

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 15, 2019**

**GENERAL ATTENDANCE**

Officer Ricigliano	Sandy Price
Barb Heinbach	M. Rodriguez
Elaine Holley	Joan Schwer
Brenda Junker	Robin Werner
Christine Lehman	Missy Witherow
Diane Krammes	

**COUNCIL ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:**

Thomas Fickinger, Council President  
Leroy Bates, Vice-President  
Skip Butler  
Leonard Clark  
Rodney Hiester  
Willard Shiffer, Mayor  
Melissa Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer  
Christopher Hobbs, Solicitor

**ABSENT:**

Michael Allison, Pro-Tem  
Terry Noll

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Council President Fickinger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with all members of Council being present with the exception of Michael Allison and Terry Noll. A quorum was established.

**○ PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1):**

- **Hugs & Kisses:** Missy Witherow stated Hugs & Kisses is looking to possibly rent a space in the Armory Building. Council further discussed. President Fickinger stated some council members and Hugs & Kisses will be meeting at the Armory Building for a tour of the Armory Building on Tuesday evening at 6:00pm.

**○ SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

- **Municipal Lien:** Solicitor Hobbs stated a municipal lien paid by a current owner.
- **Dubbs Property:** Solicitor Hobbs stated the application for the Injunction for Jay Dubbs Property was submitted to the courthouse. The hearing will be in September.

○ SCHEDULED VISITORS:

1. **RER Energy Group/ Solar Energy:** Loretta Ottinger of RER Energy Group presented solar energy information to borough council. L. Ottinger stated the total cost would be an estimated 1,054,000. L. Ottinger stated we would save \$500,000.00 in ten years. Council further discussed and move forward with the Letter of Intent.
2. **M. Rodriguez:** Migdalia Rodriguez presented the police with a donation. M. Rodriguez thanked the police department for their service.
3. **HH & L:** None.
4. **NEFD:** None.

○ MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Office Ricigliano read over the monthly police report.
- **QOL Ordinance:** Mayor Shiffer stated there are five properties that are not responding to the warnings or tickets. Council further discussed. Rodney Hiester motioned to hire someone to clean up the listed properties and bill the property owner, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
- **Mayor's Conference:** Mayor Shiffer discussed attending the yearly Mayor's Conference and any new items he learned.
- **Officer Resignation:** Mayor Shiffer stated Sgt. Gelgot has submitted his letter of resignation. Mayor Shiffer stated he accepted the position of Chief of Police for Bloomsburg. Mayor Shiffer stated that Sgt. Gelgot has worked with the police department since 1996. Mayor Shiffer presented Sgt. Gelgot with a plaque. Thomas Fickinger motioned to accept the resignation of William Gelgot, seconded by Rodney Hiester, carried by Council.  
Leroy Bates motioned to advertise for another full-time police officer, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.

○ COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
  - **Halloween Parade/ Autumn Stroll:** Rodney Hiester motioned to close the necessary roads for the Autumn Stroll and Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
  - **Trick or Treat Night:** Leonard Clark motioned to have Trick or Treat Night on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, seconded by Rodney Hiester, carried by Council.
2. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
  - **Executive Session:** Leroy Bates motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:53pm to discuss personnel matters, seconded by Rodney Hiester, carried by council. At 8:20pm, council returned.
  - **FT Water Admin Position:** Leroy Bates motioned to hire Candidate A at the rate of \$15.00/hr., seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

3. **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER)**
  - **Approval of Minutes:** Passing the gavel, President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Regular Meeting, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
  - **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
  - Approval of Bills:** President Fickinger motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
4. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
  - **Streets/ Water Report:** T. Fickinger stated the Streets/Water report is in everyone's file. Council further discussed water project.
  - **Winter Traffic Services Agreement:** Leonard Clark motioned to adopt the five-year Winter Traffic Services Agreement from 2019-2024, seconded by Rodney Hiester, carried by Council.
5. **POLICE REGIONALIZATION COMMITTEE:**
  - **Police Regionalization:** Leroy Bates motioned to allow Solicitor Hobbs to submit ballot question to the election bureau, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
6. **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES):**
  - **Timber:** L. Bates provided an update about the pulpwood sale. L. Bates stated Matt Frederick will start marking up trees in Echo Valley in the late Fall early Winter.
7. **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (LEONARD CLARK):**
  - **Floodplain Project:** L. Clark provided an update on the Floodplain Project located by Guilford Mills.
  - **FEMA:** L. Clark stated Melissa has been meeting with FEMA on last year's flooding event.
8. **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES): None.**
8. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (LEONARD CLARK):**
  - **Pool update:** L. Clark stated the pool will be closing for the season on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. L. Clark stated that Friday and Saturday will be \$1.00 Admission and ½ off food items.

○ **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Electronic Recycling:** Secretary Dyer stated we can do an electronic recycling event next year. We would just need to pick a company and fill out the paperwork for the State. Council further discussed. Funds will be added into the 2020 budget.
- **PMRS Retirement Plan:** Leroy Bates motioned to advertise Ordinance 455 and 456 revised PMRS pension agreements for police and non-uniformed, seconded by Rodney Hiester, carried by Council.

- **FEMA Lots:** Secretary Dyer stated a request was received from Guilford Mills inquiring about the 6-10 N. Tulpehocken Street for additional parking, Council further discussed. L. Clark stated Werner's Lumber has been mowing it and maintaining. Secretary Dyer will check with Werner's Lumber to ensure that would still like to oversee this property.
- **CDBG Grants:** Skip Butler motioned to approve the submittal and resolutions for two CDBG Grants for storm drain repairs and upgrades, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.

○ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (2):**

- **Elaine Holley:** E. Holley asked to go over the floodplain project over by Guilford Mills. President Fickinger provided her with updates and project details.

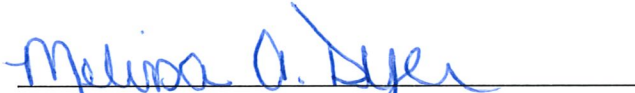
○ **PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:**

*When is Sue Strouphauer's last day? January 17, 2020*

*What is the total amount the Borough will be receiving through the Winter Traffic Services Agreement? \$30,000.00 for a five-year period*

*What is the CDBG Grants for? Storm drain repairs and upgrades.*

Rodney Hiester made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m., seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

  
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Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer