

The March 14, 2024 meeting of the Shillington Borough Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President John W. Hoffert. Following the invocation by Mayor Hivner and the oath of allegiance, roll call was taken. Council members in attendance were: Elizabeth M. Bentz; Mark C. Grounard; John W. Hoffert; Michael A. Hoffert; Ronald R. Klee, Jr. and Edward B. Michalik, Jr. Councilman Michael D. Mountz participated by telephone. Present in addition to the Council members were: Mayor Andrew R. Hivner, Borough Manager Scott D. Brossman, Fire Chief Robert Knouse, Solicitor Thomas Klonis and Secretary Jan M. Boyd. Kenneth Fulmer of Great Valley Consultants was also in attendance along with the following residents:

David Bentz - 333 Wheatland Avenue  
Daniel Jensen - 116 South Brobst Street  
Nicholas Johnson - 429 South Wyomissing Avenue  
Veronica Martin - 204 Wellington Road  
Michael Schirmer - 202 State Street  
Harold Stupp - 115 South Miller Street  
Andrew Yetter - 302 Hillside Drive

As there were no objections, the minutes of the February 8, 2024, council meeting were approved as forwarded to each member on a motion by Mr. Klee, seconded by Dr. Michalik, and duly carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mr. Schirmer thanked Council for the actions that they took on the concerns that he expressed to them previously. The following are concerns that he now brought to Council's attention:

- °The line markings on the streets and the yellow curbs have faded in many locations.
- °He would like to see a tree planted in the same location immediately after one was take down,

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especially if a tree plate is at the location, similar to how Wyomissing handles it.

*-President Hoffert advised that the Borough of Wyomissing has a department that is designated for trees.*

°He questioned why the "Shillington Slate" is no longer distributed to residents. He felt the publication was filled with good information.

*-Mr. Brossman noted that the same information that was in the newsletter can be found on the Borough's website.*

°Mr. Schirmer also questioned the status of the sidewalk repair program.

*-Mr. Brossman advised during the latest attempt to get residents to bring the condition of their sidewalks into compliance, too many remained undone for the Borough to pay for the work.*

°He was also concerned about the detention ponds that were installed by the School District during the building of their new athletic complex, which seem to be draining slowly.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

**MS4 ACTIVITY UPDATE:**

Mr. Johnson provided the annual update of the MS4 activities of the Wyomissing Creek Watershed Coalition, of which the Borough is a member. In response to Mr. Schirmer's concern about the detention ponds at the School District, Mr. Johnson advised that these are required by the stormwater requirements to mitigate downstream flooding. These ponds are designed to drain within three (3) days. The long-term goal of the Coalition is to remove excess sediment from the Wyomissing Creek at an original budget of two (2) million dollars, which must be done by June 2026. Federal funding has been received for the first project to be done, which is in Mohnton.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Mayor** - Mayor Hivner gave the Police Department's report for the month of February. During this month, the Department handled 247 incidents, with 34 arrests being made. Also during this month, 2,602 patrol miles were traveled.

All officers have completed their annual, mandatory update training.

**Police and Personnel** - Dr. Edward B. Michalik, Jr., chairman, made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Klee, and unanimously carried to approve the payment of the overtime paid to the members of the Police Department during the month of February in the amount of \$5,605.72.

**Administration-Law-Finance** - On a motion by Mr. Ronald R. Klee, Jr., chairman, which was seconded by Dr. Michalik, and duly approved, Council confirmed the payment of the bills associated with the February 29, 2024, Financial Statements, as follows:

General Fund - \$320,885.32  
Water Fund - \$277,429.44  
Sewer Fund - \$72,042.52  
Recreation Fund - \$12,397.43  
Fire Fund - \$14,718.27  
Streets Improvement Fund - \$0.00

**Fire** - Mr. Michael A. Hoffert, chairman, gave the Fire Chief's report for the month of February. During this time, the Department responded to a total of forty-three (43) dispatches consisting of thirteen (13) calls in the Borough and thirty (30) assists to neighboring departments. Additionally, eight (8) training sessions were conducted during the month.

The daytime staffers covered all of the 168 hours of available staffing hours for the month.

Following a discussion regarding the condition of the Engine House floor, Mr. Michael Hoffert made a

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motion, which was seconded by Dr. Michalik, and unanimously carried, Council gave permission to have Great Valley Consultants prepare and advertise for bids to resurface the floor of the Engine House.

**Tree-Pole and Light** - Mr. Mark C. Grounard, chairman, reported that he and Mr. Brossman met with Garrett Hyneman, who is the Eagle Scout that would like to plant approximately twenty (20) trees on the High School side of Mifflin Boulevard. They tried to explain that due to the location of the sewer line in this area, the location was not suitable for planting trees.

Mr. Grounard also met with the members of the Shillington Tree Advisory Committee (STAC) to discuss changes that they would like to see made to the tree regulations.

**Streets-Sanitation-Water** - Mr. John W. Hoffert, chairman, reviewed with Council the March Engineer's Report. He noted the following:

°Bonds and related documents from C. M. High, the contractor for the Green-Light-Go Traffic Signal Project, were submitted to the Borough Solicitor for his review. C. M. High has ordered equipment related to the project.

President Hoffert then gave the report of the Public Works Department for work done during the month of February.

**Recreation** - Dr. Elizabeth M. Bentz, chairman, gave the minutes of the Recreation Board meeting held on March 11, 2024. The following events were established:

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, March 23  
Fishing Rodeo - Saturday, April 13  
Concert in the Park - June 14 and August 2

The Governor Mifflin Middle School (GMMS) is requesting to hold their "Best and Belonging Day" at the pool again this year. Their proposal is to have the

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students perform community service throughout the District, including the pool and park area, one morning in May. As an incentive, the students would then be allowed to go to the pool in the afternoon. The last time the GMMS was at the pool for "Best Day," things were stolen, damaged and thirteen (13) students had to be rescued from the diving well. The Recreation Board still has questions for the GMMS so, no recommendation was made for their proposal to use the pool.

Dr. Bentz then made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Klee, and duly carried, approving the hiring of the following initial list of summer personnel at their respective salaries conditional upon receipt of the required clearances:

**Pool-Concessions**

Tyler Binasiewicz	\$9.25/hour
Kaylee Gall	9.25/hour
Amanda Maus	9.25/hour
Melanie Medina	9.25/hour
Madelyn Spayd	9.25/hour
Emily Yerger	9.25/hour

**Zoning and Codes** - Mr. Michael A. Hoffert, vice chairman, gave the report from the Borough's Building Code Official, Terrence Naugle, for the month of February. During this time, Mr. Naugle issued seven (7) new permits and thirteen (13) certificates of use/occupancy thereby leaving fifty-eight (58) permits open.

**Solicitor** - Solicitor Klonis presented **Resolution No. 2-2024**, which changes the method for determining the actuarial value of assets of the Police Pension Plan. This resolution was adopted as presented, on a motion by Dr. Michalik, seconded by Mr. Klee, and unanimously approved.

The Solicitor also presented **Ordinance No. 1236**, which establishes a Volunteer Firefighter Tax Credit Program, as proposed at the Public Hearing prior to the meeting, on a motion by Mr. Klee, seconded by Dr. Michalik, and duly carried.



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On March 7, 2024, the Borough received \$850.00 from the Liquor Control Board representing the Liquor and Malt Beverage Licenses issued between August 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024.

Mr. Klee made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Michalik, and duly approved, giving permission to accept the proposal from the Cohen Law Group to negotiate the Borough's cable franchise renewal with Comcast.

Council gave permission to purchase confined space equipment from Exeter Supply Company, Inc. at a cost of \$6,986.25, on a motion by Dr. Michalik, seconded by Mr. Michael Hoffert, and unanimously carried.

Dr. Michalik made a motion giving permission to the American Legion to hold the annual Memorial Day Parade on May 27, 2024 and to authorize staff to make the budgeted donation to the Legion of \$1,000. This motion was seconded by Mr. Klee and duly carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Klee, and duly carried at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan M. Boyd  
Borough Secretary