

Regular Council Meeting
January 11, 2021
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:

MINUTES:

A Motion by Verano to approve the minutes of:

December 2, 2020 (LERTA Hearing)

Second by: Moyer

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

A Motion by Seidel to approve the minutes of:

December 8, 2020 (Special Council Meeting)

Second by: Verano

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

A Motion by Verano to approve the minutes of:

December 14, 2020 (Regular Council Meeting)

Second by: Roughton

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

A Motion by Seidel to approve the minutes of:

December 29, 2020 (Special Council Meeting)

Second by: Moyer

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

BILL LIST:

MOTION BY: Verano to approve the bill list for December 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 \$ 247,844.33
Motor License \$134,566.37
Library \$ 9,595.98
Debt Service \$208,776.34
Recreation \$ 453,990.85
Capital Projects \$ 5950.99
Street Lights \$5,031.45
Total All Accounts \$ 1,065,765.31

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

PARKS & PUBLIC BUILDINGS:

I would just like to thank everyone again for everything they did in November and December for decorating the city. A special thank you to those that took down their decorations and left the area cleaner than it was before. It was such a great project, we need to thank the Arts Council and SABER, the Mayor and Mrs. Brown and My family and just everyone that went out there and helped. I would like to thank the Mayor, Mr. Slaby and Kevin Richardson for getting the angels lite down on Shamokin Street, The mother Cabrini community was so thankful and happy to see the Angles lite after mass. I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year, 2021 has to be better.

STREET & PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS: Nothing

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Code Revenue for the Month of December \$2805.00

Code Reveunue for the Year of 2020. \$144,831.01

Fire Report for the month of December 2020 – 108 calls.

Fire Report for the Year of 2020 – 1,308 calls with 29 working fires.

Would like to thank Chief Bruce Rogers for his 16 years of service.

Police Department reported 656 calls for the Month of December 2020.

SEDA-COG – See attached Report.

If you had a chair picked up by the police department during the last snowstorm, please pick it up at the Police Station by the 25th of Jan or it will be disposed of.

The City will be once again starting the Home Rule Process, we are asking City residents to sign a petition if they would like. All Council members will be out in the community if you would like to sign. We need to have this submitted to the county by February 16. We are required by the state to put this back on the ballot, if we do not get the 75 signatures we will need to vote for an Ordinance to put it on the ballot.

Take the time to go over the information and understand it, it is in the utmost importance. If you have any questions, put it in writing, send it to city hall and we will be happy to take the time to go over it with you.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION BY: Roughton to advertise 725-727 E. Dewart Street for Demolition with Keystone Communities Money

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Verano to promote Eugene Schnee as a Full Time Street Department Employee

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Moyer to Hire a Contractor to fix the Creek wall at 6th and Pine Street

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Verano to Reimburse the City Administrative Accountant for their Cell Phone cost at \$50.00 per month.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to change the City Paid Lot Fees to \$200 per space per year.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve the professional service agreement between the City and the IDA doing business as the EDA for the pocket parks grants.

Second by: Verano

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

Absent: None

BOARD & COMMITTEES:

MOTION BY: Seidel to reappoint Daniel Richardson to the Shamokin Housing Authority.

Second by: Moyer

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

Nays: None

SOLICITORS REPORT:

MOTION BY: Verano to approve Resolution 20-01(Parking Meter Fee Schedule), effective Jan1, 2021.

Second by: Seidel

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 art of the meeting.**

John Leschinskie

Question for Councilman Roughton and Mayor Brown: Several months ago, you both called for an investigation into the leaking of information from City Hall. What is the status of this investigation? This question has been asked in previous meetings but was interrupted by Councilwoman Seidel instead of whom it was addressed to. Councilwoman Seidel said it was addressed in a previous meeting but this actually was not. Regardless of the person's municipality they live in, we as taxpayers deserve transparency of all Elected officials in our Commonwealth. Would either of you like to address the citizens who elected you?

Mayor – I spoke to an investing agency after this happened and neither one of us felt that there was a criminal investigation. We have spoken among our self, we have not been able to get together to speak to each other in an administrative manner.

Larry Deklinski

Jennifer Ponatoski Seidel

What are the total amounts of the grants being used and the addresses of properties to be demoed.

We do not have this information here tonight but will get back to you.

Joe Leschinskie

Make sure you take those petitions to working class people and tell them that you're asking them to sign a petition to allow elected politicians to dip into their paychecks whenever the city can't pay its bills. Be truthful with the voters. Don't lie to them. What revenue generating resources have you done to correct this issue? I find it problematic that city hall can be open to pass out an agenda, but can't be open to the public for meetings.

We will not be having any public meetings for these meetings. The Petitions will not be circulated though city hall, you will need to see us at our houses.

Donna Yost

Again I would like to ask about paving and or patching the 600 block of Diamond st.

Please stat where you live at the beginning of your comments.

Joe Rudy

Ask working people

Any person that is a registered voter in the city of Shamokin can sign.

Executive Session held for personal matters 7:52-8:25

ADJOURN: 8:25

Minutes taken by Doreen Annis, Administrative Accountant

Meeting ended at 8:25 PM