

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 19, 2017**

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Joan Schwer | Sharon Zimmerman |
| Angela Frank | Dan Benedict |
| Ron Ondo | Randy Quinby |
| Matthew Frederick | Judith Fickinger |
| Sgt. Taylor | |

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Anthony Gurski, Pro-Tem

Council President Scott Zimmerman 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 Anthony Gurski. A quorum was established.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: None.

SCHEDULED VISITORS:

1. **Hose Hook & Ladder: None.**
2. **North End Fire Company: None.** Report in everyone's files.
3. **PPL: R. Quinby** stated they are working on putting up an animal guard for the Pine Grove Substation. President Zimmerman stated he will agree to the R-O-W

Agreement when PPL provides a drawing showing the dimensions of the exact locations of the new poles. R. Quinby stated they will get a survey group together and have drawings ready for our next council meeting on February, 16, 2017. R. Quinby stated they are currently out 4-6 weeks for surveying.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Sergeant Taylor read over the monthly police report.
- Secretary Dyer stated that Officer Mozurkevich was in court today for the traffic light accident and was able to get restitution for the remaining funds for the cost of the traffic light.
- T. Fickinger stated the Armory Building was broken into and council was never made aware of it. Council further discussed.
Matthew Frederick of Frederick Forestry also stated he saw squatters living up behind Adams Run Dam and told them to vacate the private property.
- Mayor Shiffer stated that Melissa and I will be attending a grant writing workshop on January 26th in York.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed the police incident that occurred with Officer Vandermartin being assaulted and the bail being set very low. Sgt. Taylor stated they re-filed the paperwork and there is a warrant for her arrest. Mayor Shiffer felt the bail should be set higher for police officers. Council further discussed.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):**

- **Timber Bids:** T. Fickinger stated two timbering bids were received for the Benzinger Tract:
 - **Kevin Zimmerman Logging: \$15,000.00**
 - **Aungst Bros. Logging: \$36,560.00**

Tom Fickinger motioned to award the timbering bid to Aungst Bros. Logging for \$36,560.00, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.

Matthew Frederick from Frederick Forestry discussed the Swopes Valley Land for timbering stating some trees were destroyed by gypsy moths but still could be put out for bid in a different way than selective harvesting. M. Frederick stated W. Ryland is interested in allowing a temporary right of way.

M. Frederick also stated that Lindenmuth still hasn't timbered the Berger Road tract. He stated they have until March 31, 2017. If they don't complete by the contract date the borough can charge a \$300.00 penalty a month until the timbering is complete.

T. Fickinger discussed the well drillings on Berger Road and new possible locations for the new water tank. Council further discussed.

- **Evergreen Articles:** President Zimmerman stated all Evergreen Articles are due for submittal by Friday, February 3rd.
- **2018 Election:** President Zimmerman stated there is a form in everyone's folder for the upcoming election. Mayor Shiffer will be picking up a bunch of petitions if anyone needs one.

- **Resolution #01-17, Compost Permits:** President Zimmerman stated council adopted the 2017 budget with increasing the cost of the compost permits from \$10.00 to \$20.00. Terry Noll motioned to adopt Resolution #01-17 increasing the cost of compost permits from \$10.00 to \$20.00, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
 - **County Emergency Alert/Swiftreach:** Tom Fickinger motioned to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the County Emergency Alert/ Swiftreach system, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
2. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN): None.**
3. **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN)**
- **Approval of Minutes:** Tom Fickinger made a motion to accept the Minutes of the December 15, 2016 Budget Meeting, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
 - **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** Passing the gavel, Council President Zimmerman made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council. President Zimmerman stated the General and Water Fund ended to the good for 2016.
 - **Approval of Bills:** Council President Zimmerman made a motion to approve the Bills Approval List, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
4. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
- **Streets/ Water Report:** Tom Fickinger stated the Streets/Water report is in everyone's file.
 - **Water Project.** T. Fickinger stated that Moody will come in and do a pump out test. Council further discussed the condition of the current water tank.
 - **Ordinance 445, Mill Street Revisions:** Tom Fickinger motioned to adopt Ordinance 445, stop sign on E. Mill Street, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
 - **Generators:** L. Clark stated he obtained a price through a co-star vendor for a 22K generator for the Office Building for \$12,000.00 along with a quote for a propane tank for \$1,800 and electric costs totaling \$4,000. The grand total is \$17,800. Council further discussed with no further action at this time.
 - **Armory:** T. Fickinger discussed the heating system in the Armory Building. Council further discussed grants for the armory.
 - **VFW Donation:** L. Clark stated the Streets Department received a donation from the VFW to go towards equipment, etc.
5. **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (TONY GURSKI): None.**
6. **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER): None.**
- **FEMA Buyouts Round 2:** Secretary Dyer stated the close out of the second round of FEMA Buyouts has begun.
7. **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (TERRY NOLL):**

- **Rental Inspection Ordinance:** T. Noll stated we revised the rental inspection ordinance to reflect the Minersville Borough Ordinance. Council further discussed and tabled until next month.
- **Armory:** Council discussed changing the locks to the armory for security and safety reasons along with other items that need completed.

8. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):**

- **Capital Budget Request-Armory:** Secretary Dyer stated she was working with Matthew Stoneroad an assistant to Rep. Tobash regarding a possible grant for the Armory Building. Secretary Dyer stated a Capital Budget Request needed to be submitted in order to be eligible to submit for the grant.

○ **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Snowstorm Jonas:** Secretary Dyer stated Project Worksheet was received for Snowstorm Jonas for signature and has been submitted to FEMA for possible reimbursement of \$9,000.00. This was for the snowstorm in 2016.
- **Guilford Tour:** Mayor Shiffer asked if the Guilford Tour was still on. T. Fickinger stated it is going to be February 6th.

○ **AUDIENCE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:**

- **Sharon Zimmerman:** S. Zimmerman doesn't agree with the increase in compost permit. S. Zimmerman stated other boroughs don't even charge their residents.
- **Judith Fickinger:** J. Fickinger asked council what kind of fundraisers the borough can do for the Armory Building. President Zimmerman stated the borough can't do any fundraising. Solicitor Hobbs stated another non-profit group can fundraise and give the donation to the borough for the Armory Building.

○ **PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:**

What are the logging companies' names and where are they from? Kevin Zimmerman Logging and Aungst Bros. Logging, Inc. They are both from Pine Grove.

What is the exact amount that the Paraclete Foundation gave to the Armory? \$7,500.00.

Do you know about the Senator Argall blight? Secretary Dyer will have to go back through and see if we received the correspondence from Senator Argall.

Secretary Dyer will contact Gary Bender and Michelle O'Connell on the requirements for the Blight Funds.

Tom Fickinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06pm, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.

Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer