

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 19, 2019**

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Ron Aungst	Logan Zimmerman
Georgine Joyce	Tammy Zimmerman
Joan Schwer	Sharon Zimmerman

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

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. A quorum was established.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1): None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: None.

SCHEDULED VISITORS:

1. **Ron Aungst:** Ron Aungst's granddaughters, Aubrey and Brynlee presented donations to President Fickinger for the Christmas Lights and Mayor Shiffer for the Police Department.
2. **Logan Zimmerman:** Logan Zimmerman stated he is an Eagle Scout and is looking to do an Eagle Scout project with building a pavilion over the snack shack area. Council

further discussed. Rodney Hiester motioned to support Logan Zimmerman's Eagle Scout project at the Community Pool, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.

3. **Solar Energy Update:** Loretta Ottinger provided an update to council on the Solar Energy project. L. Ottinger also provided cost breakdown, etc. Council further discussed. Council asked Loretta to provide references to council.
4. **HH & L:** None.
5. **NEFD:** Report in file.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Mayor Shiffer stated the monthly police report is in everyone's files.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed a letter he received from Mrs. Burns, the Elementary School Principal saying she appreciates having a School Resource Officer at the school.
- Mayor Shiffer provided an update on the Quality of Life.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed the ballot question for the Police Regionalization. Mayor Shiffer stated the next Primary Election is April 28th and they need to submit the petition for the ballot question by January 27th.
- Mayor Shiffer stated that council should still consider purchasing a new police vehicle. Council further discussed. Council would like to research leasing options and used vehicles.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**

- **Executive Session:** Leroy Bates motioned to go into Executive Session at 8:02pm to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Rodney Hiester, carried by Council. Council returned from Executive Session at 8:27pm. Rodney Hiester motioned to terminate Brandon Flaim from the Streets Department, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council. L. Clark abstained from voting.
- **Resolution# 15-19, Riverview Bank:** Rodney Hiester motioned to approve Resolution # 15-19 allowing Melissa Dyer, Cindy Fenstermacher and Mandy Miller to discuss banking matters with Riverview Bank, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

2. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):** None.

3. **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER)**

- **Approval of Minutes:** Passing the gavel, President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Minutes of the November 18, 2019 Budget Meeting, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
- President Fickinger motioned to accept the Minutes of the November 21, 2019 Regular Meeting, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.
- **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Rodney Hiester, carried by Council.

- **Approval of Bills:** President Fickinger motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Rodney Hiester, carried by Council.
 - **Resolution #14-19:** President Fickinger motioned to approve Resolution #14-19, 2020 Tax Rate at 14 Mills, seconded by Rodney Hiester.
 - **2020 Budget:** President Fickinger motioned to approve the 2020 General Fund and Water Fund Budget, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
- 4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
- **Streets/ Water Report:** T. Fickinger stated the Streets/Water report is in everyone's file.
 - **Water Class:** L. Clark stated he would like to send Rob Kolb to Small Water Operator Course for 11 weeks. Leonard Clark motioned to approve Rob Kolb to attend Small Water Operator Course, seconded by Rodney Hiester, carried by Council.
 - **Emergency Snow Removal Bids:** Leroy Bates open the single bid for the Emergency Snow Removal. Leroy Bates motioned to accept Arthur "Pat" Aungst bid for Emergency Snow Removal pending Solicitor Hobbs review, seconded by Michael Allison, carried by Council.
- 5. PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES):**
- **Swatara Creek-Phase 2 Floodplain Restoration Agreement:** Leonard Clark motioned to approve the Landowner-Grantee Agreement with Schuylkill Conservation District for Swatara Creek Floodplain Restoration Phase 2, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.
 - **Armory Building:** Leroy Bates motioned to move forward with Armory Building, seconded by Leonard Clark. Secretary Dyer to reach out to Solicitor Hobbs to see what the next step would be.
- 6. FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (LEONARD CLARK): None.**
- 8. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES):**
- **Ordinance 457:** Rodney Hiester motioned to adopt Ordinance 457, Handicapped Permit Parking, seconded by Michael Allison, carried by Council.
- 9. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (LEONARD CLARK):**
- **Pine Grove Elementary PTO:** L. Clark stated we received a thank you from the Elementary School PTO for the pool passes.
 - **Pool Pump:** Leonard Clark motioned to advertise for bids for the new pool pump for the Community Pool, seconded by Michael Allison, carried by Council.

○ **NEW BUSINESS:**

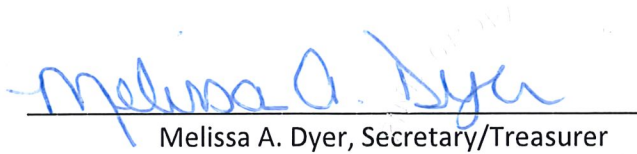
- **Pulpwood Sale:** L. Bates stated we started to receive funds for the Pulpwood Sale.

○ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (2):**

- **Sharon Zimmerman:** S. Zimmerman stated the Historical Society is located in the borough. Council further discussed. L. Clark stated he will take a look at the bank along the property.

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

Leroy Bates made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m., seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.


Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer