

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
July 11, 2024**

**GENERAL ATTENDANCE**

Debra Thompson  
Lee Strubhar-NEFD  
Tony Siminitus  
Marty Sowers  
Sgt. Beau Yarmush

**COUNCIL ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:**

Leroy Bates, Council President  
Elaine Holley, Vice President  
Kyler Burke, Pro-Tem  
Skip Butler  
Aimmee Reilly  
Willard Shiffer, Mayor  
Melissa Dyer, Secretary/ Treasurer  
Shane Hobbs, Solicitor

**ABSENT:**

Devin Lymaster

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Council President Bates called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with all members of Council being present with the exception of Devin Lymaster. A quorum was established.

**○ PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1):**

- **Debra Thompson:** D. Thompson provided an update on Suicide Prevention 5K.
- **Anthony Siminitus:** A. Siminitus stated he received a NOV for his rental property. A. Siminitus is in the process of finishing up the work at the apartment building. Council further discussed. Marty Sowers and Anthony Siminitus exited the meeting to discuss further.

**○ SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

- **S.R. 125 Water Line:** Solicitor Hobbs provided an update on the S.R. 125 Water Line and discussed the meeting we had with the other property owner. Secretary Dyer will send over previous easements to Shane for the S.R. 125 Water Line Project.
- **QOL and Non-Compliant Properties:** Solicitor Hobbs provided an update on the civil action complaints against 108/110 S. Tulpehocken Street and 82 S. Tulpehocken Street. Council further discussed.

○ SCHEDULED VISITORS:

- **HH& L: None.**
- **NEFD:** Report is in everyone's file.
  - L. Strubhar let council know that North End Fire Company will be hosting National Night Out on August 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - L. Strubhar briefly discussed the process for sports parades and daytime send off parades.

○ MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Sgt. Yarmush read over the monthly report.
- Mayor Shiffer stated Veteran's Memorial Drive will be open on Friday night due to the fireworks at the carnival.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed the concerns at 108/110 S. Tulpehocken Street and 82 S. Tulpehocken Street.
  - Mayor Shiffer asked for an update on 66 E. Pottsville Street. Solicitor Hobbs stated he is still working on obtaining a private sale date with the Tax Claim Bureau.
  - Marty Sowers returned to the meeting around 6:30pm. Marty Sowers provided an updated on 108/110 S. Tulpehocken Street and 82 S. Tulpehocken Street.

○ COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

○ **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- **August Meeting Date:** Council President Bates asked council to switch the August Regular Council Meeting Date from Thursday, August 8, 2024 to Thursday, August 15, 2024. Leroy Bates motioned to advertise the change of August's Council Meeting Date from Thursday, August 8, 2024 to Thursday, August 15, 2024, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.
- **Committee Assignments:** Secretary Dyer provided all of council with a copy of the Committee Assignments for council members to review and decide if they want to remain on a committee or pick a new one.
- **Executive Session:** Elaine Holley motioned to enter into Executive Session at 7:03pm to discuss personnel matters, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council. Returned from Executive Session at 7:23pm.  
Leroy Bates motioned to accept the resignation from pool minor, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.

○ **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**

- **Vacant Council Seat:** Council President Bates stated we received two Letters of Interest for the vacant council seat. Skip Butler motioned to appoint Debra Thompson to the vacant council seat, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council. Mayor Shiffer swore in Debra Thompson.
- **Ord. 470 Borough Manager Ordinance:** Kyler Burke motioned to advertise Ordinance 470, Borough Manager Ordinance, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

- **Ord. 471 PMRS Pension Ordinance:** Kyler Burke motioned to adopt Ordinance 471, PMRS Police Pension Ordinance, seconded by Aimmee Reilly, carried by Council.
- **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE:**
  - **Approval of Minutes:** Passing the gavel, Council President Bates made a motion to accept the Minutes of the June 13, 2024 Regular Meeting, seconded by Aimmee Reilly, carried by Council.
  - **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** Council President Bates made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for June, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
  - **Approval of Bills:** Council President Bates motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
- **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:**
  - **Streets & Water Report:** Reports are in everyone's file. Council President Bates inquired about the draft ordinance for Wideawake Street. Secretary/ Treasurer Dyer stated it was tabled and hasn't been discussed. Secretary/ Treasurer Dyer will add it to the August Agenda.
  - **Compost Site:** Secretary/ Treasurer Dyer stated Earl said the compost site is full and non-borough residents are dumping at the compost site. Secretary/ Treasurer Dyer stated Earl is working on obtaining pricing for the compost site removal. Council further discussed.
  - **Fire Hydrants:** Secretary Dyer stated the damaged fire hydrant near North End Fire Company cost \$5,300.00. Council further discussed. Secretary Dyer will send out a letter to the borough fire companies regarding the use of the fire hydrants.
  - **4<sup>th</sup> Street:** Secretary/ Treasurer Dyer stated Earl wanted to bring up to council about redirecting school bus traffic due to damage that is being done to 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Earl will be discussing with the school. Council further discussed.
- **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:**
  - **Berger Road Property:** Council President Bates discussed possibly selling the parcel across the street on Berger Road. Council President Bates stated there is about 27 acres. Council further discussed. Elaine Holley motioned to allow Council President Bates request a market analysis to be completed on Berger Road, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council.
  - **Timber Update:** Council President Bates provided an update on timber over near Mountain Road. Council President Bates stated Matt Frederick hopes to have the bid packets ready for August's meeting.
- **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE: None.**
- **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: None.**

- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION:**
  - **Pool:** Aimmee Reilly provided an update on the pool and Into Swim Grant.  
Aimmee Reilly discussed Casey's interest in attending a Lifeguard Instructor Course. A. Reilly stated this course would allow Casey to be certified to re certify our current lifeguards at our facility. The cost of the class is \$400.00. Kyler Burke motioned to allow Casey Kershner to attend the Lifeguard Instructor Course, seconded by Skip Butler.
  - **Jr. Lifeguard Camp:** Aimmee Reilly stated there is a total of eight kids signed up for the Jr. Lifeguard Camp.
  - **Schuylkill County Vision:** Aimme Reilly will be meeting with Mandy Fitzpatrick from Schuylkill County Vision tomorrow regarding activities at the canal.

○ **NEW BUSINESS: None.**

○ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None.**

○ **PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: None.**

Elaine Holley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m., seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council.

  
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Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer