

**Orwigsburg Borough Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 12, 2018**

The Orwigsburg Borough Council met on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 in Council Chambers. President Michele Rudloff called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance were: President Michele Rudloff; Vice President Susan Murphy. Councilors: Paul Bedway, Brian Baldwin, Katie Bedway, Angie Hoptak-Solga and Rod Schaeffer (arrived late). Mayor Barry Berger; Solicitor Paul Datte; Planning Consultant Chris Bentz; Borough Manager Robert Williams and Borough Secretary Sherry Edwards.

Visitors: Streets & Utility Manager Dave Teter; Police Chief John Koury; Janis McGowen of SSN; Bill Knecht of 204 S Warren St; Rick Bubeck of 415 Marshall Drive; Fire Chief Jesse Zimmerman; Barbara Malewski of 115 Gerald Ave.

**Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> 2018 meetings as presented was made by Susan Murphy, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

**Treasurers Report**

The October 2018 Treasurer's report was presented to Council.

**Tax Collector's Report**

The November 2018 Tax Collector's report was presented to Council as follows:

Real Estate	\$9,105.50
Per Capita	\$ 727.60
Occupation	\$ 233.92

**Tax Exoneration list #11**

A motion to exonerate the Tax Collector from collecting Occupation Tax on Tax Exoneration List #11 was made by Susan Murphy, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

**Building Permits**

Following is the November 2018 permit report:

- 1 New Permit issued at \$80,000.00 for Bedway Storage, additional unit
- 2 Renovation permits issued at \$5,800.00 total value

## **Public Comment for Agenda Items**

At 7:35 pm President Rudloff called an Executive Session to discuss current litigation.

At 7:50 pm the Executive Session ended and the regular meeting resumed.

A motion to deny the Blue Mountain Retirement Community Preliminary Plan, last revised June 27, 2016, effective December 22, 2018 if a further appeal of the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill County Order of November 21, 2018 is not filed, the basis for denial being: (i) issues raised in the ARRO Engineering Zoning Officer review letter to the Borough, dated September 20, 2016, and the corresponding determination by the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill County, in its Order and Opinion of the Court, dated November 21, 2018, No. S-601-2017, and (ii) issues raised in the Alfred Benesch & Company review letter to the Borough, dated September 20, 2016, with written notice of the decision to be communicated to the Applicant no later than December 27, 2018, if an appeal is not filed to the foregoing Order was made by Paul Bedway, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

## **Public Comment**

Bill Knecht 204 S Warren asked to elaborate on the motion just made.

Solicitor Datte gave an explanation on the above motion.

Deadline for the Rhodes Organization to appeal the Courts decision is December 27, 2018. If appeal is filed by the deadline the above motion is mute.

## **Old Business**

Economic Development - LERTA

A motion to authorize and advertise for a Public Hearing, 7:15 pm Wednesday, January 9, 2019 in Council Chambers at Borough Hall, to receive community input on the adoption of a Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance, (LERTA), in the I1 and I2 (General Industrial and Transition Industrial) zoned sections of the Borough was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

## **New Business**

Bob explained the process of acquiring the .gov e-mail addresses for Council and employees. The redesigned Web-Site will be rolled out at the beginning of the new year.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Streets, Lights & Buildings**

A motion to renew our contract with Kinect Energy, and change our adjustable rate, to a fixed rate, with a projected annual savings of \$20,000.00 per year was made by Susan Murphy, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

A motion to approve Dutchman Contracting, LLC Application and Certificate for Payment in the amount of \$116,303.75 as reviewed and recommended by ARRO Engineers for the Borough Garage was made by Susan Murphy, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

### **Water, Sewer & Sanitation**

A motion to approve COSTARS Contract #25-053, the E. M. Kutz Proposal for the Dump Body, Snow Plow, and Salt Spreader for the 2019 Ford F-550 Truck, at a price of \$40,560.00 was made by Paul Bedway, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

A motion to approve COSTARS Contract #25-053, the E. M. Kutz Proposal for the ABS-800 Brine System, the DAS-500-1L-HYD-FM Direct Application System, and the Roadwatch Air & surface Temperature Sensor, at a total price of \$25,339.00 was made by Angie Hoptak-Solga, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

### **Finance**

The 2019 Borough Manager Budget Message:

The Borough's financial condition continues to improve. The Water, Sewer, and Sanitation Funds are projected to be adequately funded. The General Fund is forecasted to benefit from its third consecutive year of self-sufficient operating revenue without the dependency of borrowing from reserve funds.

The 2019 Budget is a lean Budget at 10.5 mills that includes funding for an additional full time Police Officer in an effort to provide our community with the requested 24/7 coverage and infrastructure improvements.

A motion to approve the 2019 Budget as follows was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Brian Baldwin.

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
General Fund	\$1,527,590.00	\$1,527,590.00
Water Fund	\$838,035.00	\$838,035.00
Sewer Fund	\$935,250.00	\$935,250.00
Sanitation Fund	\$290,846.00	\$290,846.00
Total	\$3,591,721.00	\$3,591,721.00

On a roll call vote taken by Secretary Edwards, the vote was as follows:

Paul Bedway – No	Katie Bedway – Yes
Brian Baldwin – Yes	Angie Hoptak – Solga - No

Susan Murphy – No  
Rod Schaeffer – Yes  
Motion carried.

Michele Rudloff – Yes

A motion to adopt Ordinance #433 establishing the 2019 Real Estate Tax at 10.5 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation for property tax and the 2019 Occupation Tax at 13 mills was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Brian Baldwin. On a roll call vote taken by Secretary Edwards the vote was as follows:

Paul Bedway – No	Katie Bedway – Yes
Brian Baldwin – Yes	Angie Hoptak – Solga – No
Susan Murphy – No	Michele Rudloff – Yes
Rod Schaeffer – Yes	

Motion Carried.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2018-18 maintaining the Act 511 taxes for 2019 as follows: Per-Capita Tax \$10.00; Real Estate Transfer Tax ½ of 1 percent; Earned Income Tax ½ of 1 percent Amusement Tax at \$25.00 per devise and Local Services Tax \$47.00 was made by Paul Bedway, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

A motion to authorize the Borough Manager to pay year end (FY 2018) bills after review by the Finance Chairman was made by Paul Bedway, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

### **Annual Updates:**

#### **Insurance**

A motion to continue with the current Municipal Workers Compensation Insurance Plan at the proposed 9% rate increase for 2019 was made by Paul Bedway, second by Rod Schaeffer. Unanimous.

A motion to continue with the current Capital Blue Cross Health Insurance Policy at the proposed 6% rate increase for 2019 was made by Brian Baldwin, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

#### **Water, Sewer & Sanitation**

A motion to extend the current County Waste contract for a period of 1 year with the current level of service at the current rates was made by Rod Schaeffer, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

## **Personnel**

A motion to adopt Resolution 2018-19 establishing the Non-uniform Full-time and Part-time employee wage rates at a 3% increase for 2019 was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Paul Bedway. Unanimous.

A motion to approve the 2019 Employee Handbook as reviewed and updated by Power Kunkle Group was made by Michele Rudloff, second by Brian Baldwin. Unanimous.

## **Police Department Report**

The November 2019 Police Report is attached to minutes

## **Fire Department Report**

Fire Chief Jesse Zimmerman presented the October and November report:

October: 18 Total calls

YTD: 184 calls

35.09 Man hours on Fire Dept responses

November: 17 Total calls

YTD: 202 calls

123.5 Man hours on Fire Dept responses

2017 YTD Calls – 208

Smoke detector program was a huge success, over 200 smoke detectors installed in over 50 homes. People are still calling to schedule installations.

## **Public Comment – None**

## **Planning & Zoning Commission**

December meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2018 @ 7:30 pm in Council Chambers

## **Municipal Authority**

Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 11, 2019 @ 1:00 pm in Council Chambers

## **COG**

Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 17, 2019 @ 7:00 pm in Council Chambers

**Correspondence** – None

**Bills**

A motion to approve and ratify the accounts payable for General, Water, Sewer, Sanitation, COG, 2015 Bond, Capital Improvement, and Grant accounts was made by Rod Schaeffer, second by Katie Bedway. Unanimous.

Councilor Murphy asked about the status of the grease traps - Bob will check with ARRO on the status.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry M. Edwards  
Borough Secretary