

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2017**

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Joan Schwer
Chief Trotter
Sharon Zimmerman
Phyllis Hesser

Charlie Zimmerman
Russ Stump
Bill Reichert

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

Thomas Fickinger, Vice-President
Leroy Bates
Leonard Clark
Ronald Hepler, Jr.
Terry Noll
Willard Shiffer, Mayor
Christopher Hobbs, Solicitor
Melissa Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer

ABSENT:

Scott Zimmerman, Council President
Anthony Gurski, Pro-Tem

Vice-President Thomas Fickinger called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm 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 President Zimmerman and Anthony Gurski. A quorum was established.

○ AUDIENCE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:

1. **Bill Reichert:** B. Reichert introduced himself. He is the Flood Recovery Manager for the Upper Swatara Watershed. B. Reichert discussed the Upper Swatara Watershed project by Guilford Mills.
2. **Sharon Zimmerman:** S. Zimmerman stated the Ravine Fire Company has been flying through town. Council further discussed.
3. **Russ Stump:** R. Stump would like to know when the weeds will be trimmed along the canal for residents to get down to the water to fish. Council further discussed.

L. Clark will contact the township to see if they can utilize their mowers along the canal.

4. **Phyllis Hesser:** P. Hesser stated she isn't getting any sleep due to the tractor trailers flying through town. Council further discussed.

P. Hesser asked why council is spending so much on the new water system when they don't need one. P. Hesser mentioned her concern about the water bills going up due to the water project. T. Fickinger stated the water bills wouldn't increase. Council further discussed the water project with Phyllis Hesser.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: None.

SCHEDULED VISITORS:

1. **Hose Hook & Ladder: None.**
2. **North End Fire Company: None.**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Officer Applegate read over the monthly police report.
L. Clark asked why the Quality Of Life tickets show up as Township and not Borough. Officer Applegate stated the software prints it out like this.
Mayor Shiffer stated QOL Tickets have been issued for the meat market and Zerbe's landscaping came in and cleaned up the property.
Council discussed the weeds at the Pine Grove Historical Society.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed the trailers at the end of town owned by Matt Brandt and what was happening down there. L. Clark stated he asked for a request for water service. L. Clark stated we requested additional information for the water request and then he noticed a well being dug at the end of town. Mayor Shiffer asked if he can do this. L. Clark stated the property is located in the Township.
- Mayor Shiffer stated he received a call from a resident on Cherry Street regarding water that is coming from their neighbor's basement. Council further discussed. Mayor Shiffer and Len Clark will take a look at the property.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed the Forino Lots and Mayor Shiffer stated that he told Forino they could put up their auction signs two weeks before the date.
L. Bates stated he spoke with the Zoning Officer regarding the vacant lots and what was allowed. L. Bates stated it is all has to do with how it is zoned.
Council further discussed.
L. Clark stated Ron Aungst would like to sell his properties but was told by his realtor that she was told to take down her realtor signs. Mayor Shiffer stated you can put signs on their property but not allowed to use directional arrow signs.
Council further discussed.
- Mayor Shiffer stated complaints were received from 10 Ridge Vista about the noise coming from Guilford Mills. Tom Fickinger stated it is an illegal noise and he stated he will bring in OSHA. Council further discussed.
- Mayor Shiffer stated we were turned down about the Speed Reduction Sign. Mayor Shiffer asked are we going to appeal it. Council further discussed. Mayor Shiffer and Tom Fickinger will meet with PennDOT.

- Mayor Shiffer received a request for fire police from Schuylkill Haven Borough for the Schuylkill County Firefighter's Convention parade on Saturday, September 16th. Ronald Hepler, Jr. motion to allow Pine Grove fire police assist with the Schuylkill County Firefighter's Convention, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):** None.
2. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):** None.
3. **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN)**
 - **Approval of Minutes:** Leroy Bates made a motion to accept the Minutes of the July 20, 2017 Regular Meeting, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
 - **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** Ronald Hepler, Jr. made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
 - **Approval of Bills:** Ronald Hepler, Jr. made a motion to approve the Bills Approval List, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
4. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
 - **Streets/ Water Report:** Tom Fickinger stated the Streets/Water report is in everyone's file.
 - **2017 Road Paving Project:** L. Clark stated the road paving project has been completed.
 - **Veteran's Memorial Drive:** L. Clark stated there was a fallen tree on the creek side removed.
 - **Low Volume Dirt Roads:** L. Clark stated he attended a class for Low Volume dirt roads. L. Clark said we would be qualified for assistance for Berry Alley and Canal Road.
 - **Chemical Building:** L. Clark stated the ground water is very acidic and conduct testing at each of the wells. L. Clark stating we are working with DEP on the low ph levels and copper levels.
5. **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (TONY GURSKI):** None.
6. **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
 - **FEMA Flood Maps:** T. Fickinger stated the new flood maps come out in April 2018.
7. **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (TERRY NOLL):**
 - **Resolution #03-17 Rental Inspection Ordinance:** Terry Noll motioned to approve Resolution #03-17 Rental Inspection Fees, seconded by Ronald Hepler, Jr., carried by Council.
 - **Ordinance #446 Hazardous Materials Safety Program:** Ronald Hepler, Jr. motioned to approve Ordinance #446 Hazardous Materials Safety Program, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
8. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):**

- **Christmas Light Committee:** Ronald Hepler, Jr. motioned to allow the Christmas Light Committee to store the Christmas lights in the Armory Pole Building, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.

T. Fickinger stated he would like the locks changed on the Pole Building so it has its own separate key and have a sign out sheet for the Armory Key.

Leonard Clark motioned to allow the Bicentennial Committee to store their Christmas lights in the Armory Pole Building, seconded by Ronald Hepler, Jr.

○ **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Thank you:** L. Clark wanted to thank Terry Noll for watching over the Streets Department while he was on vacation.

○ **AUDIENCE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:** None.

○ **PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:**

What is the police officer's name? Officer Applegate

What are the alley names? Berry Alley and Canal Street

Bill Reichert discussed low volume roads, macadam or dirt to council.

R. Stump stated that he wants council to know that borough projects come first before the canal.

R. Stump stated the St. Peter's Church purchased the old Melincove property and will be torn down for parking.

Ronald Hepler, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.



Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer