

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 16, 2017**

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Michael Allison	Russ Stump
Officer Applegate	Charlie Zimmerman
Skip Butler	Sharon Zimmerman
Wade Gettle	Sarah Zerbe
Joan Schwer	

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Council President 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. A quorum was established.

○ AUDIENCE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:

- **Wade Gettle:** W. Gettle stated to council that he would like them to consider the two young individuals Sarah Zerbe and Skip Butler for the vacant seat on council.
- **Russ Stump:** R. Stump stated around December 6th or 7th the Legion received a grant to install a burn pit to dispose of damaged flags down by the army tank at the canal. R. Stump stated that Home Depot will be doing all the work.

R. Stump stated the new Christmas Lights are up in the canal on Veteran's Memorial Drive. R. Stump suggested council to take a ride down to the canal to take a look at the Christmas Lights.

○ SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Hobbs stated we closed on the M & T Loan.

○ SCHEDULED VISITORS:

1. **Hose Hook & Ladder:** None.
2. **North End Fire Company:** None.
3. **Charlie Zimmerman:** C. Zimmerman stated the Lion's Club will be doing the Hometown Heroes Banner Project. C. Zimmerman stated they would like to start with hanging banners on Veteran's Memorial Drive, Spruce Street, Snyder Avenue and Conrad Richter Drive. Thomas Fickinger motioned to allow Lion's Club to proceed with the Hometown Heroes Banner Project, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.

○ MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Officer Applegate read over the monthly police report.
- Mayor Shiffer stated the police are now posting arrests in the Pottsville Republican Newspaper.
- Mayor Shiffer stated Turkey Hill applied for a liquor license and stated he submitted a letter of concern to the PLCB. Mayor Shiffer felt it would cause more congestion and safety concerns.
- Mayor Shiffer read a statement regarding the vacancy on council and asked council to seriously consider the interested applicants before making their decisions to fill the vacant council seat.

○ COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

- **Resolution #09-17, Disposition of Public Records:** Thomas Fickinger motioned to approve the list of items for disposition of old job applications from 1996 to 2010 of employees not hired, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
- **Resolution #10-17, Disposition of Public Records:** Terry Noll motioned to approve the list of items for disposition of 2010 to 2013 Right To Know Requests and 2005 to 2010 Time cards/timesheets, seconded by Thomas Fickinger, carried by Council.
- **Christmas Bird Count:** Anthony Gurski motioned to allow David Krueel to do his annual Christmas Bird Count on Sunday, December 17th, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.

2. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):**

- **Council Vacancy:** President Zimmerman stated three letters of interests were received for the vacant council seat. L. Bates discussed his concerns with the council vacancy position. Council further discussed. President Zimmerman asked council for a motion to open for nomination. Anthony Gurski motioned to open nominations for the vacant council seat, seconded by Thomas Fickinger, carried by Council.

Anthony Gurski nominated Michael Allison. Leroy Bates nominated Skip Butler and Sarah Zerbe.

Thomas Fickinger motioned to close nominations for vacant council seat, seconded by Anthony Gurski, carried by Council.

Poll Vote was taken for the nominations for Michael Allison:

Yes: 5 No: 1.

Michael Allison was sworn in by Mayor Shiffer. President Zimmerman wanted to thank all of the applicants for the vacant council seat.

- **Resolution # 12-17, Appointing Council Member:** Thomas Fickinger motioned to adopt Resolution #12-17 appointing Michael Allison as council member, seconded by Anthony Gurski, carried by Council.
 - **Executive Session:** Thomas Fickinger motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:37pm to discuss legal and personnel matters, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by council. At 7:31pm, council returned and stated they discussed legal and personnel matters with no action taken at this time.
3. **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN)**
- **Approval of Minutes:** Anthony Gurski made a motion to accept the Minutes of the October 19, 2017 Regular Meeting, seconded by Leonard Clark, 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.
 - **Approval of Bills:** Council President Zimmerman made a motion to approve the Bills Approval List, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
 - **2018 Meeting Dates:** Thomas Fickinger motioned to advertise the 2018 Meeting Dates, seconded by Leroy Bates, 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 the water line project is on schedule. Council further discussed.
 - **PennDOT:** L. Clark stated PennDOT stated the base repair and ADA ramps have been postponed to spring and the contractor is to remove the construction signs.
 - **Speed Limit Reduction:** L. Clark stated Mayor Shiffer and himself verified certain streets to have a reduction in speed from 25 mph to 15 mph. Thomas Fickinger motioned to revise Streets Ordinance changing the speed limit from 25 mph to 15 mph for Mill Street, High Street, Mifflin Street, American Legion Boulevard, 4th Street, Locust Street and Dohner Street in both direction, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
5. **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (TONY GURSKI):** None.
6. **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):**

- Swatara Watershed Flood Recovery Meeting. T. Fickinger stated the next Swatara Watershed Flood Recovery Meeting will be held on January 24, 2018 at 1:00pm
- 7. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (TERRY NOLL):
 - Resolution# 11-17 Rental Inspection Designees: Mayor Shiffer stated he wouldn't be able to commit to do the rental inspections. Council further discussed. Council tabled until December meeting.
 - Hazardous Mitigation Meeting: T. Gurski stated he attended the Hazardous Mitigation Meeting in Orwigsburg and provided an update to council.
- 8. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):
None.

○ NEW BUSINESS:

- Sidewalk Ordinance: Secretary Dyer stated that Light-Heigel suggested we update our sidewalk ordinance because there is outdated and missing verbiage. Thomas Fickinger motioned look to at revising the sidewalk ordinance, seconded by Michael Allison, carried by Council.
- New Website: Secretary Dyer stated she would like to obtain a new website. M. Dyer stated the website would be done through PSAB and it would cost \$60.00 more a year than the current one and we also receive unlimited email addresses and 7 hours of design/update time. Anthony Gurski motioned to approve the new website, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.

○ AUDIENCE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:

- Sharon Zimmerman: S. Zimmerman stated the stop sign at Wideawake Street by the Laundromat is bent.
S. Zimmerman asked what a resident can do when a neighbor has numerous animals in the basement. Council suggested filling out a complaint form and the Health Officer will investigate.
- Charlie Zimmerman: C. Zimmerman wanted to thank the borough for the extra restrooms for the Halloween Parade.

○ PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: None.

How do you spell the last name of the person that does the Christmas Bird Count? *Kruel*

Can she have a copy of the street names that will have the reduction in speed? *Mill Street, High Street, Mifflin Street, 4th Street, Locust Street, Dohner Street in both directions and American Legion Boulevard in both directions from Pine Hill Drive to S.R. 443.*

Anthony Gurski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:41pm, seconded by
Thomas Fickinger, carried by Council.



Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer