

**MINUTES OF SPRING GROVE BOROUGH
COUNCIL & COMMITTEE
March 16, 2020**

The Spring Grove Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, March 16, 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 (via telephone)
Vincent Catalano (via telephone)

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

Council Members Rebecca J. Stauffer and Vincent Catalano chose to attend the meeting via telephone conference due to the COVID-19 threat.

Public Comment

None (no public in attendance).

Old Business

A. Committee Reports

There weren't any committee reports submitted.

B. Main Street Improvement Project

Manager Shaffer reported that PennDOT has announced the suspension of all construction projects due to COVID-19. This will probably affect the Main Street Improvement Project. *Council member Vincent Catalano joined the meeting at this point (7:04 pm) via telephone and was updated on the aforementioned.*

He has also been working with Pixelle regarding assisting with providing parking for residents. They have been very cooperative thus far. Once we know the timeline, letters will be going out the residents with parking permits.

A report with revised figures for the cost to do the additional curbing was submitted to Council for their review. The revised cost brings the estimated funding gap to \$170,000. The contractor lowered the linear foot cost, saving approximately \$42,000 and PennDOT agreed to put in a temporary restoration. The price is reduced because they put a temporary patch in along the curb until the final overlay

is installed (approximately 2021), instead of a permanent overlay. It's wasteful to put a permanent overlay in when they are just going to mill it out when the final overlay work is done. If the loan is dropped to \$225,000 the payment would be just under \$48,000 a year; much less than the \$115,000 yearly payment presently being paid. There would be a few (six) months of paying both payments. Tonight Council needs to make a decision about whether or not to do all the curbing. The actual funding would be decided on in future meetings. The additional curbing cost is now \$243,000 plus the restoration. The Borough's original responsibility was \$124,000; adding \$243,000 for additional curbing plus an estimated \$72,000 for restoration brings the total to \$440,000. The Borough has \$270,000 in cash available for the project and would have to finance the remaining \$170,000.

A motion was made by Vincent Catalano, seconded by Larry McConnell to install all the curbing. Motion carried unanimously.

C. 2019 Chapter 94 Draft Report

The 2019 Chapter 94 Draft Report was presented to Council. Motion was made by Peter A. Lombardi, seconded by Vincent Catalano to approve the draft as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Treasurer's Report – February 2020 – Expenses Totaling \$135,462.82

Joshua D. Moore made a motion, seconded by Peter A. Lombardi, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2020 as presented. Peter A. Lombardi had some questions regarding the Cintas billing, Manager Shaffer answered them to his satisfaction. It was noted that the Recreation Center is fully paid up and the Borough has resumed making payments to them. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Although there isn't any New Business listed on the agenda, Manager Shaffer stated that future meetings and the possible closure of the Borough building needs to be addressed due to the COVID-19 threat. After discussion a motion was made by James D. Graham, seconded by Joshua D. Moore to close the building to all public access with business being conducted via e-mail or telephone until the Commonwealth lifts the Declaration of Disaster. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made by Rebecca J. Stauffer, seconded by Joshua D. Moore to approve normal expenditures for the month of April and cancel all meetings until May. Any Council decisions needed in the meantime can be done by consensus of Council via e-mail with public notification at the meeting of May 4, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hilt reviewed her meeting to discuss updating the EMA (Emergency Management Agency). Ideally they need three (3) representatives from each municipality (Spring Grove Borough, Jackson Township and Heidelberg Township) for future meetings. Larry McConnell stated he can help, seeing as how he is on the Borough's Emergency Preparedness Committee. Joshua D. Moore also offered to help as he is able. There was discussion about whether all Council members need to be ICS 700 and 100 certified; Manager Shaffer is going to research.

Correspondence

A. RAYC 2019 Real Estate Market Report

The RAYC 2019 Real Estate Market Report was presented to Council for their review. Manager Shaffer noted that foreclosures were 1/3 of what they were in 2009.

Manager Shaffer informed Council he has received two (2) proposals for the Strategic Management Planning Projects. They are being reviewed and hopefully there will be a recommendation for Council in the near future.

Executive Session

At 7:50 PM, Council convened into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and the Community Center building. Council reconvened at 8:11 PM.

Letter of Resignation

A letter of resignation was received from Sewer Plant Operator Ryan Swope, effective April 10. Motion by Peter A. Lombardi, second by Larry McConnell to accept said letter of resignation. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Larry McConnell, second by Peter A. Lombardi to post the opening of the position of Sewer Plant Operator. Motion carried unanimously.

Recreation Center

President Graham reported the Recreation Center held a meeting at which they decided to discontinue the before and after school programs. All employees have been laid off with the exception of the Recreation Director. They are in the process of making arrangements with John Bailey to have the building sanitized. Extravagance and the Crosspointe Church will no longer be using the facilities. Nobody will be allowed in the building once it is closed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM until Council Meeting to be held on Monday, May 4, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Velda Nickell

Recording Secretary