

Regular Council Meeting  
February 8, 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:**

MOTION BY: Verano to accept the Bid for the Police Car from Mike B from Bellefonte in the amount of \$607.00

Second by: Moyer

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Letter from SABER – will discuss at next workshop**

**Letter from Step Up Shamokin – will discuss at next workshop**

**Letter from Covered Bridge – Will discuss at next workshop**

**CITIZENS COMMETNS:**

**Joe Leschinskie** ·

What is the update on the signatures for the government study commission before you take the vote tonight to create the ordinance?

We have approx. 97 Signatures

**Larry Deklinski**

1.) How many signatures has the petition for Home Rule ordinance received, to date?  
Approx 97

We would like to have the papers down the courthouse by February 16, we need them to the city by Thursday before. We need someone to notarize these for us.

**MINUTES:**

A Motion by Verano to approve the minutes of:

January 11, 2021 (Regular Council Meeting)

Second by: Roughton

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

A Motion by Moyer to approve the minutes of:

January 26, 2021 (Special Council Meeting)

Second by: Roughton

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

**BILL LIST:**

MOTION BY: Verano to approve the bill list for January 2021

Second by: Moyer

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

**DIRECTORS REPORT:**

**ACCOUNTS & FINANCE:**

General Fund \$ 265,900.89  
Motor License \$119,275.84  
Library \$ 7,433.30  
Debt Service \$220,130.70

Recreation \$ 384,801.81  
Capital Projects \$ 5,951.24  
Street Lights \$5.64  
Total All Accounts \$ 1,003,499.42

Fund balances as of February 1, 2021 submitted by Brenda Scandle, City Treasurer.

### **PARKS & PUBLIC BUILDINGS:**

Thanks to Councilmen Verano for the snow removal, Also thanks to the Street Dept for an issue up on Packer Street with some signs, I now sooner called Kevin and the signs were gone. There are issues at the Legion Building with the roof, the flashing is looking like it is pulling away from the building. We have a meeting scheduled for tomorrow with two contractors, a roofer, bob, Kevin and myself. To go in and look at the damage. To see what is going on with the roof. The foot and a half of snow on the roof is making a mess up there, hopefully we can get access to the roof. We are working on this. We have had some movement on the legion and library grants, Thank you to Justin Skavery, he got up the extensions. All these meetings were set up for last March before COVID shut down the state. This is all getting back on track. We hired Catino and Associates he proved the bid packets and it is quite comprehensive. We are looking forward to moving along with this. My suggestion would be that we not go back to the same roofer we used before. I would just like to Thank everyone in the City, that has done so much, Thank you, Be Kind to each Other, it goes along way.

There will be BE KIND signs here at the city on Thursday.

### **STREET & PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS:**

Thanks to everyone for cooperating during the recent snow storms, the fire depts., everyone. We stuck to our plan and it is working. I would like to Thank Paul Petrovich and the Shamokin Coal Township Sewer Authority for the trucks to help with snow removal. More snow is in the forecast and we will deal with it as it comes. Be Kind we will get through it.

Every time there is a plowable snowfall there will be no parking on the North side of Sunbury Street, We will try to post on the Facebook page to remind you. We need Penn Dot to be able to plow to the curb, with the closure of the Natalie Mountain.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Code Revenue for the Month of January \$34,849.50

Fire Report for the month of January – 82 calls.

Police Department reported 778 calls for the Month of January 2021

**SEDA-COG – See attached Report.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Executive Session was held for 25 minutes for Personnel Reasons.**

MOTION BY: Seidel to Hire Frank Konopka as solicitor, effective immediately at a retainer of \$850 per month.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Seidel to approve the 2019 Audit as provided by Klacik & Associates, P.C.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve to do an Environmental Review on 725-727 E. Dewart Street and 229 W. Sunbury Street.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Moyer to accept the resignation from Solicitor, Vincent Rovito.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Denise Brown to use Claude Kehler Park II on March 27, 2021 from 9-5 for the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Sponsored by the Moose.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Seidel to allow Covered Bridge to close 8<sup>th</sup> street from Water to Independence street on March 13, 2021 from 12 pm – 11pm for a St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Verano to waive the 2021 Farmers Market(Curb Stone Market) Fees.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to extend the outdoor seating proclamation for an additional 90 days.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve the date of May 29,2021 for Northumberland County Council for the Arts to hold The Anthracite Heritage Festival on Market Street.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve the date of October 30,2021 for the Northumberland County Council for the Arts to hold The Food Truck Frenzy on Independence Street.

Second by: Seidel

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

## **SOLICITORS REPORT:**

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve the second reading of Ordinance 21-01 (Government Study Commission)

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.**

Stephanie Walter – Is there a Joint evert with Career Link and the City?

*The Contractor that has to plow the lot is having issue with residents parking in there during the snow storms.*

John Bush – Would shutting down by the Independence Street Fire Dept effect the fire company?

*Yes, but we can make sure that they have parking available during that time period.*

Joe Leschinskie- Cant get a loan, cause we have all this money in the bank, but still need home rule, makes no sense.

*We don't need a loan, I am sure any bank would give us a loan, but we don't need one. If we lose that extra \$800,000 we would currently be negative (\$400,000) right now in our general fund. We need the enhanced EIT. We are only asking for establishing a 18 month commission to look into that. To see if we need to keep the enhanced EIT.*

*This is not a vote on home rule, you are not putting a home rule charter into place, you are putting a commission together to look into the form of government. We are not a 3<sup>rd</sup> class city anymore, if you look up what a 3<sup>rd</sup> class city is we do not full into that classification anymore. This is not saying go directly to home rule, it is saying bring in people to see what we have here and is it what we need. These will be 7 people that meet with financial, and legal experts. Right now we go to court and the*

*judge says if we can keep the current EIT. If you vote for home rule the tax rate would stay the same for the next 5 years.*

*Next month's meeting will be open to the public.*

**ADJOURN: 8:25**

Minutes taken by Doreen Annis, Administrative Accountant  
Meeting ended at 8:25 PM