

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2023**

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Mandy Fitzpatrick
Earl Kreiser
Lee Strubhar

Nicole Wooten
Kevin Yoder

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

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. A quorum was established.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1): None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- **66 E. Pottsville Street:** Solicitor Hobbs discussed private sale for 66 E. Pottsville Street. Council further discussed. Leroy Bates motion to reject the bid for the private sale for 66 E. Pottsville Street, seconded by Wade Gettle, carried by Council.

SCHEDULED VISITORS:

- **The Nature Conservancy:** Nicole Wooten and Kevin Yoder from The Nature Conservancy presented the conservation easement appraisal to council. N. Wooten will send us the full appraisal and K. Yoder will send council contacts for the authorities that already have conservation easements in place. Council further discussed with no further action taken at this time.

- **Mandy Fitzpatrick:** M. Fitzpatrick introduced herself. She works with Schuylkill County Vision is working Health & Wellness along walkability grants, etc. M. Fitzpatrick will be doing a walk audit in the borough. No further action taken.
- **HH&L:** None.
- **NEFD:** None.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Sgt. Mozurkevich read over the monthly Police Report.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed commercial vehicles and parking. Secretary Dyer will add to the October Agenda.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed several QOL issues.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
 - **Executive Session:** Leroy Bates motioned to go into Executive Session at 6:56pm to discuss legal matter, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council. Returned from Executive Session at 7:11pm. No further action taken at this time.
- **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
 - **2024 MMO:** Skip Butler motioned to approve the 2024 MMO Pension Plan for police, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
 - Skip Butler motioned to approve the 2024 MMO Pension Plan for Non-uniformed, seconded by Elaine Holley, 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 August 10, 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 August, seconded by Devin Lymaster, carried by Council.
 - **Approval of Bills:** President Fickinger motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Devin Lymaster, carried by Council.
- **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
 - **Streets & Water Report: Reports are in everyone's file.**
 - **Blocked Drain:** E. Kreiser stated there is blocked and cracked drain on Maple Street. Council further discussed. E. Kreiser will obtain quotes to repair the blocked drain.
 - **2012 Truck Frame:** E. Kreiser stated the truck frame is rusted and won't pass inspection. E. Kreiser stated the box is in good shape. Council further discussed and quote will be obtained to see if the frame can be replaced.
 - **Pot Holes:** L. Clark asked when the pot holes will be fixed. E. Kreiser stated it is on their list to do. Council discussed drain pits as well.
- **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES):** None.

- **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (LEONARD CLARK):** None.
- **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (SKIP BUTLER):** None.
- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (LEONARD CLARK):** None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Comcast- Cohen Law Group:** Secretary Dyer provided the proposal from Cohen Law Group. Secretary Dyer stated they had assisted council with the last Comcast Franchise Agreement. Council further discussed. Solicitor Hobbs will review the proposal.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None.

Wade Gettle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m., seconded by Devin Lymaster, carried by Council.



Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer