated that she asked Ms. Brouse to limit her questions to issues related to the property that she owns in the Borough. Mrs. Siro asked why Ms. Brouse cannot talk about Borough property or equipment. Pres. Handlan replied that Ms. Brouse is not a resident of the Borough. She stated that she did allow Ms. Brouse to continue to ask her next question. She stated the Council has a lot of business, as Mrs. Siro well knows. Mrs. Siro asked when the Council President can tell people not to speak out. She asked Solicitor Cravitz if this is allowed. Solicitor Cravitz replied that the Chairperson can control the amount of time a person is allowed to speak. He stated it is usually limited to 5 minutes and items spoken about should relate to what is on the agenda and what would be Borough business. Mrs. Siro stated the discussion related to the pump house, and she had been on that committee. She stated she took pictures and expressed concern about the floor. Most of this has been taken care of, but the slippery part is still there. She stated she does not think it is right to tell people they cannot speak out at a Council meeting. Solicitor Cravitz stated that C/P Hendricks addressed the pump house and what needed to be done by the committee. The Chairperson can recognize and stop anyone from speaking during the course of the proceeding if she feels it is out of order and not pertinent to what is being discussed. That is her prerogative as Chair. Mrs. Siro expressed her concern that in her presence people of the community or an adjacent community cannot pursue a subject. At this point C/P Viker was attempting to make a comment and Mrs. Siro stated she was not interested in C/P Viker’s comment. C/P Viker stated that is fine because the Chair will recognize whether or not she is interested in his comment. Mrs. Siro replied that the Chair has a lot to recognize. Pres. Handlan stated that Mrs. Siro has known her for a number of years, long before she came on Council, noting that Mr. and Mrs. Siro came to every meeting for nine years, and Mrs. Siro knows that Pres. Handlan has never limited anyone or suppressed what they had to say at a Council meeting. However, she stated she has reached her limit. Mrs. Siro stated that perhaps Pres. Handlan should resign. Pres. Handlan replied that she does not think she will do that. She will finish out her term because she is always committed to what she commits to. Mrs. Siro responded with “touché” and Pres. Handlan thanked her for speaking. Mrs. Siro stated Pres. Handlan would not really like her to say why she left Council. C/P Viker stated as the Libertarian in the room he

supports the free and open exchange of ideas and information throughout any public meeting. He appreciates the spirit with which Mrs. Siro raises her concern. He noted that the record should show that upon Mrs. Siro's late arrival Ms. Debbie Brouse took Mrs. Siro outside the room and pretty obviously, based on the past few moments, informed Mrs. Siro as to how Ms. Brouse felt things unfolded. Mrs. Siro interrupted to state she went to see if the work had been done in the bathrooms. Pres. Handlan stated that C/P Viker was speaking and Mrs. Siro replied that he is always speaking. C/P Viker stated that is true, noting that he is a verbose, thorough individual. He pointed out that, although he respects the Chair's ruling, he would respectfully encourage the Chair to allow people to speak as long as they like because what happens then is that any biases, any blatant agendas, and any politically driven motivations become all the more obvious for the voters of Selinsgrove. He stated that, with respect to Pres. Handlan's ruling, should Ms. Brouse wish to speak she should be given the floor to allow her to speak some more. Pres. Handlan stated the Council has a lot of work to do, and some evenings have even gone on into the next day. She stated that enough is enough on the subject. Mrs. Siro asked who Pres. Handlan represents. Pres. Handlan replied that she represents the citizens of Selinsgrove. She stated Council will now move on to the next agenda item.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS: C/P Farrell, Chair

Request from Cheri DeSiena, M. Heintzelman Jewelers, for a waiver from the Noise Ordinance for an outdoor Jamaica Sunset Social to be held on May 14 from 3:30 to 7:00 P.M. with Island Sounds Caribbean Steel Drum Band performing from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. – The neighbors will be notified in advance as a usual condition for granting the waiver.

Motion by C/P Hendricks to grant the request for a waiver from the Noise Ordinance. Seconded by C/P Viker.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Consider request from High School Junior for a Senior Project that will require a street closure – C/P Carroll stated he was called by the father of a junior who is working on her senior project. The student wants to have a band and would need a noise ordinance waiver. She also wants a section of the street to be blocked off. C/P Carroll asked if the student would go through Mgr. Bickhart for this or if she would begin the process with Chief Garlock. Mgr. Bickhart stated this would begin with him and stated he would not recommend closing a state road. C/P Carroll stated it would be the side street beside the Selinsgrove Inn from Orange to Market Streets. C/P Hendricks asked if the band shell at Kidsgrove and Anthony Selin would be a possibility. C/P Carroll replied no, stating the student is working with the Selinsgrove Inn to use their facility and parking lot for a rally to include motorcycles and bikes. He asked if the fire police would need to be involved with this. Mgr. Bickhart stated he believes he spoke with this student and indicated she needed to supply more information. C/P Viker asked when this would take place and C/P Carroll stated it would be the Sunday afternoon immediately following the Market Street Festival. The barricades would already be in place. Mgr. Bickhart stated the student needs to get back to him with details, preferably in writing. He stated he is confused because the Selinsgrove Inn does not have a side street. C/P Carroll stated it is the side street near the old railroad station where Council just granted approval for a building to be expanded. It was determined that the street in question is West Snyder Street next to Kleinbauer's. Mgr. Bickhart stated there is still some time to work this out. C/P Carroll stated he was thinking of the motorcycle group that came in and did not have their act together to get things done in time for the event they wanted to have, so he encouraged the student's father to begin planning and making contacts early.

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: C/P Charles, Chair – No report from the committee; however, Margaret Siro questioned whether the employee evaluation has been completed for the police department clerk. C/P Anderson asked if Mrs. Siro is referring to the next cycle and Mrs. Siro stated she is referring to the evaluation that was to have been done when she was on Council. C/P Charles stated he is new on the committee, he just got on, and he was under the impression the evaluations were already done. Mrs. Siro asked who informed Mr. Charles of his responsibilities on the committee. Mr. Charles stated he has a list, but he was under the impression that the evaluations were done.

Mrs. Siro asked if no one oriented him to the committee and he replied that no one did, stating that he has the information. He began in March and he thought the evaluations were done. Mrs. Siro stated they are not, noting that this will only be the second time the evaluations have ever been done. She stated this was questioned by Council when she was on. C/P Charles stated he will look into this. Mrs. Siro stated she feels this is important to the community, especially with the police department clerk position.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: C/P Viker, Chair – No Report. C/P Viker asked if there was any word from PennDOT on the traffic light grant. Mgr. Bickhart replied he has not heard anything. Kim Riegel reported there is a streetlight that has been out for quite some time at the corner of Pine and High Streets. C/P Viker stated this is a PPL light, and the Borough can notify them of the issue. Ms. Riegel noted a resident there has had some things stolen. C/P Carroll stated that any time a streetlight is out citizens can call the office and someone in the office will record the information. Someone from the crew is sent out to get the number off the pole so it can be properly reported to PPL, which builds up a list and then comes out to take care of the issues. In the event of thefts, C/P Carroll encouraged people to let the Borough office know and also to call the Borough Police. Ms. Riegel stated she instructed the person to call but she does not think he did. There were political signs stolen from the property.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Earl Moyer, Chair – No Report

ZONING HEARING BOARD: Cyril Runkle, Chair – No Report

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: Dalton Savidge, Chair – No Report

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD: Shane Hendricks, Chair – Written report supplied. C/P Hendricks noted the next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 24 at the boat launch at 7:30 rather than 7:00 to accommodate Little League. Pres. Handlan asked if the \$750 for music at the gazebo is in conjunction with the Selinsgrove Chamber of Commerce. She stated the Chamber usually handled all the music. C/P Hendricks stated the trust provides money with the stipulation that \$750 per year be allocated to the Music in the Parks Program. The Board does not decide where the money goes; they are instructed regarding where to use it. C/P Hendricks stated the Music in the Parks Program really is under the bailiwick of Parks and Rec. C/P Carroll asked where things stand with the summer program. C/P Hendricks replied that the Board has received only two applications so far. The Board will have to do some recruiting if they want to have a viable program this summer.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION: _____, Chair – No Report. Mgr. Bickhart noted that 23 new trees have been planted. These are bare root trees of some size. The Shade Tree Commission got good advice on how to put the roots in gel before planting. This is a small step toward regaining the “grove” status of the Borough after the loss of hundreds of trees. C/P Viker asked where the trees were planted in general. Mgr. Bickhart stated there were 3 planted along Broad Street next to Weis Markets, 13 along and through the cemetery behind Sharon Lutheran Church, and 7 along the cemetery at Orange and Mill Streets.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR: Sean Christine

Presentation of Police Report for March 2011 – Mayor Christine reported that he has to get with Chief Garlock concerning a question by C/P Hendricks on the amount of the property loss from theft, which C/P Hendricks felt was a high number.

Evidence Moved – Mayor Christine noted that the evidence enclosure has been completed by the Borough crew and evidence has been moved from the basement of the Borough Building by police officers with the assistance of the Borough crew.

Continued discussion on Police Department Evaluation – To take place during executive session.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR: Robert Cravitz, Esq.

Update on submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development pertaining to the establishment of a line of credit in the amount of \$4,000,000 for financing during construction for the Building Project – Solicitor Cravitz said nothing has been heard from DCED yet. They are still within their 21-day turnaround period.

Consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 792, pertaining to the proposed increase in Sewer Rates, effective October 1, 2011, from the current rate of \$8.00 per 1,000 gallons of water consumed to \$9.00 per 1,000 gallons of water consumed, an increase of 12.5% - It was noted that the last change was effective 1/1/06. Solicitor Cravitz stated this had been advertised for adoption at this meeting. He stated it raises the rate for the first 3,000 gallons to \$27.00. Each 1,000 gallons or part thereof after the first 3,000 gallons will be raised to \$9.00, an increase of \$1.00 per 1,000 gallons.

Motion by C/P Anderson to adopt Ordinance No. 792. Seconded by C/P Hendricks.

C/P Viker asked if he is correct in characterizing this not as a rate increase that the Council is doing to raise revenue, but an increase because the Borough is passing on to the consumers the increased expenses from outside Council's purview. Solicitor Cravitz stated this is correct. Pres. Handlan called for a vote on the motion.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Update on the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission Complaint filed by Michael Moyer – Solicitor Cravitz stated there is nothing more to report on this. However, he would like a brief executive session tonight to discuss new litigation against the Borough.

BOROUGH ENGINEER: J. A. Coukart & Associates

Update on pending projects – C/P Hendricks stated bid opening was just done today and Council has not seen the tabulations yet. He noted the front page of the engineer's report states that the work has to be done at state prevailing wage rates. He asked if all the bids were based upon prevailing wages. Mgr. Bickhart stated the bids were initially advertised for a non-prevailing wage. At the pre-bid meeting the contractors raised some questions. Engineer Coukart reviewed the situation with Solicitor Cravitz and they determined that, even though maintenance work does not have to be bid at prevailing wage rates, this project was eligible for prevailing wage. An addendum was sent to all the contractors and all the bids are based on prevailing wage rates. C/P Anderson asked if a recommendation could be made and Mgr. Bickhart stated not yet. The Borough has 60 days from the bid openings so Council should expect a formal recommendation at the next meeting. There were six different alternates, so more time is needed to review the situation. The apparent low bidder is G & R Charles, and the bid is within the budget. C/P Anderson stated it is good to know the emergency access ramp is completed.

BOROUGH TREASURER: Sharon Badman

Review Treasurer's Report for April 2011 - Pres. Handlan asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's report. Hearing none, she stated that it is on file for audit.

BOROUGH MANAGER / SECRETARY / ZONING OFFICER: Mgr. Bickhart

Non-Police Complaint Update – No Report

Update of PROPERTY TRANSFERS and BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED, Janet Powers, Deputy Zoning and Permit Officer – Information only

Selinsgrove Police Department Mural – Mgr. Bickhart reported the mural has been removed from the wall. Once it can be secured a little better it will be moved to the Borough Shed, where it will be stored

flat and face up. It can then be unwrapped so any damages can be assessed. It will be stored until a location can be found to display it within the renovated building or at another location. Pres. Handlan asked where it may go and Mgr. Bickhart said that will be turned over to Jim Hartley to figure out where it will go now that it has been salvaged. He noted it is about 7 feet wide and about 6 feet tall.

Reminder – May 14, Savor Selinsgrove Event – This will take place from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M., followed by a Jamaica Sunset Social at M. Heintzelman Jewelers from 3:30 to 7:00 P.M. with Island Sounds Caribbean Steel Drum Band from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M.

SELINGSGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Donald Bottiger, Chairman – No Report

EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY REGIONAL AUTHORITY – Bob Dagle and George Kinney, Chairmen
– No Update

NORTH-EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY JOINT AUTHORITY – Bill Hetherington and John C. Bickhart
– No Report

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tricia Pursell Award – C/P Carroll stated people in the Borough or on the workforce are often recognized, and he noted that Tricia Pursell, the Daily Item reporter who covers the Borough, received an award. Photographer Matt Harris, who attends a lot of Borough events, also received an award. C/P Carroll supplied copies of the newspaper article for the Council members.

OTHERS

Katie Kirchner FBLA – Mgr. Bickhart reported that Dawne Long, through her son Kyle, made him aware that Katie and two others competed in a competition for the Future Business Leaders of America at the state level and won. They were chosen to attend the national competition. Dawne had indicated that there might be some issues with fundraising. Dawne stated that the national competition is in California and there is some question as to whether the funds can be raised so the students can go. She asked if anyone can come up with fundraising ideas to contact Mrs. Gavitt at the high school. C/P Carroll asked when the national competition is scheduled and Dawne replied that she was not sure. Pres. Handlan stated she can find out more information from Katie's father.

Snyder County Library Board – Rick Savidge, Vice President of the Snyder County Library Board, stated the Board is very grateful for everything that has been done from the beginning to the end of the process of moving the library project along. He expressed the thanks of the entire Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Council Meeting recessed to an Executive Session at 8:05 P.M. for discussion of Personnel and Litigation Issues. Council meeting reconvened at 9:11 P.M.

Pres. Handlan stated no action was taken on the matter of litigation. Related to the personnel issue, Council is authorizing Mayor Christine to inform Chief Garlock to move forward on hiring part-time officers. The names will be brought back to Council for approval. Council is also authorizing the head of personnel to draft a response to the Police Officers Association.

C/P Anderson stated that she forgot to say during the Finance Committee report that the committee authorized the expenditure of \$13,000 to replace the handheld meter reading devices.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 P.M.
Attachments: None

Respectfully submitted by
Dawne R. Long, Independent Transcriptionist
Recording Transcriptionist