

Regular Council Meeting
December 14, 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: Roughton, Moyer Seidel, Verano, Brown
Absent: None

BIDS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

Paperwork from Mike Robinson was put in each councilpersons bin.

MINUTES:

A Motion by Verano to approve the minutes of:

November 9, 2020 (Regular Council Meeting)

Second by: Seidel

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

BILL LIST:

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve the bill list for November 2020

Second by: Moyer

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

DIRECTORS REPORT:

ACCOUNTS & FINANCE:

General Fund \$ 280,579.69
Motor License \$160,147.18
Library \$ 7,770.27
Debt Service \$229,025.51
Recreation \$ 437,382.03
Capital Projects \$ 5,950.74
Street Lights \$9,391.48
Total All Accounts \$ 1,130,246.90

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

PARKS & PUBLIC BUILDINGS:

I would like to remind everybody that Santa's mailbox is still accepting letters until December 18. It is located across from the M&T Bank and independence Street. Please be sure to include your child's name and return address so that Santa can send a letter back. So far, Santa has responded to 74 children in the area. I would like to thank Northumberland County Council for the Arts and Humanities for this wonderful project, and for bringing joy and wonder into kid's life this Christmas. I would also like to thank all employees for your service all year long, but especially what they've done around here for Christmas. I hope that all of you and your families have a joyous holiday seasons, and to everyone here in the room. Everyone online and all the citizens in our amazing little city. My family and I wish you and yours Happy Holidays, have a safe and blessed Christmas, a wonderful new year and merry everything.

STREET & PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS:

I guess the big question everybody's mind is the storm that is coming. I have a few things to announce, first of all, I would ask every citizen if they do not have to travel the roadways. On Wednesday night into Thursday morning. Please stay off. I know there is emergencies and people have to work. Granted, you have to go. There we also are asking for the public's cooperation. Parking of vehicles as close to the curb as you can. Stay away from the intersections. Sunbury Street will be closed on one side, prohibiting parking on the north side of Sunbury Street. From noon Wednesday to noon Thursday at least because PENN Dot is going to send more traffic to Shamokin. I am really asking for the public's cooperation in this matter. I do not know how much snow we are expecting. We are preparing for the worst. I would ask also people be mindful to not throw snow back into the streets, please. I mean if we do get a deep snowstorm So please cooperate with us. Other than that may be ready to be ready to go. Although there are, no permits required in order for snow plow but You're not allowed to pile on corners or intersections.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Code Revenue for the Month of November \$3,887.50

Fire Report for the month of November 2020 – 81 calls.

Question for Mr. Rovito, people have the tendency when we get a snowstorm to put chairs and garbage cans in such into parking places to reserve their spot. What can we do if we see them.

Rovito:

The first option is to simply remove them, confiscate them. The second option is to notify them, and cite them. I'm assuming that we have an ordinance that prohibits the placement of anything other than vehicles in the street, and no one has the right to secure a parking place. Therefore, I think at that point you just have to decide what option to take. I mean you know you could of course if you confiscate them, then you are basically running around and collecting. Then what do we do we have to bear the cost of disposal. I would say that if someone is going to do that. Maybe you could get the newspaper to highlight the fact that you do not put chairs in the street, and people will be cited. No one has a right to a parking place that they clean. In addition, that's unfortunate but that's how the law is.

Roughton:

In addition, Just to say this again don't pile it on the corners, and don't pile up near fire hydrants.

Police Department reported 802 calls for the Month of November 2020.

SEDA-COG – See attached Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION BY: Verano to approve the 1.3% 2021 COLA for all uniform retirees hat retired proior to January 1, 2018, on the recommendation of Girard Pension Services.

Second by: Seidel

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: Brown

MOTION BY: Moyer to approve to advertise the 2021 Meeting Schedules.

Second by: Roughton

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION BY: Verano to approve the Professional Service Agreement for the 2020 CDBG-CV.

Second by: Seidel

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

Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve to give the organization, Citizens for a Better Community, permission to expand the Silk Mill Memorial and begin their proposed paver project on Lincoln Street.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Moyer to approve to give the organization, Citizens for a Better Community permission to use the space at the former site of the Witmer Memorial, at Sixth and Independence Streets to begin planning a project for a coal miner memorial.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve to waive this year's rent for the Shamokin –Coal Township Library's space in the American Legion Building.

Second by: Roughton

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

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve to waive this year's rent for the Oasis Recovery Club's Shamokin space in the American Legion Building.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Verano to approve to waive this year's rent for the Shamokin Youth Basketball League's space in the American Legion Building.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Verano to approve to waive this year's rent for the Lower Anthacite Model Railroad Club.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Verano to approve the AFSCME Contract, a one-year extension on the current contract. Said Contract will have a new expiration date of 12/31/2021.

Second by: Seidel

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

BOARD & COMMITTEES:

SOLICITORS REPORT:

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve the Statement of Revival(Shamokin Industrial Development Authority)

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Verano to approve the first reading of Ordinance 20-09 (LERTA)

Second by: Roughton

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve the first reading of Ordinance 20-10 (Parking Permits)

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Moyer to approve Resolution 20-21(Homes Program)

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Verano to approve Resolution 20-22(Shamokin Industrial Development Authority)

Second by:Roughton

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

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

John Leschinskie

Public question: On September 16th, The News-Item reported that Mayor Brown and Councilman Roughton called for an investigation into the leaking of information out of City Hall due to information given to a citizen by Jen Seidel before she was a council member, as well as finding a possible accomplice. What is the status of the investigation that was reportedly called for and why should citizens expect that they can trust members of this council and administration if nothing was ever done?

Seidel: This issue was addressed at a meeting

Jamie Yerkes

Any word on a new code officer?

Slaby: We did advertise for this position, we have a few applications; if you are speaking about your own I do have your application. I spoke to Mr. Roughton today and will be taking action in the next couple of days to set up interviews.

Sandy Persing

Bunker Hill section cars parked to the edge of the curbs in the yellow zones cant get plows around the turns—let alone any emergency vehicles on an ordinary day.

Tikret Cekic

****Question****

Love the local law enforcement!...Can we invest in a decibel meter and training so they can start enforcement on the really loud cars buzzing up and down Bear Valley Avenue?

Sue Rozinski

There is a white Mercedes w no plates was already orange tagged MONTHS AGO STILL THERE sitting in alley between chestnut and arch st on Anthracite st. Needs gone

James Duncheskie

To Chief Tobias, whats being done about the engine revving and loud muffled cars speeding through town every night from 7 til whenever? I was told there is a plan but noth8ng so far. They are down there right now.

Sandra Steele

There is a trailer on E. Dewart St.

[Jo Ann Stroh](#)

Am I the only person that hit the hole in the road on the corner of 8th street and sunbury street

Verano: We will speak to Pen Dot about this.

Mayor: General Complaints, Please call City Hall during regular business hours, if you do not get a response from City Hall, Please bring it up at our Meeting.

[Wendy Manning](#)

IDA Name Change

[Melanie Messner](#)

Mayor I know this is a long shot but is there anything being done about the line for DD

Slaby: I have spoken with Pen Dot in the last couple of weeks, there will be a meeting to discuss, the owner wants to help fix the situation.

[Andrea Lupotsky](#)

Fireworks every single night!!!!!! Nothing ever done about it!!!

ADJOURN:

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