

**MINUTES OF SPRING GROVE BOROUGH
COUNCIL & COMMITTEE
February 17, 2020**

The Spring Grove Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, February 17, 2020. President James D. Graham called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESENT

James D. Graham
Peter A. Lombardi
Larry McConnell
Joshua D. Moore
Rebecca J. Stauffer
Vincent Catalano

ALSO PRESENT:

Beverly Hilt, Mayor
Andrew N. Shaffer, Borough Manager
Velda Nickell, Adm. Assistant

ALSO ABSENT:

Solicitor Peter Ruth

BOROUGH COUNCIL ABSENT:

David B. Kile

Public Comment

None

Old Business

A. Committee Reports

There weren't any committee reports submitted.

B. Predix Refuse Request

This request was tabled at the last meeting to allow Council time to review the request. The request referred to 327 N. Pine Ave., they were requesting a reduction in the number of bags from four (4) to two (2), which would reduce their charges by 50%. A lengthy discussion followed, with the following points being made:

- Ordinance No. 2-2017 Section 1, Subsection 331-10 refers to dwellings with multiple uses, i.e., a residential dwelling with a hair salon. The language does not address a property with multiple dwellings, i.e., an apartment complex.
- The intent of the Ordinance was to avoid making residents that run a business from their home pay for two (2) refuse accounts.
- If this request is granted it will open the gate for anybody with apartments to make this request, and it would become much too costly. The current refuse contract charges the same amount regardless if the number of bags is reduced.

- It would not be fair for the residents of the Borough to pay the full cost of refuse collection and allow landlords to pay less.
- Ordinance No 2-2017 needs to be amended, removing the language allowing owners of multi-use properties to request a reduction in the number of bags. There are currently four (4) properties that have been granted the reduction, they would be grandfathered in.

A motion was made by Vincent Catalano, seconded by Joshua D. Moore to deny the Predix refuse request. Motion carried with one nay, Rebecca J. Stauffer.

A motion was made by Rebecca J. Stauffer, seconded by Larry McConnell to draft a change to Ordinance No. 2-2017 to remove the language allowing multi-use property owners to request a reduction in their refuse use. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Treasurer's Report – January 2020 – Expenses Totaling \$261,793.94
James D. Graham made a motion, seconded by Peter A. Lombardi, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2020 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

A. Council Chambers Sound System Proposal

Manager Shaffer presented a proposal for a sound system to improve the audio of the meetings at a cost of \$2,071.00. This does not include the installation, but maintenance employees would be able to install it. There have been several complaints from residents that they were not able to hear comments made by Council, especially during presentations. It would also make it easier to hear the comments of residents. The consensus of Council was to submit this for the 2021 budget. It would be advantageous to have public comment done at the podium.

B. Consider Approval of Ordinance 1-2020 – Amending Chapter 331

A motion was made by Rebecca J. Stauffer, seconded by Larry McConnell to approve Ordinance 1-2020 amending Chapter 331. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

A. Friendship Hose Company #1 – 2019 Report

Mayor Hilt reported that they have an average of 5.2 people respond per call, which is an improvement over 2018. They are also redecorating the fire hall to increase rentals.

B. Stock & Leader Announcement

Congratulations to Solicitor Peter Ruth for making partner.

C. Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Financial Statements - 2019

The pension plan went from being funded at 84.5% to 102.2%. There aren't any unfunded liabilities.

D. Code Enforcement Report

A Code Enforcement Report from ARRO was presented to Council for their review.

Executive Session

At 7:40 PM, Council convened into Executive Session to discuss police matters. Council reconvened at 8:38 PM and adjourned until Council Meeting to be held on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Velda Nickell

Recording Secretary