

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 20, 2018**

**GENERAL ATTENDANCE**

Officer Fritz	Wayne Lehman
Ron Aungst	Rich Schach
John Brandenburg	Joan Schwer
John Devine	Bill Reichert
Ken Dubbs	Vicki Terwilliger
Dave Kavitski	Ed Wenger
Dale Leghart	Sharon Zimmerman

**COUNCIL ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:**

Scott Zimmerman, Council President  
Thomas Fickinger, Vice-President  
Leroy Bates, Pro-Tem  
Michael Allison  
Skip Butler  
Leonard Clark  
Terry Noll  
Willard Shiffer, Mayor  
Melissa Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer  
Christopher Hobbs, Solicitor

**ABSENT:**

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Council President Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building. Council President Zimmerman asked for a moment of silence for Former Mayor Morris Williams and Ken "Dutch" Snyder. 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:**

- **PennVest Loan:** Solicitor Hobbs stated settlement for the PennVest Loan will be Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

○ **SCHEDULED VISITORS:**

1. **Ron Aungst, Arthur "Pat" Aungst:** R. Aungst presented donations to the Mayor and Council for the Police Department and Christmas Tree Lighting Committee.
2. **Richard Schach:** R. Schach expressed his concerns for the Rental Inspections. R. Schach stated he feels like it is discrimination against people that have rental properties. R. Schach stated you are putting a hardship onto the property owners. R. Schach also questioned the fire loss ordinance. Council explained the fire loss ordinance.
3. **Dale Leghart:** D. Leghart stated he feels like it is discrimination against people that have rental properties.
4. **Ken Dubbs:** K. Dubbs asked how the inspections will be done. K. Dubbs stated it seems some landlords were notified and others weren't. Ed Wenger, Light-Heigel introduced himself to council. Ed Wenger stated the borough was split up by North and South. E. Wenger stated the South end will be done first and the North End will be done the following year. President Zimmerman stated we were running into issues with squatters in rental properties, and a situation of a tenant with an infant with no heat.
5. **BCM Engineers:** BCM Engineers presented the storm water study. D. Kavitski stated council will need to decide how many year storms they want the drains to handle. Council further discussed.
6. **HH&L:** None.
7. **NEFD:** None.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Officer Fritz read over the monthly police report.
- Mayor Shiffer stated the Public Meeting was held for Regional Police Study. Mayor Shiffer stated he thought it went well. Mayor Shiffer stated Pine Grove Township voted to be placed on the Primary Ballot for May and Tremont Township voted it down. Council further discussed the Regional Police Study. Thomas Fickinger motioned to put the Regional Police Study question on the Primary ballot in May, seconded by Terry Noll. Poll Vote was taken 5 Yes's and 2 No's. Motioned carried.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):**
  - **PGJTA Borough Seat:** Thomas Fickinger motioned to re-appoint William Hanson as the Borough Board Member for the Pine Grove Joint Treatment Authority, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
  - **Resolution #18-18, PennVest Account:** Leroy Bates motioned to approve Resolution # 18-18 authorizing Fulton Bank as the account holder for the PennVest funds, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

2. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):** None.
3. **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN)**
  - **Approval of Minutes:** Thomas Fickinger made a motion to accept the Minutes of the November 19, 2018 Regular Meeting, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
  - **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** Passing the gavel, Scott Zimmerman made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
  - **Approval of Bills:** Scott Zimmerman made a motion to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
  - **Ordinance 453, 2019 Tax Rate:** Thomas Fickinger motioned to approve Ordinance 453 fixing the tax rate to 14 mills for 2019 with no tax increase, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
  - **2019 General & Water Fund Budget:** Thomas Fickinger motioned to approve the General and Water Fund Budget for 2019, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
4. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
  - **Streets/ Water Report:** T. Fickinger stated the Streets/Water report is in everyone's file.
  - **Emergency Snow Removal Bids:** T. Fickinger stated a bid was received by Arthur "Pat" Aungst and will be reviewed by Solicitor Hobbs.
5. **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (TONY GURSKI):**
  - **Pulpwood Sale:** Secretary Dyer stated that Solicitor Hobbs reviewed the agreements and were okay with them. Thomas Fickinger motioned to approved the Temporary Right Of Way Agreements along with Pulpwood Sale Agreement for the Swopes Valley tract, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
6. **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
  - **FEMA:** T. Fickinger stated the Governor declared some counties for public assistance for the summer flood events. T. Fickinger it is for low interest loans through FEMA. Secretary Dyer stated there was a FEMA Briefing yesterday evening for Municipalities. Secretary Dyer stated we should be assigned a FEMA Rep in the end of January to starting writing FEMA projects.
7. **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (TERRY NOLL):** None.
8. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):**  
None.

○ **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Guilford Mills Project:** T. Fickinger stated Pine Grove Township agreed to waive the fees for the project and accept Lot 41 so they can move forward with the flood restoration project.

- **Zoning Hearing:** L. Bates stated there will be a Zoning Hearing on January 3<sup>rd</sup> regarding 50 Spruce Street. L. Bates stated council voted against the last zoning request for an auction. Council further discussed. President Zimmerman stated council has no issues with Potts & Monger utilizing the building for parking their trucks.
- **Storm Water:** L. Clark stated council should consider establishing a Storm Water Committee.

○ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (2):**

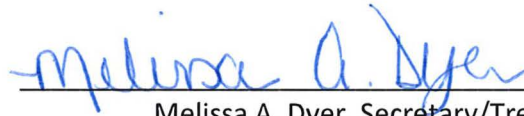
- **Sharon Zimmerman:** S. Zimmerman stated that council is doing a good job.

○ **PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:**

*What is the name of Ron Aungst grandson? Aidan*

*What is the person's name from Light-Heigel? Ed Wenger*

*Thomas Fickinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m., seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.*



Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer