

Regular Council Meeting
May 11 2020
7:00 PM

The Regular monthly meeting of Shamokin City Council was held this evening with Mayor John J. Brown presiding.

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: All

PRAYER: Silent

ROLL CALL: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Absent:

CORRESPONDENCE:

CITIZEN COMMENTS: NONE

MINUTES:

A Motion by Seidel to approve previous Council Meeting Minutes of:

April 13, 2020 (Regular Council Meeting)

Second by: Verano

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Verano, Seidel, Brown
Nays: None
Absent:None

BILL LIST:

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve the bill list for April 2020

Second by: Verano

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Verano, Seidel, Brown
Nays: None
Absent:

DIRECTORS REPORT:

ACCOUNTS & FINANCE:

General Fund \$ 587,109.31
Motor License \$323,549.99
Library \$ 9,287.00
Debt Service \$ 253,676.32
Recreation \$ 382,518.34
Capital Projects \$ 5,948.99
Street Lights \$7,655.42
Total All Accounts \$ 1,569,745.37

Fund balances as of May 1, 2020 submitted by Brenda Scandle, City Treasurer.

PARKS & PUBLIC BUILDINGS:

First thing is the free summer lunch program will continue again this year. Right now the date to start is up in the air, but we will be having the programs, and having lunch, as details and start dates become available, we will announce them via the city Facebook page, and any other media, we can use. There's still plans to open the swimming pool however it's contingent upon state regulation and again we're unsure of the date but once those details become available from the governor, we will move forward with that. Music in the park for May has been cancelled the mandates have been cancelled, we are working on alternate venues and ways to broadcast for the June dates, those details will become available as soon as possible. Jeannie Shaffer and the Arts Council have been designing the planners for Market Street Lincoln street, and part of independence Street. They have met this week with the street department, and you will see changes being made throughout the city. Thanks to Mrs. Brown for her contributions and beautiful flowers if you haven't had a chance please drive by city hall and see them purple and white, and the beds were planted, and then Jeannie Schaefer and Judy Allen contributed the red and white hanging baskets in honor of Lourdes. So again, please make sure to put your seniors first and last name and their school on the picture before you drop it off. I'd also like to thank the street department again for all the work that they've done on these projects. And again, all the work that's been done here at City Hall through these terrible unprecedented days, people coming together and doing what they can to make the city run in circumstances, none of us have ever dealt with. So thank you.

STREET & PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS: Nothing right now to add

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Police Department reported 753 calls for the Month of April 2020.

Fire Report for the month of April , 2020 – 97 calls.

Code Revenue for the Month of April \$8,152.67

SEDA-COG

Betsy Kramer - So we have a few different plans that we're working on, there are two different plans that we're working on one is with EPA, and that is for more or less what the community can do to help rebuild the city of Shamokin, that's actually going to be done within the next month. That is what was involved with that big public workshop that we did, And then we also have the SGA. That is with economic revitalization. They are working with EPA, EPA, working with them. So although there is two different plans. Because the one is more or less for the community to do the other one are the actual grants that we will go after. For some of the larger projects that the draft is getting completed that should be done by the end of May, and then we will have the final product sometime the end of June, that's all I have for right now, but we have lots and lots and lots of meetings that we've been attending so good things are still happening.

BIDS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION BY: Seidel To approve the CDBG Updated Citizen Participation Plan..

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve the bid for Sunbury Street Demolition to the lowest qualified bidder Affordable Construction at \$62,440.00

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve the CDBG Professional Service Agreement with SEDA-COG for fiscal Year 2019.

Second by: Verano

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Moyer to approve the CDBG Professional Service Agreement with SEDA-COG for fiscal year 2016, 2017, & 2018.

Second by: Verano

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Verano to approve the CDBG Professional & Administrative Service Agreement for PA Prevailing Wage Rate Compliance with SEDA-COG.

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Seidel to allow The Dining Room Sweet Tooth Café to place flower planters in front of their business under the condition of approval that they will comply with and remove any impediment deemed to be an impediment by the city, if need.

Second by: Verano

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Seidel To accept the RFP from Commonwealth Code and to refer the RFP to a committee for further review.

Second by: Verano

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Verano, Seidel, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve to advertise for a Zoning Officer in the City of Shamokin.

Second by: Verano

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

Failed due to lack of a Motion: Authorization for Joseph Ceasari to hold a parade through the City involving emergency vehicle and antique cars traveling on Sunbury Street, North on to Independence street back to Rt.61 on 5/24 at approx. 1pm

Withdrawal of request: Authorization to hold the Memorial Day service on Lincoln Street.

MOTION BY: Seidel to accept the letter of retirement from Richard Yanishak, Parking Enforcement Officer, Effective May 29, 2020.

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Verano, Seidel, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Moyer to grant permission for SABER to hang banners for seniors, subject to approval of the Zoning Officer.

Second by: Verano

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

BOARD & COMMITTEES:

MOTION BY: Seidel To Reappoint Pamala Rhoades to the Libray Board for a 3-year term

Second by: Moyer

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

Mayor to Reappoint Michael Catino to the RDA Board for a 5 year term.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Ayes: Moyer, Roughton, Seidel, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

SOLICITORS REPORT:

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve Resolution 20-07 (Nationwide Pension)

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Seidel, Moyer, Roughton, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve Resolution 20-08 (Taxes)

Second by: Moyer

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Seidel, Moyer, Roughton, Verano, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve the first reading of Ordinance 20-03(200-300 E. Commerce Street-One Way)

Second by: Moyer

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Seidel, Moyer, Roughton, Brown
Nays: None
Absent: Verano

An executive session was held on Wednesday 5/6 after the workshop for approx. 20 minutes for personnel.

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

Mary Glazik - has a complaint concerning to 214 South Shamokin Street. She had she says it has been deserted since 2011. And the roof is now falling in. It's in very bad shape. Mrs. Glazik If you would contact the code office tomorrow or city hall and asked to speak to Mr. Slaby. He will set up an appointment with the code officer to come down and look at the property you've mentioned in your comments, which is 214 South Shamokin Street, please call City Hall in the morning.

Judy Allen - She asked Don't you think you should consider the zoning officer position be open to a Shamokin taxpayer. Attorney Rovito: For the record, we have never closed anyone or prevented anyone from applying. So if it is a Shamokin and a taxpayer, he happens to be the successful person, that's perfectly fine. The problem is, we have a serious matter. We have a whole bunch of projects that are going on. We need to make sure that we have code enforcement and zoning enforcement. You only have code enforcement to this point, which is why we need to get somebody in their first and happens to be city Shamokin taxpayer fine. But if not, this is business. We have to get somebody appointed to get this stuff reviewed. Mrs. Seidel: We strongly recommend that any citizen and taxpayer from Shamokin who is interested in a position please come to City Hall and voice their interest. However, the position cannot be closed and only allowed to be filled by Shamokin Taxpayers it has to be open to everybody but we do as board encourage citizens of Shamokin to apply and show interest in this job at City Hall.

James Gaydon - He would like to know if there's any way to reroute the traffic entering Dunkin Donuts it has now become a nuisance. There were also two or three follow up comments just agreeing that since the dining room has closed traffic has increased exponentially and is causing hazards. Attorney Rovito – With it being in state highway, yes, we don't have authority unfortunately. We recommend that because it is state highway 61 and state highway 125. For you to file this complaint with the state. The complaint will be more effective if you have video or photographic evidence to send along with it. If you need any help in getting to that facility and where to file that complaint, please feel free to call City Hall speak to Mr. Slaby, and he will facilitate that conversation.

Forrest Curran- . He's saying that he would like to meet with the mayor, Mr. Rovito and the code officer to discuss any concerns about his application for out Door seating. If you would like Mr. Curran, please call City Hall tomorrow and speak with Bob Slaby about getting a meeting together with those parties for you getting their schedules together.

Joe Leschinskie - . When someone fails a state Food Inspection and is non compliant? Does anyone from the municipality become notified? If not, where does that report go? Mayor Brown - The best I can tell you is we used to do the health inspections our self back to about three years ago, maybe four years ago now and turned everything over to the state. Since that time, I don't think I've seen anything for any inspections to the city. The only thing you can do is to call the Department of Agriculture and find out what their policy is. When someone is found to be non compliant. The only way I've ever known of anything is it's a monthly in one of the local papers that has everybody listed. Other than that I've never seen a report or anything come through here. Mrs. Seidel - Our recommendation, Mr. Leschinskie No one in City Hall is notified of those inspections or their results when they happen or what happened at the inspection. The recommendation from both the solicitor and the city administrator is that you contact the Department of Agriculture who does conduct the inspections now and ask them what their procedure is. And that way you would get the most accurate answer.

Gerry Snyder- who asked that we please reconsider on having a parade for the seniors. Mrs. Seidel - I believe we addressed this earlier that due to safety concerns and crowds gathering while we're still in the yellow phase, parades are not being considered but once the conditions change, we would be more than happy to reconsider when it's safe for all citizens. To participate.

Michelle Irizarry. _ How long is the wait for the handicap parking sign to be put in place? She just like to know after this is lifted, she needs to get one for her mom. What's the wait time from when they apply to when the sign goes in? Michelle, can you please call City Hall in the morning and ask to speak to Mr. Slaby concerning your handicap parking signs and he can go over the entire process with you and discuss in more detail how long that will take.

Patty Grogan- why do I have to wait to file for the share for a lockout if I have been to court before the shutdown and won my eviction? Council - Unfortunately Patty this is a decision from the governor's office concerning evictions and lockouts. At this time, we are instructed to follow all of his regulations and restrictions. Once those changes, then things will change on a local level. There is nothing we can do prior to that.

Mr. Leschinskie - Concerning the Ale House, it was marked non-compliant by the state on April 15 of 2020. The news item refused to publish.. Thank you he will follow up with you Mr. Slaby in the morning.

Gilbert Petraskie - . He would like to know why the city stopped cutting the grass and weeds on high street at the top of where they did it for years. He said it stopped two or three years ago. He called earlier about this. It is at the top of Patsy steps and alongside the cemetery. Mr. Verano is that something that Gil can call you about tomorrow, Yes.

ADJOURN:

Minutes taken by Doreen Annis, Administrative Accountant
Meeting ended at 8:05 PM