

Orwigsburg Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2017

Orwigsburg Borough Council met on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 in Council Chambers. President Touchinsky called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance were: President Buddy Touchinsky, Vice President Susan Murphy. Councilors: Brian Baldwin, Paul Bedway, Darle Cresswell, Angie Hoptak-Solga and Michele Rudloff. Mayor Barry Berger; Solicitor Paul Datte; Planning Consultant Chris Bentz; Borough Manager Robert Williams and Borough Secretary Sherry Edwards.

Visitors: Tania Gerber of 1015 Ridgeview Drive; Joshua Shamonsky of 202 E. Market St; Bookkeeper Kathi Mengle; Police Chief John Koury; Bill Knecht of 202 E Market St; Tanner & Megan Noecker of 940 Albert Dr; Janis McGowen of SSN; Fire Chief Dave Hardinger.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2017 and September 13, 2017 meetings as presented was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Darle Cresswell. Unanimous.

Treasurer's Report

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

Tax Collector's Report

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

Real Estate	\$	1,324.98
Per Capita	\$	163.80
Occupation	\$	51.48

A motion to exonerate the Tax Collector from collecting Occupation Tax on Tax Exoneration list #9 was made by Sue Murphy, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Building Permits for August 2017:

0 – New Permits

7 – Renovation Permits issued at \$436,700.00 total value

Bill Knecht asked to elaborate on the building permits for renovations of \$436,700.00
Commercial Renovations – 340 S. Liberty St - \$234,546.00

Public Comment

Bill Knecht of 204 S Warren St - at last weeks meeting he questioned the funds that were from councilors who declined to take a salary and forward that money to fund police coverage. After research on which councilors gave up their salaries he thanked Councilor Murphy who declined her compensation for many years, Councilor Rudloff, Councilor Cresswell and President Touchinsky and noted it was an excellent gesture to the citizens of the town.

Old Business

Budget Directors Report

2018 Budget

Bob & Kathi reviewed the following:

- The Finance Committee met tonight at 6:30 with Chief Koury to review manpower requirements in 2018 and the 2018 Budget.
- At last weeks meeting it was noted that the Year to Date General Fund budget deficit was at 11%.
- The 11% is equal to \$120,000 or 2 mils. Revenues are up at 150% - \$30,000 plus cash flow.
- Last week we made a commitment to hire an additional police officer; prior month we made a commitment to purchase a new police car.
- Additional Police Officer, New Police Car, & Training = \$120,000.00 or 2 Mills
- If the 2018 COPS Grant is approved we'll need to fund \$25,000 – Status of the grant is still unknown.
- 2018 Budget will be discussed at the November 1st Work Session
- Vote for proposed 2018 Budget at the November 8th Council Meeting
- Approve 2018 Budget at the December 13th Council Meeting

Solicitors Report:

Solicitor Datte gave the following updated:

Proposed Ordinance Updates/Revisions

- Consideration by Council of Ordinance #427 – Ordinance was made available for public comment at the Public Hearing at 7:15 pm
- Ordinance contains all the revisions that have been discussed and recommended by the Planning Commission viewed by Council at the Work Session last month
- Properly advertised
- Properly posted
- Is ready for adoption at this time

Pine Creek Retirement Community

Nothing to add at this time, matters are still pending

Blue Mountain Retirement Community

Matter has been briefed – waiting a decision from the court.

Villas of Orwigsburg

Nothing to add at this time, matters are still pending

Sopko/SCMA

Eminent Domain proceedings will be moving forward

New Business

Police Department Report

Chief John Koury reported the following:

Gave Council a list of additional hours to be covered:

- 416 hours equivalent to an 8 hour shift - year
- Vacation hours to be covered throughout the year - 416 hours
- Officers total sick time available – 344 hours
- Mandatory MPOETC training – 176 hours
- Active shooter training – 176 hours
- Mandatory fire arms – 176 hours
- CPR, AED and First Aid – 88 hours
- Emergency Vehicle Operators Course – 264 hours
- Baton training, Handcuffing, Taser – 88 hours
- Interrogation and Interview training – 64 hours
- Criminal Investigation – 120 hours
- Adding an addition officer tonight we would still be short – 2328 hours
- Adding the second Officer is equal to – 2080 hours

Chief Koury mentioned the 1997 DCED Study dated December 15, 1997 that recommended 5 Full time Police Officers and 1 Supervisory (Chief) position for a Borough our size.

September's Report

631 regular hours

129 Overtime

90 Training

18 District Court

3389 miles logged on car

194 total incidents
21 reportable crimes
1 Retail theft
3 Thefts from motor vehicles
4 Disorderly conducts
2 Thefts
2 Open Lewdness
4 Harassment
1 Domestic
1 Suicide
1 Public drunk
1 DUI
1 Unlawful use of motor vehicle
20 traffic citations
3 non traffics
3 criminal complaints
39 traffic warnings
2 calls covered by State Police
 400 block of W Market St – domestic involving shot gun
 Shakey's break in
5 Assists – Penn State and Schuylkill Haven
8 Assists – State Police and other agencies

Committee Reports

Planning and Zoning

A motion to adopt Ordinance #427 revising our Zoning Ordinance as reviewed at tonight's Public Meeting was made by Paul Bedway, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Personnel & Negotiations

A motion to hire Bryce Lewis as a new Orwigsburg Police Officer, contingent upon physical & Psychological examinations, effective October 11, 2017 was made by Darle Cresswell, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Water, Sewer & Sanitation

A motion to inform all affected Borough residents & Business's via US Mail, Borough Web Site, Borough Face Book Page, Borough Newsletter, and door to door handouts, effective January 1, 2018, recycling & Trash will be picked-up at the rear of properties located on the Square.

Borough residents and Business's will be asked to call Borough Hall reference any challenges or difficulties was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

Recreation & Health

A motion to approve Veterans Community Memorial Hall DCED project payments to Millers Brothers, Inc for Application #1 in the amount of \$50,865.26, Application #2 in the amount of \$109,527.70, Application #3 in the amount of \$42,899.08, Application #4 in the amount of 11,294.00, Application #5 in the amount of \$1,493.30 and Application #6 (final) in the amount of \$11,372.60 was made by Sue Murphy second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

A motion to approve Change Order #1 for \$2,274.84 and Change Order #2 for Miller Brothers for \$1,571.90 for additional asphalt was made by Michele Rudloff, second Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

Finance

A motion to authorize Borough resident Sud Patel to Raffle-off 2 kids bicycles at the Borough Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 2, 2017, with 100% of the proceeds to benefit the Orwigsburg Police Department, and for the Borough Solicitor to review the procedure for proper legal compliance. Tickets will be available at Borough Hall and will cost \$5.00 each, or 5 for \$20.00 was made by Paul Bedway, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize the acceptance of \$55,059.04 from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, plus a contribution from the Borough of \$34,666.96 for a total remittance of \$89,726.00 to PMRS, the (Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System) was made by Paul Bedway, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize the acceptance of \$15,720.38 from Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a contribution to the Fireman's Relief Association of the Orwigsburg Friendship Hose Company and to authorize the payment of same, (15,720.38) to the Fireman's Relief Association of the Orwigsburg Friendship Hose Company was made by Paul Bedway, second by Darle Cresswell. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize the payment of \$20,000.00 to the Orwigsburg Friendship Hose Company was made by Paul Bedway, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize the payment of \$5000.00 to the Orwigsburg Library was made by Paul Bedway, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize the payment of \$750.00 to the Orwigsburg Senior Citizens was made by Paul Bedway, second by Darle Cresswell. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize the payment of \$500.00 to the Orwigsburg Historical Society was made by Paul Bedway, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Fire Department Report

Chief Dave Hardinger gave the following report:

- 120 call year to date
- All apparatus is currently in service
- About a year ago we learned that our hydraulic rescue tool system which is greater than 20 years old will no longer be serviced by the manufacturer
- The Fire Company has been awarded a federal grant for just under \$40,000
- He will be concluding his term as Fire Chief at the end of the year, he thanked Council for all their support over the years.

President Touchinsky gave the following schedule of meetings:

The next Planning & Zoning Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, 2017 in Council Chambers at Borough Hall.

The next Municipal Authority meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 16, 2017 at 1:00 pm in Council Chambers at Borough Hall.

No scheduled Zoning Hearing Board meeting.

COG

Councilor Murphy mentioned the next COG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 6:30 pm at the Goodwill Cressona Fire Company. Following the COG meeting will be a public town hall meeting concerning property school tax relief presented by PTCC, (PA Tax Payers Cyber Coalition (website is www.ptcc.uc)). The meeting is open to the public.

President Touchinsky noted the following events:

A Night of Chili & Chills will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2017 from 5:30 pm to 10:00 pm at Veterans Memorial Hall.

Schaeffer's Harley-Davidson MDA Passport for a Cure Italy to be held on Saturday October 11, 2017 at 6:00 pm at Veterans Memorial Community Hall – contact Denise at Schaeffers.

The Halloween Parade is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 7:00 pm – Rain date is October 26, 2017.

Trick or Treat is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31, 2017 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Correspondence – None

Bills

A motion to approve and ratify the accounts payable for General, Water, Sewer, Sanitation, COG, 2015 Bond Capital Improvement and Grant funds was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Sue Murphy. Unanimous.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm on a motion made by Michele Rudloff, second by Sue Murphy. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry M. Edwards
Borough Secretary