

PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 16, 2024

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Earl Kreiser
Lee Strubhar
Stephen Rada
Connor Rada
Sgt. Beau Yarmush

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

Wade Gettle, President
Leroy Bates, Vice President
Elaine Holley, Pro-Tem
Kyler Burke, entered meeting at 6:11 p.m.
Skip Butler
Aimmee Reilly
Willard Shiffer, Mayor
Melissa Dyer, Secretary/ Treasurer
Shane Hobbs, Solicitor

ABSENT:

Devin Lymaster

Council President Gettle 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 and Kyler Burke. A quorum was established.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1): None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- Rental Inspections:** Solicitor Hobbs provided an update on 82 S. Tulpehocken Street and 108/110 S. Tulpehocken Street. Council further discussed.
- 66 E. Pottsville Street:** Solicitor Hobbs provided an update on the property. Solicitor Hobbs stated they are still waiting for the private sale to take place.
- 35 Moyer Street:** Solicitor Hobbs provided an update on the property and discussed options for this property.

SCHEDULED VISITORS:

- Lion's Den:** Leroy Bates motioned to approve the road closure for Saturday, June 15th for the Bluegrass Festival at the Lion's Den, seconded by Wade Gettle, carried by Council.

- **HH& L: None.**
- **NEFD:** L. Strubhar read over the monthly report. L. Strubhar stated they have sixteen firefighters getting ready to take their state FF1 Certification test.
- **Connor Rada-Troop 650:** Connor Rada for Boy Scout Troop 650 is interested in doing an Eagle Scout Project down near the canal. Connor stated he would like to start as soon as possible and ask for council's permission to complete the project at the canal. Aimmee Reilly motioned to allow Connor Rada to complete his Eagle Scout project down at the canal, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Sgt. Yarmush read over the monthly report.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed Quality Of Life and high grass.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

○ **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (WADE GETTLE):**

- **Resignation:** Leroy Bates motioned to accept the resignation of Wade Gettle effective Friday, May 24th, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council.
Wade Gettle motioned to advertise for the vacant council seat, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
Skip Butler motioned to Re-Organization for officer seats, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council.

Wade Gettle called for nominations for President of Council. Elaine Holley nominated Leroy Bates for President and Skip Butler seconded. No other nominations for President. Leroy Bates was elected President of Borough Council starting on Saturday, May 25th. The gavel was passed to the President.

Leroy Bates called for nominations for Vice-President of Council. Skip Butler nominated Elaine Holley for Vice-President and Aimmee Reilly seconded. No other nominations for Vice-President. Elaine Holley was elected Vice-President of Borough Council starting Saturday, May 25th.

Leroy Bates called for nominations for Pro-Tem of Council. Aimmee Reilly nominated Kyler Burke for Pro-Tem and seconded by Leroy Bates. No other nominations for Pro-Tem. Kyler Burke was elected Pro-Tem of Borough Council starting Saturday, May 25th.

○ **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES):**

Kyler Burke motioned to enter into Executive Session at 6:41pm to discuss personnel matters, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council. Returned from Executive Session at 7:07pm. Personnel matters were discussed.

Kyler Burke motioned to hire Candidate A for the School Resource Officer Position, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.

Leroy Bates motioned to hire candidates A, B, C for the pool, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

Leroy Bates motioned to hire Candidate A for the seasonal position for the Street Department, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

○ **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (WADE GETTLE)**

○ **Approval of Minutes:** Passing the gavel, President Gettle made a motion to accept the Minutes of the April 11, 2024 Regular Meeting, seconded by Aimmee Reilly, carried by Council.

○ **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** President Gettle made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for April, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council.

○ **Approval of Bills:** President Gettle motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.

○ **Server/ Cyber Security:** President Gettle went over each option. Council further discussed and stated they will do all items with the exception of the server replacement. This will be 2025 budget item.

Leroy Bates motioned to approve the Managed Service Solution SOC for \$450.00 a month and Cloud back-up device for \$799.00 one-time fee plus \$109.00 monthly fee with American Computer, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council.

○ **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (WADE GETTLE):**

○ **Streets & Water Report:** Reports are in everyone's file.

○ **2017 Truck:** E. Kreiser stated the floor of the 2017 Truck is rusted out and won't pass inspection. E. Kreiser stated the total cost is between \$5,500-\$6,000. Council further discussed. Leroy motioned to approve pending budget check by Melissa, seconded by Aimmee Reilly, carried by Council.

○ **Storm Drain:** E. Kreiser stated they had to have a storm drain top rebuilt on High Street.

○ **Veteran's Memorial Drive:** Secretary Dyer stated we would lose \$1,300.00 in liquid fuels if we would shut down Veteran's Memorial Drive permanently. Secretary Dyer stated PennDOT would allow us to shut down on weekends for the summer months but no permanent gates allowed. Council further discussed. Leroy Bates motioned to shut down Veteran's Memorial Drive starting May 31st and ending September 1st on weekends only from 5:00pm Friday's to 8:00am on Monday's, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

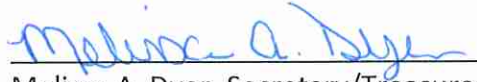
- **Phosphate Tanks:** Skip Butler motioned to purchase new phosphate tanks for the Chemical Building totaling \$2,980.00, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council.
- **Well Checklist:** President Gettle stated they will be creating a Well Checklist for the staff to ensure the preventative maintenance is being completed at the wells and the employee will have to sign off on the checklist.
- **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES):**
 - **Kassab Land Lease:** Secretary Dyer stated the residents will be moving and will no longer need the land lease behind Mifflin Street. Leroy Bates motioned to terminate the land lease with Daniel Kassab, seconded by Wade Gettle, carried by Council.
 - **Timber/ Land:** Leroy Bates discussed timbering the property out on Bergers Road plus selling it. Council further discussed. Wade Gettle motioned to pursue the option to possible timber and sale of some land, seconded by Kyler Burke, carried by Council. Secretary Dyer will send the realtor contact information that was used for the sale of the Armory Building.
- **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (WADE GETTLE):**
 - **FEMA CAV Meeting:** President Gettle stated is holding us to our timeline of December 2025.
- **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (SKIP BUTLER):**
 - **False Alarm Ordinance:** Skip Butler stated they will be setting up another meeting to meet with the fire companies.
 - **Fire Company Yearly Contribution:** Aim mee Reilly motioned to give the two borough fire companies their yearly contribution of \$13,500.00, seconded by Wade Gettle, carried by Council.
- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (AIMMEE REILLY):**
 - **TCC Meeting:** Aim mee Reilly stated the next TCC Meeting will be on May 28th with a Zoom invite.
 - **Rec Board:** Aim mee Reilly stated the Recreation Board Committee met twice. Aim mee Reilly stated the pool has been filled and will be ready to open. Aim mee Reilly stated she is working on food trucks, etc. for when Veteran's Memorial Drive is shut down.
 - **Swimming Grant:** Aim mee Reilly stated she did submit a grant through the Hot Tub Association and still waiting to hear back from them.

○ **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Comcast Franchise Agreement:** Leroy Bates motioned to approve the new Comcast Franchise Agreement, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None.

Aimmee Reilly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.



Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer