

**Orwigsburg Borough Council**  
**Work Session**  
**April 6, 2022**

The Orwigsburg Borough Council met on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 in Council Chambers. President Bubeck called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attendance: President Rick Bubeck, Councilors: Maddie Bartush, Kerry Mariano, Ed Winkelbauer, Ed Keyworth, Angie Hoptak-Solga (late). Solicitor Paul Datte; Borough Manager Randy Miller; Borough Secretary Sherry Edwards. Absent: Mayor Barry Berger; Brock Stein.

Visitors: Claudia Gross of the Orwigsburg Library located at 216 W Independence; Eric Moore of Entech Engineering; Kevin Richards of Alfred Benesch; Dave Walasavage of ARRO Consulting; Bill Knecht of 204 S Warren St; Lorraine Jones of 201 S Warren St; Tim Wilhelm of 3029 Ridgeview Dr, Fire Chief Jesse Zimmerman, Utility Supervisor Dave Teter.

**Approve the Final Meeting Agenda**

Additions to the agenda:

Solicitors Report: Added B5K Development Group  
Borough Managers report: Added Seasonal Hiring

A motion to approve the final meeting agenda was made by Ed Winkelbauer, second by Kerry Mariano. Unanimous.

**Minutes**

Council received a draft copy of the minutes from the March 2, 2022 Work Session and March 9, 2022 Council meetings for review.

**Budget Review** – Target Objective March – 24.7%

General Fund Revenues	20.7%	Expenditures	22.9%
Fire Fund Revenues	17.1%	Expenditures	5.4%
Water Fund Revenues	23.6%	Expenditures	19.4%
Sewer Fund Revenues	23.2%	Expenditures	27.0%
Sanitation Fund Revenues	28.0%	Expenditures	23.0%

**Maintenance Reports**

Water/Sewer - Dave Teter

Dave presented his March report on Additional Work:

Sewer

Check bridge at Post Office for I & I – Four large openings under bridge, investigating for potential big source of I & I. Determined not a source but old storm lines emptying into stream

Work on trying to find bags for totes at plant

Work with contractors on issues

Troubleshoot fine screen issue

Run for parts for fin screen

Cut reeds at sewer plant and burn  
3 Sewer Authority meetings for upgrades to plant  
Shut down for new meter install  
Sewer blockage issue at 117 E Tammany St  
PRWA Conference

Water

28 Meter appointments and paperwork  
Still looking for water line leak – usage is slowly coming down  
Lift and shift loggers  
Troubleshoot blower issue  
Run for parts and repair blower  
CI safety class  
Shut down water to 365 S Wayne St  
Call bank for issues within house  
Corrpro for water tank inspections  
Get water info for Deb and Chris for reports  
Entech progress meeting for outside projects

Other

OBPA regular meeting  
Called in to salt/plow roads  
Repair 01 and get back to shop  
Entech meeting about projects  
Look into no heat at Borough Hall  
Call for oil

Fire

620 W Market St - MVA Inj Fluids down

Rick asked Dave about the manganese issue from Sunday  
Dave explained that it's the time of year to flush hydrants and is scheduled for April 20, 21 and 22.  
There was a micro buildup of manganese and iron in the pipes that was stirred up. A neighboring Fire Company did fill up at the hydrant they were instructed to use; and in that same time a backwash was taking place at the plant which caused the stirrup of manganese. Complaints came in from E Market St and Ridgeview.

**Streets, etc. - Shawn, Slade, Devin**

Council received the Hours worked, Vehicle Maintenance/Hours and Maintenance Budget report for review and comment.

**Fire Department –**

Fire Chief Jesse Zimmerman presented his March report:

16 Call for the month of March  
57 Total Calls for 2022  
247:38 Man hours for March  
518:51 Man Hours for 2022  
161:00 Administrative hours

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Incident Count</u>
East Brunswick Township	2
North Manheim Township	4
West Brunswick Township	2
Orwigsburg Borough	<u>8</u>
Total	16

Fires – 2

Rescue & Emergency Medical Services – 4

Hazardous Condition (no fire) – 2

Service Call – 2

False Alarm & False Call – 2

Severe Weather & Natural Disaster - 4

- No update on FEMA grant
- 20 Boy Scouts from Troop 624 visited the Fire Station to work on completing their Fire Safety Merit Badge.
- Grant proposal has been submitted by Alfred Benesch for the Emergency Services Building project.
- Five members are nearing the end of Essentials of Fire Fighting Module II; The members will be starting Module III right after.
- This week and next week finishing the Lenten Sale for pizzas.
- This week will start the raffles and will run for 8 weeks
- The Fire Department thanked the local churches, organizations and citizen for support of refreshments and items dropped off during the fire at Heim's Construction on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Public Comment**

