

Orwigsburg Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2021

The Orwigsburg Borough Council met on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, in Council Chambers. President Bubeck called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance: President Rick Bubeck; Councilors: Kerry Mariano, Maddie Bartush, Brock Stein, Katie Bedway; Mayor Barry Berger; Solicitor Paul Datte; Borough Manager Randy Miller; Borough Secretary Sherry Edwards.

Not present: Angie Hoptak-Solga, Rod Schaeffer.

Visitors: Utility Supervisor Dave Teter, Police Chief Vince McDonald, Patrolman Brandon Bayer; Fire Chief Jesse Zimmerman, OFD Scott Rarick, Dave Walasavage of ARRO Consulting; Kevin Richards of Alfred Benesch, Patrolman Bobbie Bechtel - wife Emily Bechtel – parents and in-laws; Bill Knecht of 204 S Warren St. Bryon Killian of Entech Engineering. Bob Shappell of 680 S Liberty St

There being no additions or changes to the agenda for tonight's meeting a motion to approve the agenda was made by Maddie Bartush; second by Katie Bedway.

Roll call vote

Roll call vote taken:

Councilor Mariano - Yes

Councilor Bartush – Yes

Councilor Stein - Unavailable

Councilor Schaeffer – Not present

Councilor Bedway – Yes

Councilor Hoptak-Solga – Not present

President Bubeck – Yes

Motion carried

Mayor Berger presented Merritt awards to Patrolman Bobby Bechtel and his wife, Emily for their quick response to a fire in the apartment building. And to Patrolman Brandon Bayer for his response to a cardiac victim and use of the defibrillator.

Public Comments

Other Public Comment

Bobby Shappell – 680 S liberty St

Can't keep filling in and digging and putting houses in lowlands that we have been doing for the past 30 years. There are problems with the sewer and now with stormwater. Heavy rains seem to be more constant. Can't keep adding developments, water comes from all around and blows out the sewer plant. Bobby asked if the concrete basin on Long Ave with the drain tile is going into the sewer? And what happened to the repair?

Randy responded that it was not.

Dave Teter responded ground water was coming into the pipe faster than they could use the steamer on the adhesive. Contractor will start repairs (cure in place liner) in 2 weeks pending ground water situation. Sewer line is approximately 4 to 5 feet under the bottom of culvert.

Randy mentioned the borough is currently preparing to apply for a federal grant (BRIC – Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities) for flood mitigation program.

Minutes

A motion to approve the Council Minutes from the July 14, 2021 meeting as presented was made by Brock Stein, second by Maddie Bartush.

Roll call vote taken:

Councilor Mariano - Yes	Councilor Bartush – Yes
Councilor Stein - Yes	Councilor Schaeffer – Not present
Councilor Bedway – Yes	Councilor Hoptak-Solga – Not present
President Bubeck – Yes	

Unanimous.

Treasurer's Report

The June 2021 Treasurer's report has been presented to Council for their review and comment.

Tax Collector's Report

The Tax Collectors Report for July 2021 has been presented to Council as follows:

Real Estate	\$ 1,836.03
Fire Tax	\$ 170.96
Per Capita	\$ 196.80
Occupation	\$ 51.48

Tax Exoneration List #6

A Motion to exonerate the Tax Collector from collecting Occupation Tax on Tax Exoneration List #6 was made Katie Bedway, second by Maddie Bartush.

Roll call vote taken:

Councilor Mariano - Yes	Councilor Bartush – Yes
Councilor Stein - Yes	Councilor Schaeffer – Not present
Councilor Bedway – Yes	Councilor Hoptak-Solga – Not present
President Bubeck – Yes	

Unanimous.

Building Permits

The July Permit report was as follows:

0 New Permit issued at \$0 total value
8 Renovation Permits issued at \$157,800.00 total value

Police Report

Chief Vince McDonald's presented the July Police Report as follows:

978 – Regular Hours

108 – Overtime Hours (102.5 OT hours last month, 105 OT hours in June 2020)

3 Hours Late call

79 Hours to Cover Shifts

2 Hours for Court Appearances

N/A Hours Administrative

24 Hours Holiday

2 Training hours

N/A Callout hours

48 Hours Vacation

44 Hours Personal

10 Sick hours

16 Holiday hours (straight time)

24 Bereavement

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3,082 Total Mileage for Police Vehicles

403 Total Vehicle Patrol Hours

46 Total Foot Patrol Hours

19.5 Traffic Enforcement Hours

29 Traffic Citations issued

37 Warnings issued

8 Parking Tickets issued

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221 Incidents – Handled by 6 Officers

10 – Reportable Crimes

2 - Assault

1 – PFA violation

1 – Lost or Stolen firearm

6 – Identity Theft

1 – Trespass

Charges Filed:

Criminal Complaints – 1

Non-Traffic Citations – 0
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## Business

### Solicitor's Report – Paul Datte

Ordinance implementing Act 20 of 2021 (Small Wireless Facilities Implementation) for October's meeting

Rettew Consulting – Meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup> with prospective bidders

Blue Mountain Village – working out permitting issues

Updates on:

119 S. Liberty Street – spoke with Glenn Frantz who showed willingness to convey property to Borough. Also spoke with mortgage holder's solicitor.

100 E. Market Street – still on sheriff sale on Friday August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Co-operation agreement with other Municipalities (alone with N. Manheim) – no update

Conservation easement – Working Woodlands – did get email and terms on conservation easement.

**Engineer – Bill McMullen, Dave Walasavage, Shannon Darker**

Shannon Darker reports:

Permitting, Property Code Violations, Rental Properties reports were given to Council for review and comment.

119 S Liberty St – Documents are being prepared for demolition of the structure. Bid opening at September or October Council meeting.

## **Projects**

Lehigh Street Storm Water Improvements – Borough workforce to perform improvements

Margaret Ave Storm Improvements by borough workforce in 2022. Paving repairs and double seal oil and chip by outside contractor next year

Industrial Drive – ARC grant approved for \$819,441; awaiting kick-off meeting with PennDOT; Drainage easements along Lincoln Avenue have been signed by property owners.

Long Avenue Culvert – Bid for removal of old culvert recommendation for award – Motion to approve the recommendation and award Bertolet Construction at \$89,685.00.

Mill and Patch – Borough Street crew currently compiling and working on a list for areas to be milled out and replacement with hot mix paving by Borough workforce.

Mill with Haul and Place bid – Borough compiled a list of areas they have for work and will complete – Lee Court, Erb, Douglas, Mifflin & Straub.

A motion to issue Notice of Award to Bertolet Construction \$89,685.00 to remove culvert foundation on Long Ave was made by Kerry Mariano, second by Katie Bedway.

Roll call vote taken:

Councilor Mariano - Yes      Councilor Bartush – Yes

Councilor Stein - Yes      Councilor Schaeffer – Not present

Councilor Bedway – Yes      Councilor Hoptak-Solga – Not present

President Bubeck – Yes

Unanimous.

A motion to ratify Resolution 2021-21 for Wayne St & Cherry and 2021-22 for Wayne & Mifflin to submit CDBG Grant applications for ADA intersections was made by Katie Bedway, second by Maddie Bartush.

Roll call vote taken:

Councilor Mariano - Yes      Councilor Bartush – Yes  
Councilor Stein - Yes      Councilor Schaeffer – Not present  
Councilor Bedway – Yes      Councilor Hoptak-Solga – Not present  
President Bubeck – Yes  
Unanimous

### **Capital Improvements List**

Prepare equipment rental bid/ or haul and place bid for Douglas, Straub and Mifflin add Erb to Quote Storm Projects

Wayne and Mifflin - Request quotes to obtain excavator to assist Borough workforce with storm repairs; awaiting exploratory dig by Borough workforce to note the depth of existing stormwater lines. Apply for CBDG grants for ADA intersections; 4 new ramps.

### **Planner – Kevin Richards**

RACP update for Veterans' Memorial Building – meeting with TMT Design Group next Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> for final documents. Forward final bid package for review by next Friday including Stantec to confirm requirements are met. Advertise beginning of September to receive bids. Present at October Council meeting. Start construction Spring 2022.

Blue Mountain Village – numerous emails between Developer and Conservation District working through some clarifications on permitting

BLQ Land Development Plan – Extensions have expired – Borough will treat a new submission as a resubmission in regard to fees required.

Decatur St. Stormwater design work – preliminary plan submitted to Council two months ago; easement and right of way notification will be sent to adjacent property owners next week.

Flood mitigation efforts –

- Submitted documents to FEMA – received and in review
- Began building a model of the culvert (443), completed a field view
- Waiting for data from FEMA
- Grant opportunities are available – BRIC grant, National Fish and Wildlife, Pa DEP Growing Greener grant

### **Water/Sewer – Bryon Killian**

Lead and Copper service line replacement initiative – August 2024 deadline – keep on agenda to keep working on it – Compiling data using the meter replacement project information.

Sewer line refurbishment updates

- i. Long Ave to Warren St. – Grouting and Lining – close out
- ii. Close Contract and move grouting and lining to CCTV  
Submit a balance and change order will be negative next month

CCTV and Subsurface repairs update

- Met on-site 8/3/21
- Start 8/23/2021

Marshall Dr. Sewer Replacement – await survey (anticipated week of 8/23)

Sewer Plant

- Phase 1 – Review of submittals – equipment delays weeks out will send preliminary schedules
- Phase 2 – Issued NOA
- Contracts in from Allen Myers
- Contracts available to be signed, Notice to Proceed can be issued

PA DEP NOV from years ago. SSOs have been addressed. Letter response forwarded

**Borough Manager – Randy Miller**

Council received a copy of Randy's report:

Request received from Schuylkill Haven Borough for Fire Police assistance for their annual Borough Day celebration taking place on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to authorize Orwigsburg Fire Police to assist Schuylkill Haven Borough with their annual Borough Day celebration on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> 9am to 4pm was made by Maddie Bartush, second by Brock Stein.

Roll call vote taken:

|                     |     |                          |             |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------------|-------------|
| Councilor Mariano - | Yes | Councilor Bartush –      | Yes         |
| Councilor Stein -   | Yes | Councilor Schaeffer –    | Not present |
| Councilor Bedway –  | Yes | Councilor Hoptak-Solga – | Not present |
| President Bubeck –  | Yes |                          |             |

Unanimous.

Orwigsburg received \$154,491.76 in ARPA funds through DCED

\$10,000 grant applications to:

1. Historical Society & Library
2. Working with both agencies on the applications to help comply with ARPA requirements
4. Develop a new Our Town Pamphlet
5. Remainder of funds for Borough infrastructure projects; as long as projects meet ARPA requirements.

Tree Harvesting update – still surveying and marking trees; working on establishing a right of way to access land behind borough reservoirs.

**Committee Reports**

**Finance & Budget – Brock Stein**

- i. Budgeting time – Departments heads have started looking at budgets for 2022

**Personnel – Rick Bubeck**

**Communication & Technology – Angie Hoptak-Solga - no update**

**Economic Development/Revitalization – Maddie Bartush**

- ii. Industrial Drive ARC grant – Engineers updated – No update

**Water, Sewer & Sanitation – Rod Schaeffer**

- iii. Report of Water / Sewer Operations
- iv. Miller Environmental Inc. Reports –

Dave Teter reported on additional work done for July:

**Sewer**

Sewer blockage 930 Albert Dr

Meet with Standard Pipe Services

Follow up with Deb from Miller Environmental about a lab result from February for NOV from DEP

Pre-con Zoom call for sewer lining work

Called in by Dean for problem at sewer plant

Cut ROW

Sewer from Market to Ridge Rd. Sunk tractor in mud and had to come along out

**Water**

Get water meter reads

Call about trucks

13 meter appointments

Help Pat move one of the new lights

Call Allen Greives (Geiger) to order new repair parts

Called Shannon Chemical to order Po4

Call to try and locate water meter at 217 E Market. Found under built in cabinet

Calibrate turbidity meters

**Other**

OBPA meeting

**Fire**

118 Blue Mountain Rd West Brunswick Twp – Tree Down

81 McKean Ridge Rd – AFA

536 N Warren Street – Lift assist/residential rescue

Miller proposal for supplemental operations of WTP & STP - monthly fee \$8,796.00 for one year.  
Excludes maintenance of the plants. Currently Dean Miller directs Dave Teter on operations.

**Streets, Lights & Buildings – Rick Bubeck**

List of streets completed – milling/patch

305 Eisenhower Dr

380 Clark Dr & Ridge Rd

N Liberty St

S Warren St

401 E Mifflin

323 E Mifflin

Tammany & N Liberty

Patch work on Douglas

Woods & Wildlife has been out to inventory trees - boundary lines are marked.

**Recreation & Health – Katie Bedway – nothing to report**

Blue Mountain Rec – no report

**Planning & Zoning – Katie Bedway**

Planning & Zoning will meet on Wednesday August 18, 2021 @ 7:00pm

Zoning amendment ideas-

- Historical structures
- In-law suites
- Setbacks and lot coverage
- Forward ideas / changes to Randy

Resignation received– vacancy on the commission

**Safety & Policy – Kerry Mariano –**

Requested Executive Session

**Bargaining & Negotiations – Mayor Berger – no update**

**Police Department – Mayor Berger**

Chief McDonald is coming up to speed pretty rapidly  
Officer Lewis has returned to service and is doing quite well

**COG – Sue Murphy** – Next meeting September 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.

**Correspondences** - None

**Bills –**

A motion to approve and ratify the accounts payable for General, Fire, Water, Sewer, Sanitation, State, Grant, Credit Union, and Capitol Improvement accounts was made by Maddie Bartush, Brock Stein.

Roll call vote taken:

|                     |     |                          |             |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------------|-------------|
| Councilor Mariano - | Yes | Councilor Bartush –      | Yes         |
| Councilor Stein -   | Yes | Councilor Schaeffer –    | Not present |
| Councilor Bedway –  | Yes | Councilor Hoptak-Solga – | Not present |
| President Bubeck –  | Yes |                          |             |

Unanimous.

**Community Activities/Events**

OBPA Farm to Square – Thursday August 12<sup>th</sup>, 5 – 8 pm, square  
Yard Sale – Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Heritage Days – Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m.



Next Council Work Session meeting is September 1, 2021 @ 7:00 pm.

President Bubeck called an Executive Session at 8:07 pm for labor issues – There being no further business conducted after the Executive Session the regular meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry M. Edwards  
Borough Secretary