

Orwigsburg Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2017

Orwigsburg Borough Council met on Wednesday, November 8, 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; Borough Manager Robert Williams and Borough Secretary Sherry Edwards.

Visitors: Brandon Sherer (Boy Scout) 30 Oakdale Estates; Bill Knecht of 204 S Warren St; Janis McGowan of South Schuylkill News; Nick Bagdonis of 390 Patton Drive; Chief John Koury.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2017 and October 11, 2017 meetings as presented was made by Darle Cresswell, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Treasurer's Report

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

Tax Collector's Report

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

Real Estate	\$ 6,114.49
Per Capita	\$ 241.00
Occupation	\$ 77.22

A motion to exonerate the Tax Collector from collecting Occupation Tax on Tax Exoneration list #10 was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Sue Murphy. Unanimous.

Building Permits for October 2017:

- 0 – New Permits
- 3 – Renovation Permits issued at \$121,160.00 total value

Bill Knecht asked to elaborate on the building permits for renovations of \$121,160.00
Residential Addition – 580 S. Liberty St - \$100,000.00

Public Comment

Brandon Sherer of Boy Scout Troop #624 was present to fulfill a requirement for a community badge.

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Committee Reports

Finance

Councilor Bedway noted the 2018 Budget will be discussed at our December 6, 2017 Work Session and considered at our December 13, 2017 Council Meeting.

The 2018 Budget proposal allocates and guarantees a minimum of \$100,000.00 for Borough Road repair in 2018, and funds the recent hiring of an additional Borough Police Officer.

The following 2018 Budget proposal will be available for review and comment by the community in the Borough Office and on line at www.orwigsburg.net

A motion to advertise the proposed 2018 Budget for consideration at the December 13, 2017 Council meeting as follows;

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
General Fund	\$1,247,700.00	\$1,247,700.00
Water Fund	\$ 754,115.00	\$ 754,115.00
Sewer Fund	\$ 825,900.00	\$ 825,900.00
Sanitation Fund	\$ 289,346.00	\$ 289,346.00

Motion made by Paul Bedway, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

A motion to advertise proposed Ordinance #429 for consideration at the December 13, 2017 Council meeting proposing the 2018 Real Estate Tax at 9.00 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation for property tax and 2018 Occupation Tax at 13 mills was made by Paul Bedway, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Councilor Murphy is in favor to advertise but not in favor of 9 mills.

A motion to advertise Resolution 2017-18 maintaining the Act 511 taxes for 2018 as follows: Per-Capita Tax \$10.00; Real Estate Transfer Tax ½ of 1 percent; Earned Income Tax ½ of 1 percent; Amusement Tax at \$25.00 per devise and Local Services Tax \$47.00 was made by Paul Bedway, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

Personnel & Negotiations

A motion to hire Shawn Reichart at a salary of \$20.00 per hour as the Assistant Streets & Utility Supervisor in the position made vacant by the resignation of Jake Brensinger. This position is

paid 50% from the Water Fund and 50% from the Sewer Fund. Motion made by Darle Cresswell, second by Michele Rudloff. Unanimous.

A motion to approve Fire Police support for the St John's Food Pantry event schedule for November 18, 2017 was made by Paul Bedway, second by Sue Murphy. Unanimous.

Police Department Report

Chief John Koury presented the October Activity Report:

801 regular hours were logged
112.5 hours in Overtime
72 hours vacation time
4 hours sick time
913.5 Total

20 hours of the overtime for 10 District Court Hearings
3040 miles logged on both vehicles
334 hours of vehicle patrol
27 hours foot patrol
11 hours bike patrol
81.5 hours of traffic observation
226 incidents total – 17 reportable crimes. Up 32 from last month
 128 day shift
 96 night shift
3 DUI
1 Endangering welfare of child
1 Public drunk
2 PFA violation
2 Drug arrests
2 Bomb threats at BMMS – charges filed through the Juvenile Justice System, restitution has been applied for
1 underage drinking
2 bad checks
5 domestics
8 accidents
 2 reportable
 2 nonreportable
 4 hit and runs
7 local police assists – Schuylkill Haven and Penn State
3 State Police assists
Served 5 warrants
18 EMS assists – OPD arrived first at all assists
13 traffic citations
35 traffic warnings

2 parking tickets

Halloween Parade went well – 6 officers were on duty - 1 drunk arrest for public drunk

Trick or Treat went very well also with no incidents

No notification on the COPS Grant to date. Chief Koury asked Council to consider if we're lucky enough to get the grant entertain hiring another police officer which would put us where we should be based on the 1997 DCED Survey.

New police vehicle has been ordered and should be here in December – 1st payment will be due in the New Year.

Fire Department Report – None

Planning & Zoning Commission

The next Planning & Zoning Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 7:30 pm in Council Chambers at Borough Hall.

Municipal Authority

The next Municipal Authority meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 11, 2017 at 1:00 pm in Council Chambers at Borough Hall.

Zoning Hearing Board

No scheduled Zoning Hearing Board meeting

COG

Councilor Murphy noted the next COG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at Borough Hall.

OBPA (Orwigsburg Business & Professional Association) upcoming events:

- Small Business Saturday is scheduled for November 25, 2017 – an all day event in the Borough
- Festival of Lights will be held on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 4:30 pm at the Community Lot on the Square
- Bike Raffle at the Festival of Lights – 2 bikes (1 girl, 1 boy) will be raffled off – tickets are available at Borough Hall - \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. 100% of proceeds will benefit the Orwigsburg Police Department

Community Events

- The Orwigsburg Library 2nd Annual Fall Fest & Grand Opening is scheduled for Saturday November 11, 2017 from 9 am to 11 am and 4 pm to 6 pm. New location 216 W. Independence St.
- Salem United Methodist Church 12th Annual Holiday Stop & Shop is scheduled for Saturday, November 11, 2017 from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm.
- The Orwigsburg Children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, November 25, 2017 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Veterans Community Memorial Hall. Activities include-letters to Santa, crafts and a movie "Polar Express"
- Orwigsburg Library 35th Annual Holly Trail Hose Tour is scheduled from December 2, 2017 from 12 noon to 4 pm. Kickoff Party at Vintage This Repurpose That on December 1, 2017 from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Bob updated Council on the anonymous resident Food Pantry donation – donations are being received and will be presented to the Food Pantry November 17th. Food will be purchased from Boyers Food Market. WNEP interviewed Suzy Jones and Edna & Jeb Hart.

Correspondence

Council members received a letter from Representative Knowels regarding the State expanding casino gaming to municipalities of a certain Class. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to Solicitor Datte.

Solicitor Datte will brief Council next month regarding Blue Mountain Retirement Community's newspaper advertisement stating the developer interpreted the lack of approval as a deemed approval of the plan.

Bills

A motion to approve and ratify the Accounts Payable for General, Water, Sewer, Sanitation, COG, 2015 Bond, Capital Improvement and Grant accounts was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry M. Edwards
Borough Secretary