

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 16, 2019**

**GENERAL ATTENDANCE**

Robert Geier	Bill Reichert
Elaine Holley	Joan Schwer
Wayne Lehman	Valerie Sleva
Sgt. Gelgot	Vicki Terwillinger
	Sharon Zimmerman

**COUNCIL ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Michael Allison, Pro-Tem  
Rodney Hiester

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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 exception of Michael Allison and Rodney Hiester. A quorum was established.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1):**

- 1. Robert Geier:** R. Geier asked council about the creek bed washing away on his property. L. Clark stated FEMA was here to do site inspections and assess the damages from last year's flooding. L. Clark stated projects will be submitted for possible funds.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

- Kevin Bensinger:** Solicitor Hobbs stated Kevin Bensinger is a local surveyor currently surveying 100-acre parcel in Tremont Township. Solicitor Hobbs stated the Kevin actually found some documents that possibly shows the borough

owning 500 acres in this area. Council further discussed. Solicitor Hobbs and Council President will setup a meeting with Kevin Bensinger.

○ **SCHEDULED VISITORS:**

1. **Student Community Improvements:** Valerie Sleva of the Pine Grove Area JROTC stated they work on local service projects. V. Sleva stated they work out at the lake every year and wanted to know if there are any areas in the borough they could work on. Council further discussed. President Fickinger stated the council will find some things for them to work on.
2. **HH & L:** None.
3. **NEFD:** None.
4. **Wayne Lehman:** W. Lehman gave an update on the projects for the Upper Swatara Watershed Flood Recovery. W. Lehman stated the Guilford Project would drop the flood height 28". W. Lehman stated the start date for the Guilford Project is June 28<sup>th</sup>.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Sgt. Gelgot read over the monthly police report.

○ **COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**
  - **Resolution #05-19 Berkheimer:** Secretary Dyer stated when Berkheimer added the Tax Collector to the list to obtain reports, they removed myself. Secretary Dyer stated I'm no longer able obtain the payments and deposits. Leroy Bates motioned to add Melissa Dyer and Sally Burke to the list to obtain payments and deposits from Berkheimer, seconded by Terry Noll, 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 March 21, 2019 Regular Meeting, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
  - **Approval of Minutes:** Passing the gavel, President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Minutes of the April 18, 2019 Regular Meeting, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.
  - **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** President Fickinger made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.  
**Approval of Bills:** President Fickinger motioned to approve the Bill Approval List, 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.
  - **Street Repairs.** L. Clark stated they fixed some drain lines that were blown out. L. Clark stated PennDOT was fixing pot holes on the new pavement and working on putting epoxy cutting on the bridge located by Hlavaty's. L. Clark stated base repair for the road paving project will be completed on Conrad Richter Drive, E. Mill Street, Veteran's Memorial Drive and Moyer Alley.
  - **2019 Road Paving:** Leonard Clark motioned to advertise for bids for 2019 Road Paving Project, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
  - **Water Project:** L. Clark stated the Chemical Building is almost completed and the construction for the new water tank has started.
  - **W. Pottsville Street:** L. Clark stated there is a lot of water runoff on W. Pottsville along with a collapsed drain. L. Clark stated he will take a look at the collapsed drain.
  - **Ordinance 454 Water Billing Amendments:** Terry Noll motioned to advertise Ordinance 454, Water Billing Amendments, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
- 5. POLICE REGIONALIZATION COMMITTEE:**
- **Police Regionalization:** T. Fickinger stated that himself, the Mayor, Chief Trotter and a Township Supervisor met with Slate Belt Regional Police Department. T. Fickinger stated the meeting was very informative and they will be sending them a lot of data for running a Regional Police Department. The first public meeting will be on Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm.
- 6. PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES): None.**
- 7. FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (LEONARD CLARK): None.**
- 8. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (LEROY BATES): None.**
- **Tobacco Use – Ordinance 406:** L. Bates stated the school is having an issue in school with juuling. L. Bates states the citations keep getting thrown out in court. Council further discussed. Solicitor Hobbs stated the current ordinance the borough has is sufficient. Solicitor Hobbs suggested the school meet with the magistrate's office.
- 9. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (LEONARD CLARK):**
- **Sliding Board:** L. Clark stated the sliding board at the playground that was damaged has been replaced and it was covered under warranty.
- **NEW BUSINESS:**
1. **FEMA Lot Hugs & Kisses:** Mayor Shiffer stated that Hugs & Kisses were looking to turn FEMA lots into a park. Mayor Shiffer stated that FEMA is requested a No Rise Certificate to state the items that are put into the park would not raise the flood level. Secretary Dyer reached out to BCM to see if they would be willing to do the water study for Hugs & Kisses since they are Non-Profit.
- **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (2):**

1. **Sharon Zimmerman:** S. Zimmerman asked council how many dogs allowed in one home? Council further discussed and will have to look to see what the ordinance states. S. Zimmerman asked why the Streets Department is unable to pick up her ashes in front of her house? L. Clark stated there is no parking on this side of the street. Council further discussed. S. Zimmerman also stated there are several properties with high grass and weeds.

○ **PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:**

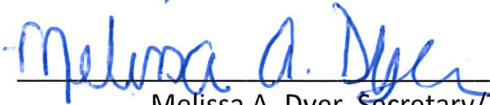
*What are the names of the students who spoke for the Students-Community Improvements?*

Brandon Yesenosky and Valerie Sleva.

There was discussion of the uniforms that JROTC is wearing. L. Bates stated they changed about 6-7 years ago.

Mayor Shiffer stated the Pine Grove Area JROTC Program will going to Normandy on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

*Leroy Bates made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m., seconded by Skip Butler, carried by Council.*

  
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Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer