

**Orwigsburg Borough Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 12, 2017**

Orwigsburg Borough Council met on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 in Council Chambers. President Buddy Touchinsky called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance: President Buddy Touchinsky, Vice President Susan Murphy. Councilors: Angie Hoptak-Solga, Brian Baldwin, Paul Bedway, Darle Cresswell and Michele Rudloff. Solicitor Paul Datte, Borough Manager Robert Williams and Borough Secretary Sherry Edwards.

Visitors: Bill Knecht of 204 S Warren St; Darin Brensinger of 102 Station Rd; Chief Stan Brozana; Sgt. John Koury; Janis McGowen of South Schuylkill News; Tim Hill of Season Art; Dave Teter & Jake Brensinger Streets & Utilities; Nick Allison (student) of 340 Halsey Dr; Charles Kern (student) of 995 Grove St; Noah Rhody (student) of 414 W Market St; Seth James (student) of 113 Maple Blvd; Tamara Wingle (student) & Sydney Allar (student) of 7 Taurus Lane;

Bob welcomed the students in attendance from South Schuylkill Technology Center.

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2017 and March 8, 2017 meetings as presented was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Darle Cresswell. Unanimous.

The February 2017 Treasurer's report was presented to Council.

The March 2017 Tax Collector's report was presented to Council as follows:

Real Estate	\$57,101.23
Per Capita	\$ 3,422.00
Occupation	\$ 882.58

A motion to exonerate the Tax Collector from collecting Occupation Tax on Tax Exoneration list #3 was made by Sue Murphy, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

Building Permits for March 2017:

- 1 – New Permits issued at \$205,000.00 total value
- 4 – Renovation permits issued at \$39,920.00 total value

**Public Comment:**

Darin Brensinger asked when Lehigh Ave will be patched. Dave Teter responded should be done this week but next week for sure.

Students representing Schuylkill Technology Center South Campus were present to fulfill their civics class requirement.

## **Old Business**

### **Orwigsburg Amphitheater**

Orwigsburg Amphitheater:

Council was given pictures of pavilions and a cost estimate of \$115,000 from Greg Stewart Project is receiving a heavy amount of input from the community

Currently in the process of identifying funding sources

Approximately 6 to 8 events are held on the M & T Lot every year

- Multiple concerns:
  - Lighting
  - Sound
  - Safety
  - Convenience

Community Groups that utilize the lot:

- Lions Club – Halloween Parade, Festival of Lights
- OBPA – Spring & Summer events

Orwigsburg has been name “Best Downtown Schuylkill County”

- Contact Zoning Officer for banner restrictions/permit

Tim Hill shared pictures and thoughts for the Amphitheater:

Pictures of local and not so local (google) band shells / amphitheatres

Details to consider:

Architecture – fit in with Orwigsburg architecture

Size

Acoustics

Lighting

Green Room

Storage

Restroom

Water & Electric Service

Movie Screen

ADA access

Safety

Sun, wind and rain protection

Engineers need to determine the installation of the wall and cost

Have Solicitor revise M & T Lot lease to long-term

After a brief discussion on grant funding for the Amphitheater council decided to apply for \$200,000 through DCED at a 15% match (\$30,000) to be funded through the bond fund. Grant application is due the end of May.

### **Reoccurring Sewage Overflow**

Council received a copy of an e-mail from Bruce Foster of 507 N Warren St regarding the sewer system overflow that occurs with heavy rains. He witnessed the manhole overflow from his back door on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

PA DEP Reportable Incident – reoccurring reportable incidents could result in a fine

Jake and Dave showed pictures of several manholes (#65, 87, 231 & 217) located on N Warren St and in Cresswell Acres during and a few days after the heavy rain. Pictures from a few days after show a large amounts of clear water. SCMA is tied into manhole # Dave identified which streets affect these manhole. Bryon noted there is no smoking gun unfortunately its water coming from all over the place in the area. Bryon’s recommendation is to dig and replace pipes due to very old pipes and 3ft joint sections; sit down with the Authority to take a look at the rate structure and identify a capital project. Out of 84,207 ft. of pipe only 14,000 ft. is pvc, 70,207 ft. is old pipe to be systematically replaced. Bryon will review the rate structure in the SCMA agreement.

Dave present figures from the rain storm:      Thurs into Friday - 2.2”  
Averaging flows at 4MGD (millions gallons per day)  
Normal is ½ MGD

No overflows on Ridge Rd.

### **Veterans Memorial Hall**

Council received color samples for the bleachers. The general consensus is dark blue.

### **Snow Storm (Stella) of March 14, 2017**

Council received copies of invoices received from Bartush Sign in the amount of \$11,850.00 and Excavation Tech Inc in the amount of \$5,550.00 for snow removal.

Solicitor Datte updated Council on the following:

### **Pine Creek Retirement Community**

Due to the denial of the Blue Mountain Retirement appeal the Pine Creek Retirement Community case will move forward. Briefs will be filed with the court.

### **Blue Mountain Retirement Community**

Zoning Hearing Board ruled in the boroughs favor and denied all of the aspects of the appeal. The Rhodes Organization has appealed the decision to the Court of Common Pleas. Zoning Hearing Board will file the relevant documents with the court.

### **Villas of Orwigsburg**

Nothing to report.

### **Sopko/SCMA**

Discovery orders were entered in the past couple days. SCMA anticipates deposing the Sopkos – this should take place within the next 30 days.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Recreation & Health**

A motion to authorize the use of Fishers Dam for the Annual Orwigsburg Children's Fishing Rodeo from Wednesday, May 17, 2017, to Monday, May 22, 2017. The Fishing Rodeo will take place 9:00 am Saturday, May 20, 2017. Motion made by Sue Murphy, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2017-12 authorizing Benesch Engineering to complete and submit an application to PA DCED for \$200,000.00 Grant for Dredging and Improvements to Fishers Dam. Application cost not to exceed \$1000.00. DCED Application Fee is \$100.00. Motion was made by Sue Murphy, second by Darle Cresswell.

After Council discussed the CFA DCED resolution that does not specify an engineering firm completing the application, a separate motion should be made authorizing Benesch to complete and submit application.

Sue Murphy withdrew her last motion.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2017-12 to complete and submit an application to PA DCED for \$200,000.00 Grant for Dredging and Improvements to Fishers Dam. Application cost not to exceed \$1,000.00. DCED Application Fee is \$100.00. Motion was made by Sue Murphy, second by Darle Cresswell. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize Benesch Engineering to submit the DCED application for dredging Fishers Dam at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00, application fee is \$100.00. Motion was made by Sue Murphy, second by Paul Bedway. Brian Baldwin abstained. Motion carried.

### **Streets, Lights & Buildings**

A motion to adopt Resolution 2017-13 for the purpose of requesting a Greenway Trails and Recreation Program Grant in the amount of \$200,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority, (CFA), to be used for the design and construction of the Orwigsburg Amphitheater was made by Brian Baldwin, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize Benesch Engineering to submit the Greenway Trails and Recreation Program Grant application at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.00, DCED application fee is \$100.00 was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Paul Bedway. Brian Baldwin abstained. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

#### **Personnel & Negotiations**

A motion to authorize the advertising for 2017 Part Time Summer Borough Workers was made by Darle Cresswell, Sue Murphy. Unanimous.

#### **Planning and Zoning**

Councilor Bedway noted a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2017 at 7pm. Review/Updating our Zoning Ordinance and SALDO will be discussed.

#### **COG**

Councilor Murphy noted the next COG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 7 PM in Council Chambers.

#### **OBPA (Orwigsburg Business & Professional Association)**

President Touchinsky noted Chad Reinert will be in concert at the Veterans Community Memorial Hall on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at 5:00 pm. Tickets cost \$25.00.

#### **Fire** – None

**Police**

John Koury reviewed the March Police report:

March summary of calls:

Out of 165 calls:

4 major thefts totaling \$10,000

3 drug arrests

1 DUI

So far the month of April:

6 drug arrests

1 DUI

2 threat cases

Unit #126 - 2013 Taurus was purchased in 2012 and has over 125,000 miles logged. Cost to repair between March 13<sup>th</sup> and April 6<sup>th</sup> we spent \$5,618.26 in repairs.

The March 2017 police report is attached to these minutes.

**Correspondence** – None

**Bills**

A motion to approve and ratify the Accounts Payable for General, Water, Sewer, Sanitation, State, Grant and Capital Improvement accounts was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

Councilor Rudloff noted the Yard Sale is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 4 pm.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry M. Edwards  
Borough Secretary