

City of Shamokin Regular Council Meeting
April 11, 2022
7:00 PM

The Regular Monthly Meeting of Shamokin City Council was held this evening with Mayor Richard Ulrich presiding.

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE TO FLAG:

PRAYER:

ROLL CALL: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich
Absent: Moyer

PRESENTATIONS:

BIDS:

Received several bids for:

1997 Ford F Series Bucket Truck - \$1000 minimum bid

- J&S Landscaping - \$2,870 bid amount
- John Britton - \$2,207 bid amount
- Gary Snyder - \$2,676.85 bid amount
- Christian Wilkenson - \$1,303.33 bid amount
- James Slavall - \$1,863 bid amount

1980 Miller Tow Behind Welder - \$500 minimum bid

- Gary Snyder - \$528 bid amount
- J&S Landscaping - \$735 bid amount

J&S Landscaping is the highest bidder for both items and they met the requirements.

MOTION BY: Roughton to accept the highest bids by J&S Landscaping for both the Bucket Truck and Welder.

Second by: Annis

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich
Nays: None
Absent: Moyer

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

Vinny Clausi thanked the Council members for their help with the fundraiser for the Ukrainian children. Almost \$11,000 was raised on the highway. The total amount raised was \$144,000 and they will go sometime this month. Mayor Ulrich thanked him for asking them to help out.

Chris Grego stated he was not here affiliated with reporting or the News Item, he was here as a citizen of Shamokin. He thanked the first responders and the Chief for the work on the case on Vine Street. He spoke about some things that concerned him regarding elections recently and the removal of a newly elected member of Council and why his name was allowed to be on the ballot if he was to be removed from office if elected. He brought up mail-in ballot information and postcards that a resident received in the mail encouraging voting by mail-in ballot. His three minutes were over. The Mayor asked if he went to the County Commissioners meeting where he could speak to them. He spoke to the Board and the Judge of Elections and they said only the County should be sending election ballots or information.

Jesse Storm with Brokers Realty requested they hold hearings for each ordinance so the public can hear and speak in regards to that. First of all, the trash can ordinance and he brought a 20-gallon trash can as an example. Most people in Shamokin use 36-, 40-, or 96-gallon trash cans for larger families. The trash can he brought with him would not meet code because of the leak-proof and waterproof because the manufacturer of the trash can put air holes on the bottom so when taking out the trash bag there's not a vacuum seal. He found 20-gallon trash cans online that are leak proof and waterproof. He is concerned about removing the trash cans people currently have and replacing them with smaller trash cans. He cited the ordinance and asked if the City would buy trash cans for every homeowner in Shamokin. Lastly, he requested a hearing about all the ordinances.

Brandy Finney spoke about the ordinance for the trash cans. She thinks there should be alternatives as well as what is already put in the ordinance. She has 8 people in her home and has two trash cans one 55-60 gallons and one 38 gallons with a lid that are in front of her home and are not impeding the sidewalk. She pays per trash can/bag and cited how costly that would be with the smaller trash cans. She is asking to put something else in there if they can find a way to

contain it in front of their home so its not unsightly. Councilman Roughton stated he spoke to everyone earlier and they did increase the size of the containers. He said it should be a solid container with a lid.

Jesse Storm stated if they have an ordinance they pass, they can't make special exceptions. He asks that they write it in the legislation and create the language so it fits the community. Solicitor Greco stated those are minor changes that were mentioned.

MINUTES:

MOTION BY: Annis to accept the minutes of The City of Shamokin Council Meeting on March 14, 2022 (Regular Council Meeting).

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich
Nays: None
Absent: Moyer

BILLS:

MOTION BY: Annis to approve the bills from March 2022, as listed on the Bill List.

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich
Nays: None
Absent: Moyer

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Accounts & Finance

General Fund \$ 610,156.32
Motor License \$ 83,625.60
Library \$ 46,832.41
Capital Projects \$ 5,954.83
Debt Service \$ 196,111.51
Recreation \$ 26,673.00
Street Lighting \$ 9,032.19
Zoning Grant Fund \$ 50,000.00
Total All Funds \$ 1,028,385.86

Fund balances as of April 1, 2022 submitted by Brenda Scandle, City Treasurer.

Nothing for Parks and Public Buildings and Street and Public Improvements.

Public Safety

Fire Department reported 26 total calls for the month of March 2022.

Code Office collected \$3,258.50 in revenue for the month of March 2022.

Chief of Police

Police Department reported 1,199 total calls for the month of March 2022.

The Chief requested a short executive session for personnel purposes. The Mayor said yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request a motion to approve Oliver's Cigar Lounge Kentucky Derby Day event on May 7th, 2022 10a-8p, closing Independence St from Liberty to Orange Sts.
2. Request a motion to suspend open container ordinance for Oliver's Cigar Lounge's event on May 7th, 2022 10a-8p, in the specified event courier, for alcoholic beverages sold within the event corridor.
3. Request a motion to approve the Memorial Day March and Service on May 30th, 2022 from 9am-10:30am, closing Lincoln St from Market to 8th St for the service and the march to take the same route as previous years.
4. Request a motion to approve the Shamokin Area Band and Orchestra Carnival Benefit at Claude Kehler Park June 4th, 2022, event 12pm-7pm, closing W Arch St from 3rd St to 5th St during the event.
5. Request a motion to approve Heritage Restaurant's Bacon Fest August 20, 2022, event hours 6pm to 11pm, closing W Arch St from Market St to Coal St 5:30pm-12pm.
6. Request a motion to suspend open container ordinance for Heritage Restaurant's event on August 20th, 2022 6pm-11pm, in the specified event courier, for alcoholic beverages sold within the event corridor.
7. Request a motion ratifying the hiring of Colin Duganitz effective April 7, 2022- Part Time Tax Office Clerk, starting hourly rate \$10/hr with no benefits, maximum total hours of 25 hours per week.

8. Request a motion, on the recommendation of the City Treasurer, to close 4 bank accounts: DOJ, Expense, prior Homes repair, and Capital projects Accounts.
9. Request a motion to approve the City of Shamokin paying annual membership dues of \$30 to the Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance.

The City Administrator stated agenda items #1-7 under New Business will be condensed, with the exception of number one which will be excluded and voted on separately.

MOTION BY: Annis to approve agenda items #2-7 under New Business, with the exception of.

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich

Nays: None

Absent: Moyer

Regarding agenda item #1, Councilman Roughton questioned if the request said possibly or was it five meters. The City Administrator and Councilwoman Annis clarified it said possibly but it is only asking to bag five meters. Councilman Roughton stated if they need to close the street they would have to bag all the meters, so they are going to assume that it means just closing five parking stalls.

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve agenda item #1 under New Business and the closing of five parking stalls.

Second by: Annis

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich

Nays: None

Absent: Moyer

New Business agenda items #8 and #9 will also be voted on individually.

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve agenda item #8 under New Business.

Second by: Annis

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich

Nays: None

Absent: Moyer

MOTION BY: Roughton to approve agenda item #9 under New Business.

Second by: Annis

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich

Nays: None
Absent: Moyer

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

1. Request a motion to appoint Jacqueline Valania to the Planning Committee to replace Erik Seidel who resigned from his position effective December 31, 2021, term expiring May 20, 2024.

MOTION BY: Annis to approve agenda item #1 under Boards and Committees.

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich
Nays: None
Absent: Moyer

SOLICITORS REPORT:

1. Second reading of Ord 22-02, Sidewalk Ordinance.
2. Second reading of Ord 22-03, Landlord/Tenant Ordinance.
3. Second reading of Ord 22-04, Garbage Ordinance with the limit being 96 gallons and deleting the waterproof and leak proof requirement.
4. Second reading of Ord 22-05, Property Maintenance Ordinance.
5. Second reading of Ord 22-06, Ticket Ordinance.

Second reading of Ord 22-02, Sidewalk Ordinance.

MOTION BY: Roughton to adopt Ordinance 22-02.

Second by: Annis

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich
Nays: None
Absent: Moyer

Second reading of Ord 22-03, Landlord/Tenant Ordinance.

MOTION BY: Roughton to adopt Ordinance 22-03.

Second by: Annis

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich
Nays: None

Absent: Moyer

Second reading of Ord 22-04, Garbage Ordinance, with the limit being 96 gallons and deleting the waterproof and leak proof requirement.

MOTION BY: Roughton to adopt Ordinance 22-04.

Second by: Annis

Councilwoman Annis raised a question. This was always in the ordinance that storage containers could not be on the front porch or front yard, that wasn't a change that they made it was in a prior ordinance as well. Solicitor Greco said yes, it takes sections of it. Councilman Roughton clarified that if its not blocking the sidewalk.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich

Nays: None

Absent: Moyer

Second reading of Ord 22-05, Property Maintenance Ordinance.

MOTION BY: Annis to adopt Ordinance 22-05.

Second by: Roughton

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich

Nays: None

Absent: Moyer

Second reading of Ord 22-06, Ticket Ordinance.

MOTION BY: Roughton to adopt Ordinance 22-06.

Second by: Annis

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Roughton, Annis, Ulrich

Nays: None

Absent: Moyer

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Jesse Storm spoke about the issues he brought up about the ordinances passed and proposed under Title 65 under Pennsylvania Code, the second reading was done and they can't vote on these motions for three days from after the reading. He believes it is a violation of code.

Secondly, the UCC Property Maintenance Code that was passed was not submitted to the state 30 days prior to the first reading, there are a lot of legal issues which is why he requested the hearings to be held so they can discuss it. He believes it is unenforceable.

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Council went to executive session for personnel matters and when they returned, the meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting ended at 7:50 PM

Minutes taken by Aeman Kamran, Administrative Accountant