

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 8, 2023**

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Lee Strubhar
Casey Kershner
Jake Dinger

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

Thomas Fickinger, Council President
Leonard Clark, Pro-Tem
Skip Butler
Elaine Holley
Wade Gettle
Willard Shiffer, Mayor
Melissa Dyer, Secretary/ Treasurer
Shane Hobbs, Solicitor

ABSENT:

Devin Lymaster
Leroy Bates, Vice-President

Council President Fickinger 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 Leroy Bates and Devin Lymaster. A quorum was established.

○ PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1):

- **Casey Kershner:** C. Kershner provided an update on the pool and requested some new items for the pool. Council further discussed.

○ SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- **Tree Removal:** Solicitor Hobbs discussed the letter that was sent out to the property owner regarding the tree at 68 N. Tulpehocken Street. Secretary Dyer stated the tree removal is scheduled for June 16-17th. Council further discussed and will obtain pricing for stump removal.
- **Sidewalk ordinance:** Solicitor Hobbs briefly discussed the sidewalk ordinance and will have to start working on a rough draft.
- **Lion's Club Lease:** Solicitor Hobbs discussed the Lion's Club roof that needs replaced. Solicitor Hobbs discussed the Lion's Club Lease to council and gave different options regarding repairs to the building.

- **66 E. Pottsville Street:** Mayor Shiffer asked about an update with the Tax Upset Sale for this property. Mayor Shiffer is going to have someone cut the grass. Secretary Dyer asked Solicitor Hobbs about a Land Banks for this property. Council further discussed. Solicitor Hobbs will look into Land Banks plus the status of the Tax Upset Sale.

○ **SCHEDULED VISITORS:**

- **HH&L:** Wade Gettle motioned to approve the fireworks display by Hose Hook & Ladder during their carnival the week of June 13th- June 17th, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
- **NEFD:** None.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Sgt. Mozurkevich read over the monthly Police Report.
- Mayor Shiffer stated a Handicapped Parking Space was requested on Spruce Street. Skip Butler motioned to approve the handicapped parking space on Spruce Street, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed QOL and blight properties.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed GoJoe Event. Mayor Shiffer stated Joe Snedeker will be riding through Pine Grove on Thursday, July 27th at 11:00am for the 26th GoJoe Event. Council further discussed.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):** None.
- **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**

- **Resolution # 01-23:** Skip Butler motioned to adopt Resolution #01-23, PMRS 0% contribution for 2022 and 2023, seconded by Wade Gettle, carried by Council.

Wade Gettle motioned to go into Executive Session at 6:39pm to discuss personnel matters, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council. Council returned from Executive Session at 7:02pm.


Elaine Holley motioned to rescind their motion at the May 11, 2023 regular council meeting from one seasonal worker to two seasonal workers pending interviews, seconded by Wade Gettle, carried by Council., Leonard Clark Opposed. Poll Vote was taken with 4 Yes and 1 No.

- **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER)**

- **Approval of Minutes:** Passing the gavel, President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Minutes of the May 11, 2023 Regular Meeting, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
- **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for May, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.
- **Approval of Bills:** President Fickinger motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

- **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
 - **Streets/ Water Report:** Report is in everyone's folder.
 - **Line Painting:** Mayor Shiffer asked the streets crew if they could repaint the areas where it states STOP. J. Dinger stated it is on the schedule to repaint crosswalks and speed lines.
 - **Roberts Road- Hydrant Locked:** Secretary Dyer stated one of the fire companies requested to use the fire hydrant at Robert's Road but it is currently locked. L. Clark stated each fire company was provided a special wrench to unlock the fire hydrant. Council further discussed. Wade Gettle motioned to allow the fire companies to utilize the fire hydrant at Robert's Road pending they provide the dates they will be using it, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
- **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES):** None.
- **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (LEONARD CLARK):** None.
- **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (SKIP BUTLER):** None.
 - **False Alarms:** Skip Butler motioned to adopt Ordinance 469, False Alarms, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council. Secretary Dyer will send out letters to the businesses that have fire alarm systems along with posting it on our website.
- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (LEONARD CLARK):**
 - **Pool:** L. Clark discussed the loss of water that we are still having at the swimming pool. L. Clark stated you are losing water in the return line from the pool to pump house. Council further discussed. T. Fickinger suggested plugging a skimmer a day to see which one is leaking and go from there. Council further discussed.
- **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - **Audit 2023:** Skip Butler motioned to approve Garman, Garcia and Shea to complete the 2023 Audit for Pine Grove Borough, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
 - **Hazardous Mitigation Planning Process:** Skip Butler motioned to participate with the Schuylkill County Hazardous Mitigation Planning Process, seconded by Wade Gettle, carried by Council.
- **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** None.

Elaine Holley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m., seconded by Wade Gettle, carried by Council.



 Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer