

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 13, 2021**

**GENERAL ATTENDANCE**

Joan Schwer  
Leah Zerbe

**COUNCIL ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Rodney Hiester  
Elaine Holley

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Council President Fickinger called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 and Elaine Holley. A quorum was established.

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

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

- Garbage Collection Ordinance:** Solicitor Hobbs provided council with a draft Garbage Collection ordinance.

**SCHEDULED VISITORS:**

1. **HH&L:** None.
2. **NEFD:** None.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Corporal Vandermartin read over the monthly Police Report.
- Mayor Shiffer discussed QOL and complaints received for a borough property. Council further discussed.

○ COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):

- **PGJTA Vacant Board Seat:** No letters of interest were received to fill vacant seat. Council tabled matter until June's council meeting.
- **Repository Sale- N. Tulpehocken Street:** Leroy Bates motioned to accept Repository Sale for Parcel# 58-05-0025.000 in the amount of \$1,460.00, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
- **Resolution #01-21, Bee City USA:** Delmas "Skip" Butler motioned to approve Resolution #01-21, Bee City USA, seconded by Michael Allison, carried by Council.
- **Chesapeake Bay Planting Project:** Delmas "Skip" Butler motioned to move forward with the Chesapeake Bay Planting Project with using the following borough properties: 9, 13, 15 and 17 N. Tulpehocken Street, 45 Laurel Street, E. Mill Street, Water Tank property plus Cherry Street, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by all council except Leonard Clark.

2. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):

- **Executive Session:** Leroy Bates motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:40 pm to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Michael Allison, carried by Council. Council returned from Executive Session at 8:00pm stating they discussed a personnel matter.  
Leonard Clark motioned to hire Kolby Geesey as temporary worker for Streets & Water Department, seconded by Leroy Bates, 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 April 8, 2021 Regular Meeting, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
- **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for April, seconded by Michael Allison, carried by Council.
- **Approval of Bills:** President Fickinger motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.

4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):

- **Streets/ Water Report:** Report is in everyone's folder.
- **Depth probes:** L. Clark stated they are having issues with the depth probes for the wells from lightning. He stated they are ordering surge protectors for the depth probes.

- **Blocked Drains:** L. Clark stated with the last heavy rain storm he noticed some drains were blocked and he will be getting a vacuum truck to try to unblock some of the drains.  
L. Bates brought up about the silt build up under the bridge by Hlavaty's. Secretary Dyer will reach out to PennDOT to see if they can schedule a clean out under the bridge.

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):**

- **Pool:** L. Clark stated the pool has been painted and sealed. L. Clark hopes to start filling the pool next week. L. Clark stated that Logan Zimmerman is making progress on his Eagle Scout Project.

○ **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Phyllis Hesser Event:** Secretary Dyer stated that Phyllis Hesser's family will be hosting a Celebration of Life for Phyllis Hesser on Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am.
- **Compost Permits:** Council discussed if property owners/ landlords were allowed to purchase compost permits. Council further discussed and the compost permits are strictly for Borough Residents. They must live in the Borough in order to purchase a compost permit.
- **Resolution # 02-21 and Resolution #03-21:** Leonard Clark motioned to approve Resolution # 02-21, SEO Officer Jeremy Bentz, JB Environmental Services and Resolution #03-21 SEO Officer Keith Heigel, Light-Heigel & Associates appointing them as SEO Officers for Pine Grove Borough, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
- **Property Access:** Secretary Dyer stated we received a request for someone to walk through our property to access another property that is for sale. Council further discussed. L. Clark stated they can drive up to the gate and must walk the rest of the way. We do not allow people to drive through the whole property.

○ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** None


○ **PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:**

**How many properties are involved with the planting project?** There are 10 properties

**What is the address of the property with QOL concerns?** 515 Pine Hill Drive

What was the bid price for the Repository Sale? \$1,460.00

Michael Allison made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m., seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.

  
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Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer