

City of Shamokin Regular Council Meeting
November 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 FLAG: All

PRAYER: Silent

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

PRESENTATIONS:

BIDS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

CITIZENS COMMENTS (contingent upon business listed on the agenda):

Jesse Storm spoke about the agenda items relating to the bonuses for City employees. He asked the Council members to consider voting against these, citing his reason to be that these employees continued to have employment and received paychecks through COVID, while many citizens of Shamokin had lost their employment and pay.

Susan Zaner spoke about Terrace Avenue and her complaints regarding vandalism. She was cut-off as her three minutes to speak were over. Councilman Verano responded to her stating he met with her before about this and answered her complaints.

MINUTES:

MOTION BY: Roughton to accept the minutes of The City of Shamokin Council Meeting of August 9, 2021 (Regular Council Meeting).

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Moyer to accept the minutes of The City of Shamokin Council Meeting of September 13, 2021 (Regular Council Meeting).

Second by: Seidel

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION BY: Verano to accept the minutes of The City of Shamokin Council Meeting of October 11, 2021 (Regular Council Meeting).

Second by: Seidel

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

BILLS:

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve the bill list for October 2021

Second by: Verano

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Accounts & Finance

General Fund \$ 346,591.02

Motor License \$ 178,195.13

Library \$ 83,506.89

Capital Projects \$ 369,795.40

Debt Service \$ 184,167.16

Recreation \$ 188,510.73

Street Lighting \$ 6,147.64

Total All Funds \$ 1,356,913.97

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

Parks and Public Buildings

Councilwoman Seidel noted that the tree planting would take place on November 13. She stated that the trees were donated and the project was locally sourced using recycled materials. She also thanked Kevin and the Street Department for their help with it.

Street and Public Improvements

Councilman Verano stated that the trees that came down were a result of the storms and were not chopped down by someone. He noted the clean-up efforts by the City in the areas that are owned by the City, but the remaining areas were not the City's responsibility as they were private property.

Public Safety

Fire Department reported 36 total calls for the month of October 2021.

Police Department reported 689 total calls for the month of October 2021.

Code Office reported \$11,832.70 in revenue for the month of October 2021.

The Chief of Police and Mayor Brown mentioned that, under ordinance, from November 1 to April 15, no trailers are permitted on the streets. It was also noted by Mayor Brown that the street sweeper would be running according to its schedule up until the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, after which it will stop.

SEDA-COG

See SEDA-COG report.

It was noted that the City's CDBG Application was submitted. It was mentioned that the process is ongoing for 118-122 East Independence Street and it is anticipated that the December meeting would include awarding the contract for demolition.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION BY: Seidel to adopt updated CDBG Section 3 Action Plan.

Second by: Roughton

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION BY: Roughton to allow SEDA-Council of Governments (SEDA-COG) to put out for bid starting Tuesday November 9th utilizing a Request for Quotations for a Zoning Update, Comprehensive Plan, and Zoning Rewrite on behalf of the city of Shamokin.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Verano for consideration of SEDA-COG's Professional and Administrative Services Agreement to calculate revenue loss for the city as allowed under the American Rescue Plan Act in the amount not to exceed \$1,500. SEDA-COG shall be compensated by the City for its services based on \$375 per each revenue loss calculation. The total cost for these services shall not exceed \$1,500.

Second by: Seidel

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow God's Chuck Wagon to host Christmas in July at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, July 23, 2022, from 10:00 am – 7:00 pm.

Second by: Roughton

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, June 4, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Roughton

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, June 18, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Wednesday, June 22, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, July 2, 2022, from 4:00 – 11:00 pm, approximately until the end of the fireworks display, with a rain date of when the fireworks will be held.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Verano to suspend the open container ordinance for the event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, July 2, 2022, from 4:00 – 11:00 pm, approximately until the end of the fireworks display, with a rain date of when the fireworks will be held.

Second by: Moyer

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

Motion is therefore ruled null and void.

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Wednesday, July 13, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Moyer

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

Absent: None

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, July 16, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, July 30, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, August 13, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Moyer to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, August 27, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Moyer

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

Nays: None
Abstain: Seidel
Absent: None

MOTION BY: Moyer to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, September 10, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Verano

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to hold an event at Claude Kehler Park on Sunday, September 18, 2022, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Second by: Moyer

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

MOTION BY: Verano to allow Music in the Park to host Music in the Park Fall Festival at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, October 22, 2022, from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Second by: Moyer

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

The motion to suspend the open container ordinance for the Music in the Park Fall Festival event at Claude Kehler Park on Saturday, October 22, 2022, from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm, in the specified event corridor, for alcoholic beverages sold within the event corridor, as listed on the agenda was tabled.

The motion to allow Covered Bridge Brew Haus to host Shenanigans on 8th Street on Saturday, March 12, 2022, from 11:00 am – 12 am on 8th Street, as listed on the agenda was questioned on its timeframe. It was decided that the time would first have to be clarified before Council would vote on it. The motion was tabled for the next meeting along with all remaining event requests by Covered Bridge Brew Haus, as they all had the same timeframe.

MOTION BY: Verano to accept Officer James Filko's resignation from the City of Shamokin Police Department, effective November 19, 2021.

Second by: Roughton

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The motion to allow full-time employees, including full-time police officers, who worked through COVID to receive a \$5,000 bonus per employee as listed on the agenda was questioned by Councilwoman Seidel as being only for current employees. Mayor Brown noted that a list of employees for each motion was being prepared at City Hall. Councilman Verano stated that the terms and conditions with which the ARPA money can be used are very specific, which is why it was decided that bonuses would be given. The motion was tabled for another meeting, along with the remaining motions for bonuses, until Council can review the lists and make a decision based on that.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Brown stated that nothing can be spoken about under unfinished business if it is not listed on the agenda, and thus asked for this section to be removed from future agendas.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

MOTION BY: Roughton to reappoint Edward Manning, whose term expires on September 30, 2021, on the IDA board.

Second by: Verano

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

Nays: None

Abstain: Seidel

Absent: None

SOLICITORS REPORT:

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Jesse Storm spoke about the property maintenance code of the City and the current one being used is the IPMC. He stated that the City needs to adopt its own property maintenance code,

noting other cities and citing previous cases in Pennsylvania. He mentioned that the IPMC should be used as a guide to make our own legislation.

Before adjournment, Councilwoman Seidel asked to speak. She stated she was resigning from her position on City Council, effective December 31, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by Aeman Kamran, Administrative Accountant

Meeting ended at 8:00 PM