

Orwigsburg Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2017

Orwigsburg Borough Council met on Wednesday, March 8, 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. Mayor Barry Berger. 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; Fire Chief Dave Hardinger; Janis McGowen of South Schuylkill News.

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2017 and February 8, 2017 meetings as presented was made by Susan Murphy, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

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

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

Real Estate	\$37,634.62
Per Capita	\$ 2,845.20
Occupation	\$ 752.94

A motion to exonerate the Tax Collector from collecting Occupation Tax on Tax Exoneration list #2 was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Sue Murphy. Unanimous.

Building Permits for February 2017:

- 0 – New Permits issued at \$00.00 total value
- 1 – Renovation permits issued at \$12,000.00 total value

Public Comment:

Darin Brensinger questioned the status of the lease. Lease is on the agenda for approval.

Darin asked Council to take a look at the condition of Lehigh Ave. Bob explained Council will prioritize a list of road improvements and explained the three-year commitment of Liquid Fuels funds for S Warren & S Wayne Sts project – the borough will cold patch in the next couple weeks.

Old Business

Solicitor Datte gave an update on the following developments:

Pine Creek Retirement Community

The Solicitor's senses the plan will not move forward until final determination is made on the Blue Mountain Retirement Plan – Council President signed the verification this evening and will be filed within the next couple days.

Blue Mountain Retirement Community

The Zoning Hearing Board has scheduled a public meeting on March 23rd to render the decision on the appeal.

Villas of Orwigsburg

No update since last month's meeting, indefinite extension to respond to the complaint – The Solicitor has been in contact with insurance defense counsel to set up a phone conference.

Sopko/SCMA

To be discussed in Executive Session.

Committee Reports

Streets, Lights & Buildings

A motion to authorize the Service Contract of Losch Services, dated January 24, 2017 for the installation of a shower in Borough Hall for the amount of \$5,368 was made by Brian Baldwin, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Bob noted:

- Amphitheater and Borough Garage will be two separate solicitations
- Utility work will be done in-house
- Projects will be funded through the bond fund
- Local landscapers are interested in submitting their concepts – estimated cost \$8,000 to \$9,000

- Need to determine function of a manhole that has been located in the bank lot

A motion to authorize the borough manager to move forward in obtaining design concepts, cost estimates, surveying, and any construction challenges for a 60' x 120' Borough Garage (pole barn) and 15' x 30' Borough Amphitheater to be located on the M & T Bank Lot, concepts will be presented to Council for review, was made by Brian Baldwin, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

A motion to close Independence Street between South Liberty & South Warren Streets on Sunday, August 27, 2017 for the Salem United Methodist church Annual Block Party was made by Brian Baldwin, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Recreation & Health

A motion to authorize a 1 (one) Year lease with the Orwigsburg Boy Club at the annual rate of \$1.00 with an automatic annual renewal was made by Sue Murphy, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize the expenditure of \$27,467.00 as possible 50% match with the Veterans Memorial Task Force for the purchase of COSTARS-14 Recreational and Fitness Contract CMESP121101 for the purchase of a Bleacher System installed by S. M. Eichenlaub Company, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and manufactured by the Hussey Seating Company of North Berwick, Maine, USA all contingent upon receiving \$27,476.00 from the Veterans Memorial Task Force was made by Sue Murphy, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Funding source is the Capital Improvement fund

If taskforce doesn't approve the expenditure on March 20th for the bleachers, the secondary approach would be to apply to DCED but there is only a 30-day window of opportunity in which to put a package together and apply.

A motion to authorize the Borough Manager to submit an application to the Commonwealth Financing Authority was made by Michele Rudloff. Motion was withdrawn.

New Business

Personnel & Negotiations

A motion to appoint Larry Dagna as a member to the Planning and Zoning Commission, effective immediately was made by Darle Cresswell, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

Planning and Zoning

A Planning Zoning Hearing Board Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm Thursday, March 23 2017.

COG

Councilor Murphy noted the next COG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 7 PM in Council Chambers.

Fire

Dave Hardinger reported:

2016 Year to date calls: 175

8 structure fires

36 vehicle accidents

57 false alarms

14 EMS assists

Amongst others

2017 as of the end of February 2017: 21 calls to date

Police

Sgt Koury informed Council the 2013 ford interceptor at sands ford currently needs timing chain, catalytic converter and other engine parts. Cost will be in the thousands. Car will be 5 years old in May and has 125,000 miles. Requests to put new police vehicle in 2018 budget and keep on track for every three years. Other departments replace vehicles every 75,000 to 100,000 miles.

Bob was approached about possibly purchasing a \$100 camera for the police vehicle. Sgt Koury responded cameras for police vehicles need to also video the back seat area and have audio capability. Only one police officer is in charge of retrieving the information and placing into evidence. The \$100 camera would not work for a police vehicle. Will order the Watchguard camera for the next new vehicle. Cost is \$5400.00.

The February 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 Credit Union accounts was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Sue Murphy. Unanimous.

At 8:20 pm President Touchinsky called an Executive Session to discuss current litigation.

At 8:45 pm the Executive Session ended and there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry M. Edwards
Borough Secretary