

Regular Council Meeting
August 10, 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: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter was read from Joseph Leschinkie in regards to Landlord Tenant Appeals Board Open Spots.

Letter from Judy Allen in regards to Landlord Tenant Appeals Board Opening.

MINUTES:

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

July 13, 2020 (Regular Council Meeting)

Second by: Verano

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

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

July 30, 2020 (Special Council Meeting)

Second by:Verano

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

BILL LIST:

MOTION BY: Verano to approve the bill list for June 2020

Second by: Roughton

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

Nays: None

Absent:

DIRECTORS REPORT:**ACCOUNTS & FINANCE:**

General Fund \$ 791,447.44

Motor License \$268,850.93

Library \$ 3,384.69

Debt Service \$ 263,756.16

Recreation \$ 425,338.51

Capital Projects \$ 5,949.74

Street Lights \$6,000.65

Total All Accounts \$ 1,764,758.12

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

PARKS & PUBLIC BUILDINGS:

Pam Sassani will be placing purple ribbons on the trees on Market Street for overdose awareness starting the 29th of August. They will be tied around the trees no damage will be done. She's doing this in honor of her brother Michael who died in an overdose, August 31 is overdose Awareness Day. If anybody would like to join us, we'll make the information public and we plan on going out and helping her tie those ribbons on the trees. We've had an offer of donation for a refrigerator and a chest freezer for Claude Kehler Park,. Thanks Darrell Jackson for facilitating that donation. And we also have the final letter for the trees on independent street that are being removed. The mayor met with Charlie and with Kevin this past week and the procedures in place, the letters will be going out this week. We just ask that you read the letter carefully as a business owner and respond as we require in the letter to say yes, it is okay to take care of the tree and that you take responsibility to fill in the hole that's left in the sidewalk. It's very important that you answer this email within 10 days so that this work can get started and we don't hold up the street department and thank you very much to Charlie and Kevin and the Mayor for finding a way to do this without much added cost to the city.

STREET & PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS:

Nothing at this time

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Police Department reported 1,041 calls for the Month of July 2020.

Fire Report for the month of July 2020 – 110 calls.

Code Revenue for the Month of July \$5,239.25

The Landlord Tenant Ordinance needs to be fixed.

Motion By: Roughton to change the Landlord Tenant appeals board to three landlords and two members at large, residents of Shamokin.

Second by: Verano

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

SEDA-COG - Covid Cares Money is available through the county, please apply. We have been working on the revitalization plan it is done, we are working on the funding the plan will be available to the public soon. The Homes program is not open yet, but DCED is aware that we want to apply for this, as soon as it is open we will apply.

CDBG - Police Funds are not allowed in the CV-CDBG application. We will to move this line item. I recommend that we move that money into the Recreation line item as that was not fully funded. Linda will talk to Mr. Slaby and Mr. Roughton on how to move that funding.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Susan Zaner – How will the ATV's be coming and exiting the City. Mayor stated though the Terrace Ave portal. Ms. Zaner : A year ago, I came here and complained about the ATVs. In a lot of the citizens I had talked to also complained. And I said that this is ridiculous to have ATVs with their noise and pollution coming in to Shamokin seven days a week, majority of the council members No, no, no, no, we never said seven days a week. One council member said I would never sign anything to allow ATVs to come in seven days a week. Now they're coming in seven days a week. 12 months out of the year. Day and night. Mayor stated: I don't think that's correct. Ms. Zaner: Well, what about when I came in and you said, No, no, no, it won't be seven days and then the newspaper it says seven days. Mayor: I think the Ordinance reflects Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Ms. Zaner: That's gonna be a lot of noise. They Already destroying Terrance Avenue below the houses there. They're riding over the banks. The ashes are deteriorating. Everybody here is just about everybody here said no, no, no, never seven days a week. The other thing I'm concerned about are the burnt out houses. I have to Burnt Out houses on gold street

they stink When it rains, there is druggies coming in from the bank the lower part of the bank crawling up gold Street and sleeping in the burnt out houses that are making drugs at the at the place on the top of the steps. Patsy hill steps that burnout as they go inside the basement and make up the drugs. Mr. Roughton: How many times have you reported that to the police? Ms. Zaner: None. I had to called them 25 times by the direction of the mayor about the ATVs that go out there and the dispatchers told me to stop calling them. Mayor: just to answer your question. With the burnout houses, and then the Chief just gave me a packet of information. With the burnt out houses throughout the city that a Corp. Primerano has put together for us. I have not had a chance to look at it. They were out yesterday, putting it together for an action plan of how the police department can help solve some of the problems with those very houses sitting around.?

Kathy Vetovich – President of SABER I just want to say that I support the OHV ordinance. I do believe, Mayor that you mentioned it is Friday, Saturday, Sunday, it's not seven days a week. And from a business perspective, we see the value of the value may not be even in the next month, the value may be in five years from now. When people say about the OHVs coming in, I have an outdoor dining area now the noise that we get from trucks and from motorcycles and all of those other things greatly outweigh what I hear from ATVs. And the motorcycles and stuff. So I support that because I see the vision for our city for the tourism opportunities. Yes, they're coming down to hit the restaurants now. But what happens when they come down and we do have stores downtown and that's really what we're driving for. So thank you all for that. And I just also want to say that there's a new business in town. The Basme coffee shop is opening next Saturday. Again, there is movement in town. There's a cigar lounge coming in. There's other investors, looking at wellness centers and just so many good things happening. And I just ask your support in that do not get caught up in some of the negativity or in some of the, the concerns, you have to consider that. But we all have to look forward. Again, it's not next week. Next year its five years from now and I see Shamokin as a brighting city and that is what we are shooting for.

Joe Shepard – Born and raised, left here and came back in 87, had a business here for 17 years, I am here to speak on behalf of my sister Maryann who lives at 834 E. Chestnut Street. I have some pictures here that I would like to share with you, these are code related. It burned down 3 years and 8 months ago. It is a mess and stinks there is 8-foot high weeds. This property is supposed owned by ETT Chestnut LLC. T two words that can summarize from what I heard here tonight are reliable, and responsive. That's when I'm asking you people to be reliable, and responsive for years and I also said there, those pictures were just recently taken inside as the other lady said, There druggies coming in there all the cooper tubing is ripped out, the wiring is ripped out, the furnace is ripped out. This building is unsecure sometimes and sometimes it is not. I do not envy the job you have, but live up to the obligation that you set yourself up to. Mayor: The x program is not dead, we have a list of 70 properties, we only have funding to tear down 3 properties a year. The Mayor will have Chief Tobias schedule a time to go and talk to

you tomorrow. Joe: I would like to know if there was ever a permit issued for this property. Right now the doors are open and the front door is open.

BIDS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION BY: Moyer to allow the Metal Mania community service event for recycling large/small appliances on September 26 from 10-4.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to accept the resignation of Bruce Rogers effective July 27, 2020.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to accept the resignation of Bruce Rogers effective July 27, 2020.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to forgive all delinquent and current municipal taxes on the property located at 725 East Dewart Street.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to forgive all delinquent and current municipal taxes on the property located at 727 East Dewart Street.

Second by: Moyer

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

Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Roughton to award the bid for 105 West Sunbury Street to the lowest qualified bidder, pending SEDA-COG Review.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to award the bid for 13 s 8th Street to the lowest qualified bidder, pending SEDA-COG Review.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Verano to approve the 2020 CDBG project selection as proposed.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve to advertise for Police Applicants for testing with times & requirements to be set forth by the civil service board, pending approval to test without ACT120.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to donate Police Car #7 to the Shamokin Fire Bureau.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Seidel to grant authorization for the City of Shamokin OHV ride on preapproved designated streets on August 15, 2020.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Moyer to amend Resolution 20-10 from the currently required 90 day notice to a 30 day notice.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to allow the city administrator to send a letter asking the Shamokin Area School District to forgive any delinquent and current taxes on the property located at 725 East Dewart Street.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to allow the city administrator to send a letter asking the Shamokin Area School District to forgive any delinquent and current taxes on the property located at 727 East Dewart Street.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to allow the city administrator to send a letter asking Northumberland County to forgive any delinquent and current taxes on the property located at 725 East Dewart Street.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow the city administrator to send a letter asking Northumberland County to forgive any delinquent and current taxes on the property located at 727 East Dewart Street.

Second by: Roughton

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

MOTION BY: Seidel to allow Music in the Park to host a concert on 9/12/20 at Claude Kehler Park.

Second by: Roughton

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

MOTION BY: Seidel to allow Music in the Park to host a concert on 10/17/20 at Claude Kehler Park.

Second by: Roughton

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to grant permission to the City to begin auctioning off any eligible city-owned properties.

Second by: Verano

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

BOARD & COMMITTEES:

MOTION BY: Seidel to appoint Jamie Yerkes to the Landlord Tenant Appeal Board.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to appoint July Milbrand Allen to the Landlord Tenant Appeal Board.

Second by: Verano

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

Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Moyer to appoint Frieda Williams to the Landlord Tenant Appeal Board.

Second by: Verano

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

SOLICITORS REPORT:

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve the First reading of Ordinance 20-05(OHV)

Second by: Roughton

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve the First reading of Ordinance 20-06(Proposed Code Codification & Adoption Ordinance)

Second by: Seidel

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

Executive Session was held after our workshop for personel reasons for approx. 25 minutes

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

Vincent Clasui - I understand that you are going to be selling some properties in the city of Shamokin. Some property's might be sold with a stipulation that one year start of construction, what kind of plenty will impose if they do not build in one year. Attorney Rovito: They will forfeit the property.

Joe Shepard – Support the AOAA.

Joe Leschinskie – The last couple of meetings I got to watch online and there was questions about how information is getting leaked out of city hall. I filled a RTK and I would like to find out when I will get the letters, I have not received them yet. Mr. Slaby stated that he does not have a problem with anyone in the city except me. I find that detorgiatory. I am a supporter of the OHV ordinance, as long as everyone follows the rules. The ride on the 15th will it be allowed for Shamokin riders? Mayor: Unfourtenly this ride will be under the old rules. Joe: why are we going to cater to the AOAA coming in.. Mayor: This will be the last ride that is AOAA only. If this Ordinance passes on the Special Meeting set for August 24th. On the RTK, Mr. Slaby has your RTK here now if you would like to take it.

Vincent Clasui – The Rail road crossing are getting bad, I would recommend that the city send a letter to the railroad to tell them that they have to maintain the railroad. Mr. Verano: We have already taken care of this, the railroad has already done two this year and will be doing more in the future.

ADJOURN:

Minutes taken by Doreen Annis, Administrative Accountant
Meeting ended at 8:14 PM