

SELINGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, August 3, 2020 – 7:00PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: President Marvin Rudnitsky, V/P Richard Mease, C/P Sara Lauver, C/P Christopher Kalcich, C/P Grant Neff, C/P Bobbie Owens, C/P Erik Viker

OTHERS PRESENT: Borough Manager/Secretary, Lauren Martz, Borough Treasurer Sheri Badman, Solicitor Bob Cravitz, Mayor Jeff Reed

Roll was taken for Call-In Participants: John Bodinger, Susquehanna University; DH&L Fire, Jason Kaufman; Carol Handlan, SPI; Geralee Zeigler, SEDA-COG; Ashley Hetrick, Larson Design Group; Jennifer Reese, Geo Services; Mike Salter, Isle of Que Brewing Company; Shannon Rudy, SEDA-COG

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Pres. Rudnitsky called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. This meeting was held virtually using phone in participant capabilities. Secretary Martz called roll and acknowledged a quorum followed by President Rudnitsky calling for a moment of silent reflection and the leading of the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM July 6, 2020:

C/P Neff brought forward a correction to the July 6, 2020 proposed minutes. Under DH&L Fire Company the statement read, "...bid out for a new fire boat...". This should read, "bid out for the sale of a fire boat...".

C/P Viker made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. C/P Neff seconded.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

GOVERNMENT / NON-GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO BE HEARD:

DH&L Fire Company: Asst. Fire Chief, Jason Kauffman, spoke via phone providing the July fire service reporting. There were 29 incidents. The fire boat bids were opened July 13, 2020 and it has been sold. The fire company is still on target to purchase a new aerial truck in January 2024.

DH&L Ambulance League: No report.

Selinsgrove Projects, Inc.: Minutes and Newsletter provided.

Selinsgrove Chamber of Commerce: May Zoom Meeting minutes provided.

SARI (Pool): C/P Mease, President of the Pool Board, stated the Board has started discussing fundraising and will be looking into the DCNR Grant process. The pool 2020 season closing will depend on whether there are enough guards to continue working through Labor Day weekend.

SU Taskforce: John Bodinger, Susquehanna University, joined the meeting to find out if there is interest on the Borough's part to start a conversation on sharing information between the two. Secretary Martz will email John to provide C/P Mease's, Chair of the Town Gown, contact information.

Selinsgrove Flood Task Force: No report.

OTHER PERSONS TO BE HEARD – Public Comment Period: No comments.

COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS:

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Sara Lauver, Chairman: C/P Lauver stated there are no action items at this time. She reported the committee has discussed reviewing the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) policies in the personnel handbook. It has come to the committee's attention at recent interviews that some handbook items have not been reviewed in quite some time. She has asked the

Borough Manager to also look into whether there has been a public statement or proclamation discussing community wide Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. C/P Lauver is asking anyone in the community with interest in this discussion topic to reach out to the Borough Manager, Lauren Martz.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE – Bobbie Owens, Chairman

- 1) **Payment and Ratification of Bills:** C/P Owens made a motion for to pay the bills. Seconded by C/P Neff.

AYES: SEVEN (7)	NAYS: NONE	MOTION CARRIED
------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------
- 2) **Exoneration Request:** Clifford Ruhl who is deceased was billed for taxes 2010 – 2011. C/P Viker made a motion to exonerate the amount due. Seconded by C/P Neff.

AYES: SEVEN (7)	NAYS: NONE	MOTION CARRIED
------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------
- 3) C/P Owens made a motion to authorize a sale advertisement for the 2000 International dump truck owned by the Borough using Municibid. Seconded by C/P Mease.

AYES: SEVEN (7)	NAYS: NONE	MOTION CARRIED
------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------
- 4) **Approval of 2020 CDBG Project Review and Finalization:** C/P Owens made a motion approving SEDA-COG to submit the request for \$109,574.00 in 2020 CDBG funds for the 100-year flood plain. Seconded by C/P Mease.

AYES: SEVEN (7)	NAYS: NONE	MOTION CARRIED
------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------

PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE – Grant Neff, Chairman

C/P Neff met with Carol Handlan, Fran Czeponis, Lauren Martz, and Roger Feltman to discuss new cross walk sign. There will be a review of the intersections and a request to PennDOT for more signage.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION / PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE – Christopher Kalcich, Chairman: No report.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Richard Mease, Chairman:

- 1) C/P Mease mentioned a formal press release was put out by Selinsgrove Projects Inc. canceling the Market Street Festival as well as the Halloween Parade due to concerns with COVID-19 and the gathering restrictions.
- 2) A concern was also brought to his attention concerning parking for quick to-go parking spots for the food businesses. C/P Viker made a motion authorizing the Borough Manager to coordinate with Public Works and the Police Chief to provide dedicated to-go parking spaces for the downtown business district during the remainder of the restrictions placed on businesses with the current pandemic. Seconded by C/P Mease.

AYES: SEVEN (7)	NAYS: NONE	MOTION CARRIED
------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------
- 3) Discussion was had about closing a small portion of Union Alley between the Commons and the Borough/Library building to accommodate additional outdoor seating in the business district while businesses may only operate at a 25% capacity indoors through the Governor’s orders. C/P Viker made a motion to allow this temporary closure. Seconded by C/P Mease.

AYES: SEVEN (7)	NAYS: NONE	MOTION CARRIED
------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------
- 4) Manager Martz made a suggestion to offer a temporary port-a-potty near the Commons to provide this comfort to residents while utilizing the business district outdoor dining and the concerts at the commons. She has already spoken to the bank management who will allow the port-a-potty to be placed in a back-parking space in the parking lot. C/P Viker made a motion to provide the temporary port-a-potty during the rest of the season while the outdoor seating is usable. Seconded by C/P Kalcich.

AYES: SEVEN (7)	NAYS: NONE	MOTION CARRIED
------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Erik Viker, Chairman: No report.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Janet Powers, Chairman: Meeting Minutes from July provided. C/P Owens made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-08 Icon Legacy Land Development, a driveway improvement plan. Seconded by C/P Mease.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

ZONING HEARING BOARD – Cyril Runkle, Chairman: No report. Secretary Martz mentioned there is a Zoning Hearing Board Meeting Thursday, August 6, 2020 to discuss some zoning changes related to an LB Water project.

CIVIL SERVICE – Dalton Savidge, Chairman: No report. Treasurer Badman mentioned there has been one application received for the posted Police Officer position.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION – Joan Fasold: No report.

PARKS & RECREATION – Vacant: No report.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR – Jeff Reed: The Mayor stated he was asked by C/P Lauver to do a proclamation recognizing the Selinsgrove Farmers Market Week and will do so on Saturday, August 8, 2020.

Mayor Reed asked Council to consider a resolution that would temporarily suspend the enforcement of Chapter 6 Part 7 of the Borough Code referring to the open container law for 60 days beginning August 4, 2020 with the possibility of extending to help the businesses due to capacity restriction related to COVID-19. This suspension would help the downtown businesses service more customers. The Resolution would include that he and Chief Garlock be allowed to stop this suspension at any time they feel there are issues. C/P Viker made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-09 temporarily suspending the Borough's open container ordinance and also extend the Resolution if it is working well until Covid-19 ends in order to help increase business in the Business District in Downtown Selinsgrove. Seconded by C/P Owens.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH SOLICITOR – Robert Cravitz, Esq.:

Solicitor Cravitz provided follow up on the Water Street property where a fence has recently been built in the floodway surrounding a camping living space. Letters have been sent by the Borough Manager and the Solicitor requiring the fence be removed and proper permitting to take place to allow for such a structure. This type of obstruction in the floodway, if left unaddressed by the Borough, threatens the CRS Class 7 flood insurance program status residents in the floodplain are granted.

C/P Neff made a motion to authorize the Solicitor and the Borough Manager to enforce violations on the Water Street property and to alert the agencies for which provide the guidelines the Borough follows to maintain the 15% flood insurance discount. Seconded by C/P Mease.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH ENGINEERS:

- 1) Coukart & Associates, Inc. – No update.
- 2) Larson Design Group – No update.
- 3) Geoservices – (Susquehanna River Basin Commission, SRBC, Compliance Project)

Jennifer Reese of Geoservices attended the meeting via phone to discuss the renewal of the well water permits and the work needing to be done to keep Selinsgrove at the same output levels for each well. The SRBC voluntary action plans were put together using data provided by the

Borough. They then come up with an assessment value for each well based on the data. In an optimal situation the permits from SRBC and the approved output levels from DEP would match. The cost proposal from Geoservices is based on the action plan SRBC sent out to keep our current levels or get permitted at a lower output. Jennifer mentioned some of the plan suggestions can be scaled back minorly. SRBC says the DEP permit should be for less usage than what it is now. The Borough wants to keep the current DEP output the same so Geoservices would need to do a competing test to show that the wells can draw more than the Borough currently draws but is already approved by DEP to take. C/P Viker asked how successful Geoservices is at changing the SRBC's current decision to maintain our outputs. Normally Geoservices would look at the wells first before a determination action plan was given and then they would tell the SRBC what they think, but in this case the SRBC looked at the permits and usage data and reduced the outputs without doing any data analysis of true capacity for the wells. C/P Viker asked Treasurer Badman and Secretary Martz their opinion on moving forward with having Geoservices review and re-permit the wells at a higher capacity of water available. The permit for well 3 is set to expire in December 2020 and well 4 in March 2021. C/P Viker asked Jennifer what has to be done. Jennifer explained the well monitoring that would need to be submitted to the SRBC which is the cost of this Initial Proposal and included Phases 1 & 2. More phases will be coming. She stated the Borough is looking at approximately \$17,000 per well just to renew the current water usage without fighting SRBC's determination. It costs more to do the data collection for more water usage. For the full cost rate, approximately \$48,000 to attempt to get the fuller capacity rate permitted by the SRBC is the purpose of Geoservices completing this work.

C/P Viker made a motion to contract with Geoservices for phases 1 and 2 in the amount of \$32,050 to do necessary data collection to ensure the water wells outputs stay at the rate DEP initially granted them to be. Loss in water capacity would restrict Selinsgrove Borough from further development. Seconded by C/P Neff.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH TREASURER – Sharon Badman:

- 1) Review Treasurer's Report for the month of July, 2020.

C/P Neff made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. C/P Viker seconded.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

- 2) Review of the newsletter

- 3) Notice that hydrants are being flushed August 3 through 13

BOROUGH MANAGER / SECRETARY – Lauren Martz

- 1) Manager Martz provided her monthly report.

- 2) Geralee Zeigler of SEDA-COG, via phone participation: Geralee explained the CDBG-DR funding and that the home elevation goes to low- or moderate-income homeowners. There were two homeowners who applied and were both declined due to not meeting the low- or moderate-income verification guidelines.

- 3) Penn DOT is supposed to update Secretary Martz on the intersection at Sassafras Street and High Street. They anticipate the study ending by August 28, 2020.

- 4) Snyder County Arts Council sent a notice of disbanding this year due to COVID-19.

- 5) Secretary Martz did meet with Brett Shambach in regards to the trap-neuter-return program. Robin Montgomery has his contact information and they will work together on the cat concerns near his home.

- 6) Secretary Martz met with Chuck Steinenger, Snyder County Commissioner. She will be meeting with the Chief Clerk, Tony Philips, to get a tour of Snyder County and get acclimated with their operations.

ZONING – Lindsey Brouse: Sign and Zoning Permits attached.

EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY REGIONAL AUTHORITY – Dan Kiesinger & Shane Hendricks, Delegates:

- 1) Meeting minutes provided from July 15, 2020.

NORTH-EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY JOINT AUTHORITY – Shane Hendricks and Dianne Mengel: No report.

SELINGSGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Tim Charles, Chairman – There was a meeting between the Authority and AT&T in regards to a propane tank being installed to service AT&T's generator. Larson Design Group will review their submitted plans and all permits will be secured.

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNCIL MEMBER – President Rudnitsky brought up a concern about trailers used to move modular homes being left parked on Broad Street. These trailers are being dropped about once a month and the truck leaves. The next time it happens, the tag will be reported to the Borough Police to notify the owner this is not a practice the Borough allows.

C/P Lauver brought up a concern about virtual meetings. Some are dropping off the call due to not being able to hear the Council end of the conversation very well. Secretary Martz will look into Zoom for the next meeting.

MAYOR – No comments.

OTHERS – Secretary Martz provided a reporting on working with the Director of Public Works and the Police Chief concerning the stop signs in alleys for the Business District. It was thought that putting some up may cause confusion because it is already law that people must stop at an alley. If some had stop signs and others didn't it may create more of an issue so Council decided to take no further action.

C/P Viker made a motion to adjourn at 9:15 PM. Seconded by C/P Mease.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Carrie A. Briggs
Recording Secretary