Claudia Gross from the Orwigsburg Library located 216 W Independence St. addressed Council: Thanked the Orwigsburg Borough for their continued support to the library and to let the borough know how much their support is valued. Paperwork was submitted to justify the added money the borough gave the library last year which was much needed due to COVID and forced closure causing a lack of fund drives and lack of volunteers. Still struggling to make up loss of where they were at financially pre covid. The public library is open and is busier than ever at times.

Pamphlets were handed out on upcoming events and weekly programs at the library. Claudia noted to be mindful this is our library its free all you need is a license to become an active patron. We need to take pride in our Library. One piece of information handed out was a list of district libraries located in Schuylkill County; Orwigsburg receives some of the least amount of funding and is rated second to Pottsville. Orwigsburg has more programs, patrons and open more hours. Trips coming in the future include Meet the Farmer; Summer Reading trip; going to a Play based on a children's book, via grant funding. Library is involved with a few community projects with the Senior Citizens and also visits Pre Schools.

Bill Knecht of 204 S Warren St noted Claudia is a true treasure to be at the library and what she promotes for the community. It's wonderful what Claudia and the volunteers do.

Lorrain Jones of 201 S Warren St addressed her concerns with Council; she lives in the historic Miller-Douglass house for 52 years. Her and her husband began restoration in the early 80's and restored back to the Federal architecture when it was built. She is extremely proud of her house, house is a history of Orwigsburg, was a stop for the underground railroad. Several years ago when S Warren St

was resurfaced her sidewalk bricks were taken out along with the post light and the sign that indicates The Miller Douglas House to install the ADA ramp. She noticed this winter the bricks are caving in. The bricks were installed in the early 80's on the entire property and never had a problem. Mrs. Jones was not pleased with the response from the Borough that curbs and sidewalk are the homeowner's responsibility. She did not disturb the bricks; they were disturbed by the borough when the project was done and now the lamp post is leaning. She requests that the Borough Council investigate this situation.

President Bubeck did have the opportunity to take a look, he noted there is a depression in the bricks that were not disturbed from the project and water is settling in this depression which could be contributing to loosening the soil at the lamp post making it lean.

Mrs. Jones responded there was never a problem with the lamp post before the ramp was installed.

President Bubeck said we'll get one of our engineers there to evaluate and get back to you.

Dave Teter noted the problem with ADA ramp is when the neighbor's sump pump to the north is running there is a lot of ice buildup in that area. Sump pump was to be piped to the storm drain north of Mrs. Jones property and to the west on the curb line; sump pump was neglected to be put back in storm drain. Anytime the sump pump kicks in it goes across Independence St straight to the ADA ramp. And when there are heavy rains the storm drain does not pick up all the flow coming down S Warren St and goes up the ramp and down her sidewalk. The lamp post was taken out to put in a curb and form behind it; doesn't believe the post was put back in concrete which is why its falling.

Dave Walasavage responded all the bricks that were replaced are set on concrete. Bricks were not reset on the sidewalk. Dave W will go and take a look at the issue.

## **Business**

### **Solicitor's Report – Paul Datte**

Blue Mountain Village – No update

Conservation easement – Spoke with Randy and expecting to have survey proposals for Council presentation.

Walters Alley abandonment – Did locate the ordinance adopted by the borough that accepted, laid out and ordained all the roads in Cresswell acres development. Development plan was located and now in a position to prepare ordinance vacating Walters Alley; suggestion was made to vacate at least one other road (Douglas Rd) at the same time. Next week's meeting agenda will have a recommendation and request action.

B5K Development Group, LLC – case has been dismissed by the court. Appeal period has expired. Litigation is complete on development. Haven't heard anything further from developer.

Bill Knecht asked for an explanation on the Woodlands Conservancy easement and B5K Development.

Woodlands Conservancy easement – This easement would encumber the entire reservoir property. Easement would restrict use of the property for certain things and in return the borough would get a onetime dollar figure. Restrictions are fairly comprehensive but would permit future timbering provided done in accordance with a timbering plan. We would be able to use the property for public

water supply service. We wouldn't be able to develop the property. Document would be recorded of record and run with the land and would encumber the property in perpetuity.

B5K Development - Villas of Orwigsburg goes back 4-5 years, received plan approval from the borough. They were required to post financial security; sign development agreement and we took the position that they didn't do that within the period of time required by the Municipalities Planning Code. The developer appealed the case to the Court of Common Pleas and has been sitting there for several years. The Court terminated and dismissed the case for lack of docket activity and the appeal period has expired. The position the borough took is the plan itself is deemed revoked.

**Borough Manager – Randy Miller**

Randy's report has been distributed to Council for review:

Tree Harvesting – still awaiting signed contract – did speak with the individual in regards to the contract and should have something available for next week.

Orwigsburg Grants – continuing to look for grant opportunities

South Liberty Street Repairs – awaiting quotes for repairs to neighbor's house (123 S Liberty St)

Sale of basement items

Received bids for:

- Electrical supplies from Darin Brensinger
- Doors and supplies from a theater company
- Bid for the water fountain
- Item will be on the agenda next week for acceptance

PSAB Conference – Randy would like to attend the conference – Motion will be placed on next week's agenda to name Randy as the voting delegate from the borough.

Mayoral Proclamation 2022-01 – for National Osteopathic Medicine Week – April 18 to 24. Will be presented at next week's Council meeting.

Old Trolley Car – Jen Bowen from the Historical Society asked for Borough's help. Randy said the borough is not in position to take ownership of a trolley car but if a committee would be formed the borough could help in regards to committee work. Councilor Bartush and Randy meet to obtain more information.

Sale of old wooden chairs - About 100 or more old wooden chairs are at the memorial, renovations will begin probably tomorrow. In the process of cleaning out items that have been left behind at the building. Idea was to make some money by selling the chairs to individuals. Asking for Council's input: Councilor Bartush suggested donating them to an organization. Most of the chairs are in a very worn state. Check to make sure they wouldn't be a safety hazard before put out for donation or bid.

The Blue Mountain School District forwarded The Memorandum of Understanding between the Police Department and Elementary/Middle School for approval on updates. Chief McDonald will have document available for next weeks meeting.

Seasonal hiring for mowing and misc. type of work – motion will be on next weeks agenda.

**Engineer – Dave Walasavage**

- a. Review Reports – Shannon Darker -
  - i. Permit Reports
  - ii. Notice of Violation
  - iii. Rental Properties

Shannon's reports were distributed to Council for review and comment.

**Capital Improvements List**

**Road Projects**

**Industrial Drive;**

Temporary construction easements for work outside the Right-of-Way have been sent to PennDot for further direction on what process they will require

Exploratory dig operations to locate existing water line in the area of storm inlet placement will include locating the existing storm line at the intersection of Long Ave and the alley back towards Straub Ave. ARRO is obtaining a quote for these services.

Final stormwater management design is being prepared to include bigger basins along Long Ave to detain additional runoff. After complete will be forwarded to PennDot

**Storm and Paving projects:**

Margaret Ave – The borough workforce will install storm improvement including underdrains prior to bidding double seal tar and chip project.

North St – Borough workforce cannot install inlet, 42" pipe crossing, and series of basins as per Decatur plans prior to bidding paving of North Street road reconstruction. Storm improvements will need to be bid out to outside contractor. Possibly merge both projects together, modify plan for borough workforce to handle before North St gets paved.

Gerald and N Wayne St – Liquid Fuels is approx. \$100,000, Leveling Course and Tar & Chip estimated costs \$151,000. Look into what areas could be evaluated to reduce figure to \$100,000.

North Wayne St & E Mifflin St – Storm improvement will be incorporated into the handicap ramp project awaiting County grant funding. Possibly survey and get storm improvements in place prior to ADA ramp approval. Could take until next year for approval. Will come up with survey cost to present to Council for consideration.

ARRO will investigate cost estimate to try and get Margaret, North Wayne and Gerald Avenue seal coated/paved for under \$100,000. Borough to perform the milling and base material placement where needed.

**Storm Projects**

ARRO met with Devin for North Street and Margaret to determine if borough workforce can complete storm improvements prior to paving. Borough will perform improvements on Margaret

but not North Street; 42" cross pipe and basin construction will require project to be bid. Storm Improvements on North Wayne Street, from East Mifflin Street to East Cherry Street will be incorporated into the handicap ramp project awaiting County grant funding. Survey price will be provided to Council for consideration to begin design process.

**Planner – Kevin Richards**

Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) update for Veterans' Memorial Building:

- Pre-Construction meeting held on January 26, 2022, with Miller Brothers. Mobilizing onto project site week of April 4. Starting in the kitchen area and Veterans Foyer Completed by end of October 2022.
- Exterior Site work to commence with lighting. Paving of parking expected in next two months.
- Task force selected Audio/Visual Contractor – Moyer Electronic. Have been coordinating with Miller Bros and engineer.
- Coordination ongoing with Orwigsburg Masons regarding Clock display for Veterans Foyer area.
- Millers Brothers submitted Application for Payment No. 1 for \$10,074.10 for general conditions and mobilization no actual construction dollars. Alfred Benesch recommends approval of Payment Application #1.
- Solicitor Datte noted all banks are moving from a LIBOR based variable rate to a SOFR based rate. The borough will need to do an amendment to the credit facility to switch over from LIBOR to SOFR. Item will be on next week's agenda.

Ridge Road Park – Grant Agreement received March 17, 2022. Awaiting Kick-Off meeting with DCNR. Assume construction during 2023. As part of agreement the borough will need to set up and interest-bearing account to receive partial payments. Engineering Work Order will be submitted for engineering fees all be reversible by the grant. Letter of Commitment was done for the borough's portion of \$40,000 to receive \$114,000. The difference is the donated land. Project will commence next year.

Title to the property could not be obtained until grant agreement was received. Solicitor Datte will reach out to the owners – deed conveying property to the borough.

Blue Mountain Village – Owner is coordinating efforts with PennDOT and PADEP. Per the Developer – "The Rhoades Organization hope to resolve these issues within the next 6 months." – no update.

Decatur St. Stormwater design work – Draft Drainage Easements/Temporary Construction Easements provided to Borough Manager/Solicitor Datte. Benesch is investigating funding for shovel ready projects. – no update. Dave W. and Kevin will rework the project to combine with the North St project.

Flood mitigation efforts – Four (4) grant applications have been submitted to PEMA for consideration:

- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) – submitted in November
- BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities) – submitted in November
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Hurricane Ida – submitted January 20<sup>th</sup>. Acquisition and demo

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Covid) – submitted January 20<sup>th</sup>

- Received request for additional information pertaining to potential acquisition and demolition of properties along West Market Street culvert.

It is assumed the Planning Commission will meet on April 20, 2022, to review its Zoning Ordinance changes.

Submission of Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) LSA Grant on behalf of the local fire department for Planning Purposes to finalize potential intent. Grant Application due March 15.

**Water/Sewer – Bryon Killian – Eric Moore**

**Water**

- Lead and Copper service line replacement initiative – August 2024 deadline; continue to work on determinations where lead service lines occur; continue to change out old meters
- Schuylkill Haven Interconnect – Submitted LSA Grant package on 3/18/22
- DRBC Annual Report – Submitted 3/31/22 – Eric reviewed before the meeting and there was nothing unusual
- Preparing permit application for water dispensing station on Long Avenue, approved at March 2022 Council Meeting. Ongoing currently.

**Sewer**

- Annual Waste-load Report (Chapter 94 Report) – Submitted 3/31/22 as required.  
No Hydraulic or Organic Overloads – the borough still has peak issues in the system  
No projected Hydraulic or Organic Overloads for the next 5 Years.
- CCTV and Subsurface repairs update  
CCTV has been halted as per Council directive.  
Subsurface repairs - Priority List was created and sent over to contractor, contractor will respond with a plan for re-mobilization to perform repairs
- Marshall Drive, North Warren Street, and Station Road Sewer Replacement  
Combined projects for economy of scale  
Finalized alignments  
Submitted Permit – GP11 for Wetland impact

**Sewer Plant**

Phase 1

- Allan Myers Payment Application #2 for \$45,000 has been submitted and recommended for approval. Item will be on next week's agenda for approval.
- Change Order Request for replacing Gate actuators; Still need electrical contractor costs to finalize

Phase 2 - Review of Submittals

- Allan Myers Payment Application #2 for \$47,700 has been submitted and recommended for approval. Item will be on next week's agenda.
- Deduct (i.e., Credit) Change Order Request for UV Shed; Still need electrical contractor to provide deduct Change Order costs.



**Community Activities/Events**

Meet the Farmer on June 4<sup>th</sup> - Orwigsburg Library  
Egg Hunt this Saturday at Albrights Woods @ Noon

Nex Council meeting is April 13, 2022 @ 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned 7:55 pm on a motion made by Maddie Bartush, seconded by Ed Keyworth.  
Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry M. Edwards  
Borough Secretary