

**PINE GROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2018**

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

Officer Fritz	Mike Strause
Elaine Holley	Sharon Zimmerman
Joan Schwer	Ken Dubbs
Deb Kintzel	Dennis Schnoke
Larry Stevens	Gary Hatter
Phyllis Hesser	Skip Butler
Larry Stevens	
Robert Geier	

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Thomas Fickinger, Vice-President
Michael Allison

Council President Zimmerman 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 with the exception of Vice- President Thomas Fickinger and Michael Allison. A quorum was established.

○ PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (1):

- 1. Ken Dubbs:** K. Dubbs stated the Chainsaw Carving Festival is this weekend. K. Dubbs asked council for approval to have barriers up on Christ Street for the festival for this Saturday and Sunday. Leroy Bates motioned to allow the barriers on Christ Street on Saturday, September 22nd and Sunday, September 23rd, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.

K. Dubbs asked if some of the millings from the paving project could be utilized used to repair the potholes in the dirt lot behind the borough building. L. Clark stated they will bring a load on Friday morning.

2. **Gary Hatter:** G. Hatter stated he has filed several complaints regarding speeding on Spruce Street and no one has contacted him about the complaints. G. Hatter discussed other police concerns. Council further discussed. Mayor Shiffer will setup a meeting with G. Hatter and Chief Trotter.
3. **Mike Strause:** M. Strause asked council for an update on storms drains and flooding. President Zimmerman stated we received the emergency permit from DEP for the silt removal of Swatara Creek. President Zimmerman stated that BCM is working on study for the storm drains and will provide us recommendations.
L. Clark stated there were 53 drains cleaned out by the vacuum truck and some of the drains along Spruce Street were done.
4. **Elaine Holley:** E. Holley stated the residents are looking for action and progress. E. Holley stated she planned to have this home as her retirement home but has some concerns if it keeps flooding.
5. **Robert Geier:** R. Geier stated the bank is starting to erode along the creek by his property.
6. **Larry Stevens:** L. Stevens asked what council is doing for the south end of town. L. Clark stated that FEMA was here to do a walk-thru a couple weeks ago and the drainage pipe on your property was given to them. L. Stevens stated there are large holes in his yard. Council further discussed. L. Clark stated BCM Engineers will be here next week to take a look at the drainage pipes.

○ **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

1. **Liquor License:** Solicitor Hobbs stated he received a letter from Attorney Rossi regarding two businesses looking to purchase liquor licenses. Solicitor Hobbs stated one is for 63 S. Tulpehocken Street, Brickyard Bistro and the second one is for 174 S. Tulpehocken Street, OIP. Solicitor Hobbs stated there will be a public comment session at October's meeting.
2. **Ordinance 451:** Solicitor Hobbs stated DCED require some corrections to the ordinance and debt statement. Leroy Bates motioned to adopt Ordinance 451, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.

○ **SCHEDULED VISITORS:**

1. **Judi Finch:** Not here.
2. **HH&L:** None.
3. **NEFD:** Report in everyone's files.

○ **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Officer Fritz read over the monthly police report.
- Mayor Shiffer stated the School Resource Officer is doing really well. Mayor Shiffer stated the school district reimburses the borough for any costs associated with the School Resource Officer.

○ COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):

- **Executive Session:** Leroy Bates motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:57pm to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by council. At 8:15pm, council returned and Council President Zimmerman stated they discussed a personnel matter. Terry Noll motioned to hire Candidate A for the full-time Streets & Water Laborer, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
- **Autumn Stroll/ Halloween Parade:** Leroy Bates motioned to approve the road closures for the Autumn Stroll & Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 20th, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
- **Trick or Treat Night:** Terry Noll motioned to have Trick or Treat Night on Wednesday, October 31st from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.
- **EMA Coordinator:** President Zimmerman stated two people were interested in the EMA Coordinator Position. Terry Noll motioned to appoint Dave Sattizahn as the Pine Grove Borough's EMA Coordinator, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
- **Floodplain Administrator:** President Zimmerman stated with T. Gurski resigning we need to appoint a Floodplain Administrator. President Zimmerman stated Marty Sowers of Light-Heigel has been filling in as the Floodplain Administrator. Leonard Clark motioned to appoint Marty Sowers of Light-Heigel as the Pine Grove Borough's Floodplain Administrator, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.

2. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):

- **PMRS- Vested Years:** Secretary Dyer stated currently the police pension vested years of service is 12 years when the non-uniformed is 8 years. Secretary Dyer stated the last time it was changed it was done by an ordinance. Secretary Dyer will send the current pension ordinance to Solicitor Hobbs. Council tabled this until next meeting.

3. ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN)

- **Approval of Minutes:** Leroy Bates made a motion to accept the Minutes of the August 16, 2018 Regular Meeting, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
- **Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** Passing the gavel, Scott Zimmerman made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Terry Noll, carried by Council.
- **Approval of Bills:** Scott Zimmerman made a motion to approve the Bills Approval List, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.
- **Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO):** Terry Noll motioned to approve the 2019 Minimum Municipal Obligation Plans for Uniformed and Non-Uniformed employees, seconded by Leroy Bates, carried by Council.

4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):

- **Streets/ Water Report:** President Zimmerman stated the Streets/Water report is in everyone's file.
 - **Booster Pump:** L. Clark stated the booster pump in the Chemical Building needs to be replaced.
5. **PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE (TONY GURSKI):** None.
 6. **FLOOD MITIGATION COMMITTEE (TOM FICKINGER):** None.
 7. **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (TERRY NOLL):** None.
 8. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PARKS & RECREATION (SCOTT ZIMMERMAN):**
None.

○ **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Preliminary Flood Map:** Secretary Dyer stated we received the new Preliminary Flood Map and council has 30 days to comment on any changes to the flood map. Secretary Dyer stated they will have a public meeting and they are looking to adopt the new flood map in 2019 or 2020.

○ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (2):**

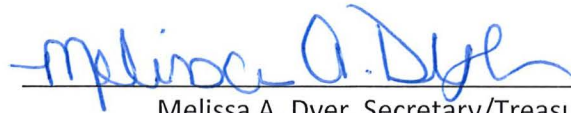
- **Elaine Holley:** E. Holley asked how often do they revise the flood maps. Secretary Dyer stated I believe every 8 years a new flood maps come out. President Zimmerman stated that council does report any projects completed that may help with the flood insurance rates.
- **Sharon Zimmerman:** S. Zimmerman if someone has a dumpster out in the front of your property and you see someone at night pulling stuff out of the dumpsters what do you do. President Zimmerman you can contact the police.
- **Phyllis Hesser:** P. Hesser stated the road paving project is causing damage to her property. P. Hesser stated her house was shaking and causing foundation damage. P. Hesser stated someone contacted her and asked to submit all of her damages. President Zimmerman stated he believes it was the contractor reaching out to you to for the damages.
P. Hesser stated we need more police in the borough. P. Hesser stated she no longer feels safe anymore.
- **Elaine Holley:** E. Holley asked if the town have a neighborhood crime watch or K9 Unit. Council further discussed.

○ PRESS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: None.

What is the name of the new floodplain administrator? Marty Sowers

What is the official date of Anthony Gurski's resignation? September 1st

Leroy Bates made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m., seconded by Leonard Clark, carried by Council.



Melissa A. Dyer, Secretary/Treasurer