

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2023**

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Lee Strubhar

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

Thomas Fickinger, Council President
Leroy Bates, Vice President
Leonard Clark, Pro-Tem
Skip Butler
Elaine Holley
Devin Lymaster
Willard Shiffer, Mayor
Mandy Miller, Assistant Secretary/ Treasurer
Shane Hobbs, Solicitor

ABSENT:

Wade Gettle

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 except Wade Gettle. A quorum was established.

○ PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1):

- **NEFD: Lee Strubhar:** L. Strubhar gave the report for North End Fire Dept. He let council know that they will be holding fire prevention/safety at the elementary school and also at the Autumn Stroll.
- **Merry Jeepy Christmas:** L. Strubhar said North End is hosting a Merry Jeepy Christmas jeep decorating contest and parade that will go through town on Saturday, December 9th. The event will start at 2 P.M. at North End Fire Company with the parade going through town starting at 5 P.M. and will end at Veteran's Memorial Drive for people to view and vote on the best decorated jeeps. Council further discussed. Elaine Holley motioned to close Veteran's Memorial Drive from 4:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Saturday, December 9, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by council.

○ SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- **66 E. Pottsville Street:** Solicitor Hobbs discussed the possible sale of 66 E. Pottsville Street. He stated there is a hearing on November 3rd on the possible sale. Council further discussed; the matter was tabled until the November council meeting.
- **Comcast:** Solicitor Hobbs stated he spoke to the attorney from Cohen Law Group. He will look into a few concerns council had regarding the new franchise agreement.

○ SCHEDULED VISITORS:

- HH&L: None.
- NEFD: None.

○ MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Sgt. Mozurkevich read over the monthly Police Report.

○ COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

○ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):

- **Commercial Vehicles:** T. Fickinger discussed the commercial vehicle parking and RV parking in the Borough, council further discussed.
- **No Parking on S. Tulpehocken Street – Fulton Bank side:** T. Fickinger stated three parking meters need to be permanently removed in front of the Brickyard Bistro. This location will permanently be no parking. Council further discussed. Leroy Bates motioned to permanently remove the three parking meters in front of Brickyard Bistro, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by council.
- T. Fickinger stated no parking should be permitted on South Tulpehocken Street from Fulton Bank to the Armory building due to the narrow road. T. Fickinger stated he would reach out to a PennDOT representative to discuss the issue to council. Council further discussed and the matter was tabled until the November meeting.
- **Red Light:** T. Fickinger stated the red light should be updated to have a turning arrow to prevent congestion in town and the Borough can submit paperwork for that change, council further discussed.

L. Clark questioned the bricks under the pavement through town. T. Fickinger stated he checked with PennDOT and was told they were all removed when that road was tore up during the paving project.

○ PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):

- **Executive Session:** Leroy Bates motioned to go into Executive Session at 6:37pm to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council. Returned from Executive Session at 6:47pm. Leroy Bates motioned to hire Greg Pritchard as the new School Resource Officer and Part-time Police officer, seconded by Devin Lymaster, carried by Council.
- Elaine Holley motioned to designate Officer Michael Dissinger as School Resource Officer in Charge, seconded by Skip Buter, carried by council.

○ ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER)

- **Approval of Minutes:** Passing the gavel, President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Minutes of the September 14, 2023 Regular Meeting, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Passing the gavel, President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Minutes of the September 25, 2023 Budget Meeting,

seconded by Devin Lymaster, opposed by Leonard Clark, carried by council.

- **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for September, seconded by Devin Lymaster, 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:** Reports are in everyone's file.

- L. Clark requested that his name be removed from the Borough website as Water Operator. Assistant Secretary/Treasurer M. Miller stated she would talk to Secretary/Treasurer Melissa Dyer to have that change made on the website.

- **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES):**
 - **Conservation Easement:** Council discussed the Conservation Easement and the matter was tabled until the November meeting.

- **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (LEONARD CLARK):**
 - **FEMA Meeting:** T. Fickinger stated he attended a flood mitigation meeting with Dave Sattizahn to try and solve a FEMA issue with a property on Snyder Avenue.

- **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (SKIP BUTLER):** None.

- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (LEONARD CLARK):** None.

- **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - **RV/Camper Parking:** L. Bates asked if the ordinance regarding RV and trailers parking in the Borough should be updated or amended due to multiple complaints about an RV/camper parked in Legion Acres, council further discussed.

- **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** None.

Leroy Bates made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m., seconded by Devin Lymaster, carried by Council.


Mandy L. Miller, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer