

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 13, 2024**

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Earl Kreiser
Lee Strubhar-NEFD
Dave Kavitski-One Atlas
Joshua Sophy-Coal Region Canary
Sgt. Beau Yarmush

Debra Thompson
Jim Milachn-Moody

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Leroy Bates, Council President

Vice President Holley 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 Council President, Leroy Bates. A quorum was established.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1): None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- **Employee Agreement Contract:** Solicitor Hobbs provided an update on the employee agreement contracts for the pool employees.

SCHEDULED VISITORS:

- **One Atlas/ Dave Kavitski:** D. Kavitski provided an update to council on Well 16/17 and DEP Meeting. Council further discussed. Skip Butler motioned to allow One Atlas to pursue the testing for less gallons per minute per DEP recommendations, seconded by Devin Lymaster, carried by Council.
- **HH& L: None.**
- **NEFD:** Report is in everyone's file. L. Strubhar read over the monthly report. L. Strubhar stated NEFD usually uses the main street to respond to calls. L. Strubhar

stated very rarely do we use Veteran's Memorial Drive. L. Strubhar stated as long as we can access the canal for pumping they are good.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Sgt. Yarmush read over the monthly report.
- Mayor Shiffer and Solicitor Hobbs provided an update on 82 S Tulpehocken and 110 S Tulpehocken properties.
Mayor Shiffer asked for an update on 66 E. Pottsville Street. Solicitor Hobbs stated still working on obtain private sale date with the Tax Claim Bureau.
Council further discussed properties with high grass.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

○ **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- **Executive Session:** Kyler Burke motioned to enter into Executive Session at 6:42pm to discuss personnel matters, seconded by Devin Lymaster, carried by Council. Returned from Executive Session at 7:06pm.
Aimnee Reilly motioned to hire Candidates A & B for the pool, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council.

○ **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**

- **Vacant Council Seat:** Solicitor Hobbs discussed the council vacancy with Wade Gettle resigning. Council further discussed and Solicitor Hobbs stated to keep accepting applications for the July meeting. If we don't have someone appointed in 30 days the Vacancy Board will step in. Vice-President Holley stated we did receive one Letter of Interest so far. Solicitor Hobbs stated council should make a decision by the next council meeting.
- **Ord. 471 Borough Manager Ordinance:** Vice-President Holley stated the borough is working on creating a position of Borough Manager. Vice-President Holley stated a drafted ordinance is in everyone's files for review. Skip Butler motioned to advertise Ordinance 471, Borough Manager Ordinance, seconded by Aimnee Reilly, carried by Council.
- **Ord. 470 PMRS Pension Ordinance:** Skip Butler motioned to advertise Ordinance 470 PMRS Police Pension with no contribution, seconded Devin Lymaster, carried by Council.

○ **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

- **Approval of Minutes:** Passing the gavel, Vice-President Holley made a motion to accept the Minutes of the May 16, 2024 Regular Meeting, seconded by Aimnee Reilly, carried by Council.
- **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** Vice-President Holley made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for May, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
- **Approval of Bills:** Vice-President Holley motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

- **Interest Earnings Analysis Banking:** Secretary Dyer went over the proposed banking changes with Fulton Bank and cost savings. Secretary Dyer stated she checked with our auditors and solicitor to ensure the changes to the bank accounts are ok to proceed. Council further discussed. *Elaine Holley motioned to switch our bank accounts with Fulton Bank to Interest Earnings Analysis Banking, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.*

- **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:**
 - **Streets & Water Report:** Reports are in everyone’s file.
 - **PennDOT:** E. Kreiser stated PennDOT will be paving North Tulpehocken Street July 8th-July 11th.
 - **2024 Road Paving Project:** K. Burke opened the bids received for the 2024 Road Paving Project. The bids received are as follows:
 - Meckley’s Limestone Products, Inc. \$188,269.80
 - H & K Group \$194,355.59
 - New Enterprise Stone and Lime \$193,080.80
 - M & J Excavation, Inc. \$228,026.00

Skip Butler motioned to award the bid to Meckley’s for \$188,269.80 pending Solicitor Hobbs review, seconded by Devin Lymaster, carried by Council.

- **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE: None.**
- **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE: None.**
- **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:**
 - Skip Butler stated they will be setting up another meeting to meet with the fire companies and Marty Sowers to discuss the fire suppression system at Guilford Mills.
- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION:**
 - **Swim Grant:** Aimmee Reilly stated we received the grant through the Hot Tub Association. Aimmee Reilly stated we have 98 kids signed up for the swimming lessons and two have used the grant. Aimmee Reilly stated they are offering another round of the swimming lessons in August and five have used the grant so far. Secretary Dyer stated we did receive a check for \$2,400.00 this afternoon in the mail.
 - **Jr. Lifeguard Camp:** Aimmee Reilly stated they have 15 spots available for the Jr. Lifeguard Camp Program. We have three spots filled so far.
 - **Schuylkill County Vision/ Mandy Fitzpatrick:** Aimmee Reilly met with Mandy Fitzpatrick from Schuylkill County Vision this week about a bunch of different programs and grants.
 - **Community Safety Night:** Aimmee Reilly stated Casey is working on Community Safety Night at Veteran’s Memorial Drive on Saturday, July 17th. Aimmee Reilly stated all Fire and EMS are on board.

○ **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Employee Law Training:** Secretary Dyer stated she would like to attend this two-day Employee Law Training Class through PSAB on July 31st and August 1st in Harrisburg. Aimmee Reilly motioned to allow Melissa Dyer to attend two-day training class in Harrisburg, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council.

○ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

- **Debra Thompson:** D. Thompson provided an update on the 5K run on September 14th.

○ **PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:**

- **Coal Region Canary:**
 - **Borough Manager Ordinance:** J. Sophy stated you should have two reviews prior to advertisement with the ordinance. Solicitor Hobbs stated you're correct and this would be the first review.
 - Quality of Life Properties:** 82 and 110 S Tulpehocken Street

Devin Lymaster made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m., seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer