

Special Council Meeting
February 7, 2017
5:30 PM

The Special meeting of Shamokin City Council was held this evening with Mayor William Milbrand presiding.

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: All

PRAYER: Silent

ROLL CALL: Moyer, Verano, McGaw, Brown, Milbrand
Absent: None

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Joseph Leschinskie – 518 E Pine Street, Shamokin - We have had four Police retiree since 2007 and he has never heard of a meeting being called for option 1 and option 2. First he would like to thank Bill for his service, He wishes it was 25 years, but he doesn't think as a whole everyone had worked together to make that happen, said you guys waived that right back in August of last year. He sees we have option 1 and option 2, and option 1 is what Councilman Brown retired under, and a lot of the others retired under. He doesn't know why this is even an option or a public meeting. Officer Miner gave his notice almost a month ago, this should have been handled and done, he has never seen this before and thinks that it is different that an officer has to fight for a pension, he was supposed to retire yesterday and Joseph seen him this morning working. He suggests we get this straightened out quick. And thanks Bill and to the Shamokin Police Department.

Ron Mcawee – 812 N 6th Street, Shamokin - First of all would like to wish the Mayor well, he knows he had some health issues and he is glad to see him sitting here today. He sees option 1 and option 2 on our agenda and first and foremost thanks to Bill for your dedicated years of service. Prior Police received Option 2 and Mr. Mcawee would like to know what is our running tab for attorney fees for officer Miner's retirement and why is it taking so long to get the retirement numbers for Miner? Mr. Mcawee asked if we can share the difference between #1 & #2 and would Mr. Miner be willing to share the difference between them. Mr. Miner Declines to share this right now. Mr. Mcawee is thinking the difference between both options is about five figures. Would anyone here be willing to take a five figure cut? Until we can hire new officers and get them trained he does not feel comfortable in the City of Shamokin.

David Sage – Coal Township –Offers his Best Wishes to Bill Miner. His concerns today are with the City of Shamokin Streets, specify Shamokin, Market and Bear Valley Avenue. He would like to thank everyone here for seeing that these concerns are corrected. On Bear Valley Avenue there is a no parking between two signs zone. Aqua took down this sign and it has been down for a while now and no one put it back up. Himself and some others fought for four years to get these signs up. Mr. Verano stated that we will address it and the City Admin along with the Street Foreman went out and met with Aqua and they were going to correct these issues. Going forward and with the City's support we are going to look at amending the ordinance so that hopefully this will not happen in the future.

Brian Christina – 301-303 S. Diamond Street, Shamokin – First would like to thank Bill for his Service. Brian would like to know what committees and Subcommittees are available in our City for dealing with three issues in our area. First the illegal sale of narcotics, second what we are doing to attract business, infrastructure and industry and third how we are cleaning up our area, our City, our streets and our homes. Would also like any other info on any other committees that are available he would like to look into joining these committees and helping. The City Administrator told Brian that he will sit down with him and go over any and all committees that the City has.

Stephen Drunkinmiller – 715 E. Sunbury Street, Shamokin - The House next to his is falling down. Stephen stated that the Mayor gave instruction to the Fire Chief's to not do anything to the house unless it causes harm or is in the way. Mayor Milbrand stated that he did not give those instructions. They have tried to get the lady out that is in the adjoining house. Stephen asked if we have an ordinance officer. Steve was the ordinance office in zerbe.

Laura Alderson - Said there are is a CERT Program and Local Crime Watch. She thanked Officer Miner.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION BY: Brown to approve William J Miners retirement off of the Shamokin Police departments collective bargaining agreement which expired on December 31, 2016, which includes the calculation using the buyout of all accrued time (i.e. Vacation, Personal, Sick and Comp Time).

SECOND BY: McGaw

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Brown, McGaw
Nays: Moyer, Verano
Abstain: Milbrand

MOTION BY: Verano to approve William J Miners retirement based on the requirement and in accordance with the City's ACT47 plan which states that the buyout of all accrued time shall not be included in the final calculations of one's pension.

SECOND BY: Moyer

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Moyer, Verano
Nays: McGaw, Brown
Abstain: Milbrand

MOTION BY: Verano to approve William J. Miners request to withdraw his letter of intent to retire and allow him to continue working while the subject matter of his pension is resolved by Labor Council.

SECOND BY: Moyer

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Moyer, Verano, McGaw, Brown
Nays: None
Abstain: Milbrand

SOLICITORS REPORT:

- **Citizens Comments contingent upon new business being added to the agenda at this part of the meeting.**

Ron Macawee – We are voting to keep Mr. Miner, but the contract is at a stalemate. We have four officers that are going to retire in the coming years, who is going to train them. Do we know how much money it is going to cost when these four officers retire? Everyone that protects him and his family are going to get screwed. Think about it guys that is why you were elected, that is why I was elected.

Brian Christiana - He is leaving for college three months, and does not feel like the youth will be as safe without Mr. Miner. These guys work very hard. A guy like Bill he did a heck of a job, I just want to say thanks to Officer Miner.

Joseph Leschinskie – He does not know what to say, Wants Council to break and go into executive and vote again. We only got one person to test and we cutting officers since 2007. No one wants to come here to work. I want everyone to remember who stood up for this guy and who didn't, that's cowardly.

ADJORN:

Minutes taken by Doreen Annis, Administrative Accountant
Meeting ended at 6:40 PM