

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 13, 2022**

**GENERAL ATTENDANCE**

Matthew Frederick  
Nick Modesto, Jr.  
Kenneth Dubbs  
Matthew Quinn

**COUNCIL ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:**

Thomas Fickinger, Council President  
Leroy Bates, Vice-President  
Leonard Clark, Pro-Tem  
Skip Butler  
Elaine Holley  
Mandy Miller, Assistant Secretary/ Treasurer  
Willard Shiffer, Mayor  
Shane Hobbs, Solicitor

**ABSENT:**

Rodney Hiester

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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 with the exception of Rodney Hiester. A quorum was established.

- **Executive Session:** T. Fickinger apologized to the audience and stated we had to do things a little bit out of order this meeting. Leroy Bates motioned to go into Executive Session at 6:01 pm to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council. Council returned from Executive Session at 6:15 pm stating they discussed the personnel matter with no action to be taken.

○ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1):** None.

○ **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

1. **Pending Matters:** Solicitor Hobbs said he is following up on pending matters regarding a quiet title action and letters sent to current owners that have gone unanswered.

2. **Municipal Liens:** Solicitor Hobbs said he is reviewing all the current municipal liens that have been filed.
3. **Vacancy Board:** Solicitor Hobbs is researching how to fill the position if no one answers the advertisement. He recommends advertising for the position while he researches the matter. Leroy Bates motioned to advertise vacancy board position, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.

○ **SCHEDULED VISITORS:**

1. **Nicholas Modesto, Jr.:** Nick Modesto stated that Cub Scout Pack 6-1-1 would be hosting a "Scouting for Deals" fundraiser for the community on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Mr. Modesto asked for council's approval to host the event along Veteran's Memorial Drive and to close the road from 6:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. on May 14<sup>th</sup> for the event. Leonard Clark motioned to approve closing the Veteran's Memorial Drive for the event from 6:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. on Saturday, May 14th, seconded by Delmas "Skip" Butler, carried by Council.
2. **Kenneth Dubbs:** Kenneth Dubbs stated he is there from the Pine Grove Area Business and Community Association to make council aware that their association is up and running again. The association is interested in discussing with the Borough about possibly applying for block grants for walking trails and would like to use the Borough's address for the 501(c)3. Solicitor Hobbs stated he would look into the matter.
3. **HH&L:** None.
  - Council discussed wanting to meet with Dave Sattizahn about multiple automatic fire alarms going off at Guilford and possibly putting an ordinance in place regarding the issue. Solicitor Hobbs will look into the matter.
4. **NEFD:** None.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Sergeant Pete Mozurkevich went over the monthly Police Report.
- Mayor Shiffer introduced Sergeant Mozurkevich to the audience as the new full-time officer for Pine Grove Borough.
- **Snow/Ice** – Mayor Shiffer stated that fines for not cleaning up snow and ice after storms should be more aggressive as there were a lot of sidewalks left untouched after the recent storm which were a hazard to residents.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

- **Committee Assignments:**
  - T. Fickinger suggested adding Devin Lymaster to Community Development and Parks & Recreation. Delmas "Skip" Butler

*motioned to add D. Lymaster to Community Development and Parks and Recreation, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.*

- **Garbage/ Recycling:**
  - Elaine Holley stated locking in a rate for 5 years would be ideal since rates for garbage have been rapidly increasing.
  - T. Fickinger suggested publishing the Garbage/Recycling matter to get public feedback. *L. Bates motioned to publish the Garbage/ Recycling Bids, seconded by Delmas "Skip" Butler, carried by Council.*
- **Ordinance 465, Dumpster Permit:**
  - Council further discussed and decided to table the matter until the next regular meeting. *Delmas "Skip" Butler motioned table the Dumpsters/ Permits until next regular meeting, seconded by Elaine Holley, carried by Council.*

2. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**

- **COVID Policy:** Solicitor Hobbs stated the need for a COVID Policy for Borough employees but that we should follow CDC guidelines in terms of quarantine. Assistant/Secretary Mandy Miller stated Attorney Eric Brown will be e-mailing Secretary/Treasurer Melissa Dyer Covid Policy samples but they have not arrived as of the time of the meeting. L. Clark stated CDC does not state anything about compensation but that employees should use their PTO time if out due to COVID. W. Shiffer stated if out of leave time, employees should look into workman's comp or short-term disability. Council further discussed the matter. *D. Lymaster motioned for employees to use PTO time if out due to COVID, seconded by Elaine Holley, 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 December 9, 2021 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 for December, seconded by Delmas "Skip" Butler, carried by Council.*
- **Approval of Bills:** *President Fickinger motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Delmas "Skip" Butler, carried by Council.*
- **2021 Audit:** T. Fickinger stated a copy of the 2021 Audit is in everyone's folder and that everything went smoothly with the audit.

4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):

- Streets/ Water Report: Report is in everyone's folder.
- Emergency Snow Removal Bids: President Fickinger stated one bid was received for the Emergency Snow Removal Bid. Snow Removal Bid was opened at 7:12 P.M. Leroy Bates made a motion to award the bid to Arthur "Pat" Aungst subject to Solicitor Hobbs review, seconded by Devin Lymaster, carried by council.
- Reilly Township Timber Bids: L. Bates opened the bids received for the Reilly Township Timber Bids at 7:16 P.M. The bids received are as follows:
  - Aungst Bros Logging Inc. \$166,055.00
  - King's Sawmill, LLC \$156,823.00
  - G&R Timber Harvesting, LLC \$150,597.00
- Leroy Bates motioned to award the bid to Aungst Bros Logging, Inc. for \$166,055.00 subject to Solicitor Hobbs review, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.

5. PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES): None.

6. FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (LEONARD CLARK): None.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (SKIP BUTLER): None.

8. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (LEONARD CLARK): None.

○ NEW BUSINESS: None.

○ PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

- Matthew Quinn – wanted an update on the noise issue in the development where he lives. He said he spoke to Light & Heigel to stated they cannot enforce any noise ordinance.  
Council further discussed their options for the noise issue and will contact Argall and Kerwin about the issue.

○ PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: None.

Leonard Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m., seconded by Delmas "Skip" Butler, carried by Council.

  
Mandy L. Miller, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer