

THE CITY OF SHAMOKIN COUNCIL MEETING

September 12, 2022

7PM

CALL TO ORDER:

701pm by Mayor Ulrich

PLEDGE TO FLAG:

PRAYER:

ROLL CALL:

All present

PRESENTATIONS:

Shamokin Community Gardens

Shamokin Community Garden members presented a pet waste station they are donating to the City of Shamokin to help with the pet waste starting at Claude Kehler Park. They invite other groups to do the same. It comes with 600 pet waste bags and 50 waste can bags. The group will continue to supply bags.

Far Better Together presented the welcome packet. The covered was painted by Claude Kochaniec Harrington and design put together by Dave Tamkus. The contexts was put together mainly by Mary Durham, who is the treasurer of the group.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Gage Romanoskie

Councilwoman Moyer presented Gage with a certificate of achievement from the City of Shamokin for achieving his Eagle Scout.

BIDS:

Slaby: none

CORRESPONDENCE:

Slaby: recently provided something was not gone over.

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

none

MINUTES:

Motion to accept the minutes of The City of Shamokin Council Meeting on August 8, 2022 (Regular Council Meeting).

Milbrand made the motion. Moyer seconded. All voted yes

BILLS:

Motion to approve the bills from August 2022, as listed on the Bill List.

Annis made the motion. Leschinskie seconded. All voted yes

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Accounts & Finance

General Fund \$ 1,031,282.58

Motor License \$ 210,007.23

Library \$ 111,654.27

Debt Service \$ 140,018.90

Recreation \$ 446,960.55

Street Lighting \$ 2,442.93

Zoning Grant Fund \$ 50,022.68

ARPA COVID Care Act \$ 110,068.77

Total All Funds \$ 2,102,457.91

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

Parks and Public Building

Water source for Sunbury St Community Garden was submitted by the City and approved by Aqua. Slaby will having a meeting with Kevin Richardson and Aqua.

Trash receptacles are being donated to the city. Donor would like to remain anonymous.

Slaby: have them connect with Kevin for knowledge and catalog.

Pickle Ball lines painted at 2nd St and Shamokin St playgrounds. Thank you Kevin. Thank you Mike Duganitz. Pickle ball is loosely organized at this time.

What is going on with American Legion Building?

Slaby: contactor contacted, waiting for equipment to go check it has crack

Milbrand: from Public Safety standpoint, move quick on this due to inconvenience and hazard. Fire department uses that St regularly. Businesses being inconvenienced.

Slaby: should have something tomorrow

Shout out to Mike and everyone that helped with 9/11 ceremony. It was moving and touching.

Love the doggie swim. Shout out to Police Department for organizing.

Street and Public Improvements

Some Park benches were replaced on Market St plots. Some benches stayed. Thank you to the St dept. Limited staff and keeping up. Very happy with them.

Public Safety

Fire Department reported 25 total calls for the month of August 2022.

Code Office collected \$7,481.50 in revenue for the month of August 2022.

Code Officer is a thankless job, officers doing outstanding.
All fire equipment up and running. The ladder truck is back in service.
Thanks Mike for 9/11 ceremony

Controller

Not present

SEDA-COG

See notes from Seda-cog

Independence St Makeover project- working with Meuser's office. Once we get the money, 1st step RFP to hire consultant then starts the public meetings, committees, and planning

Pocket Park- voting tonight to award H&P, if approved they can start immediately. They have not purchased anything yet.

Greco: review docs from Sean Garrigan and approved

H&H study- study showed FEMA's findings were not right. FEMA has opened the appeal for the City for free. Looking to have that between October to End of Year. Might be pushed back with everything going on.

Comprehensive/Zoning: GoShamokin plan is focused on downtown. Comprehensive plan is what you want to see for whole city. You build your zoning around this. Patching the current zoning book, which should be done in a few weeks. Comprehensive plan should be done by end of year 2023.

Brownfields: working on 6 properties

LERTA: for improvements of 50k for residential and commercial properties. Applications are downstairs.

Americorps (Maggie): Capstone project with East Stroudsburg University. Shared energy manager. Create a energy management plan, partnered with ideas for funding. Should start next week.

Chief of Police

Police Department reported 1,350 total calls for the month of August 2022.

Watch what you are putting out on Facebook. Make sure it is the truth. Facebook posts could hinder investigations. If interfere, could be legal action. CAD system changed for safety of

citizens and responding. You don't know where a crime scene is. You could be walking into one.

Siko is working on the road a lot being down officers. He gets a lot of calls. Emergencies are addressed right away. Don't hesitate to contact him. Leave a message Secutary is good and follows up with him.

Officer Bischof assigned to code with abandon vehicles and properties. Bruce (code officer) works well with the police department.

Thank you for dog swim.

2 cadets graduating this week. Scheduled to start on Thursday.

Police testing is in its last round.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor asks Sarah about the poll for Trick-or-Treat. 187 for the 29th, 162 for the 31st. Tonya brought up parents reached out about band kids missing it if its on Saturday due to band competition. Doreen suggested 31st, hours in previous years?, 6pm-8pm. Council agreed

1. *Request a motion to accept the retirement of Corporal Bryan Primerano effective August 22, 2022.*
2. *Request a motion to approve Hillside Coaches' event, Pep Rally, in the Post Office Parking lot after the Halloween Parade (October 25, 2022, rain date October 26, 2022) until 9 pm, closing the Post Office Parking Lot.*
3. *Motion to allow Sean Garrigan from Stromberg/Garrigan & Associates, Inc. to issue notice to proceed to H&P Construction Inc. for the Independence Street Public Improvements General Construction Contract*
4. *Motion to Allow Sean Garrigan from Stromberg/Garrigan & Associates, Inc. to issue notice to proceed to H&P Construction Inc. for the Independence Street Public Improvements Electrical Construction Contract*
5. *Motion to allow SEDA-COG to submit a Modification Request to DCED for the Independence Street Public Improvements Project funding on behalf of the City of Shamokin.*
6. *Request a motion to allow SEDA-COG to submit a CDBG Contract Term Date Extension request to DCED for the City of Shamokin's FFY 2018 CDBG entitlement contract on behalf of the City of Shamokin.*
7. *Request a motion to set Trick-or-Treating in the City of Shamokin on 10/31 at 6pm-8pm. (Date and time to be determined by the conscience of council).*
8. *Motion to allow SEDA-COG's Betsy Kramer to pursue a US DOT Smart Streets for All (SS4A) grant in the amount of \$200,000 on behalf of the City of Shamokin*
9. *Request a motion to ratify the hiring of Brian Elliott as a Full Time Streets Department Employee effective August 29th, 2022, starting hourly rate pre the labor agreement between The City and AFSCME.*

Voted on as one, Milbrand made the motion. Leschinskie seconded. All voted yes.

Moyer asked about Music in the Park events submitted. Slaby said he needs to talk to everyone about them.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Request a motion to reappoint James Catino to the Police Civil Service Board for an additional 4 year term, expiring September 2026.

Milbrand made the motion. Leschinskie seconded. All voted yes.

SOLICITORS REPORT:

Request a motion to approve the transfer of the property located at 320-322 E Independence Street for the sum of \$1 to the Housing Authority of Northumberland County.

Annis made the motion. Milbrand seconded. All voted yes.

Request a motion to approve a contract between the City of Shamokin Police Department and Village of Lombard Police Department to take ownership of a Police K-9 dog at no cost to the Village of Lombard Police Department. In doing so, this agreement releases the Chief of Police, Police Department, Handler, and Village of Lombard of any responsibility and/or reliability associated with the K-9 dog once the City assumes full ownership.

Milbrand made the motion. Leschinskie seconded. All voted yes.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Mike Duganitz- Shamokin

Yesterday was heartwarming, Craig Rhodes and Susan Ward helped. Thank you to everyone that was there and all the help. Milbrand brought tears to his tears when he got to rewatch it all.

Now speaking as President of SYBL- sign-ups for youth basketball starts Sept 24th. Will be front of Legion Saturday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Practice will start end of October. Clarify if legion is shutting down?

Slaby: don't know at this time. Waiting on contactor/engineer.

Asking for clarification when you know. Would have to look for new place, not cancelling the season.

Jesse Storm- shareholder in ???

City needs to start speaking up- referenced paperwork given to council last month, but won't reiterate that.

Thanks to the Shamokin Community Gardens for all they are doing, and to those that did that 5th ward clean up.

Citizens clean up after yourself.

Trash services need to be set up by the city.

Susan Ward

Address proposal for renaming Claude Kehler Park 2. Shamokin Community Gardens and Far Better Together taking lead. SABER presented idea, they have a counter proposal. Similar concept, but instead of recognizing individuals and having different statues and such, have similar signs highlighting different organizations.

The tree being planted for Judy Surak is being planted across the St from Mother Cabrini. She was a member at Mother Cabrini, and it is the gateway to the fifth ward, where she lived and loved the fifth ward. It is flowering dogwood. There will be a plaque outside

Far Better Together and F.A.R. (Faith Alliance for Revitalization) would like to invite council to meetings. many other organizations represented there. Next meeting is Oct 3rd at Mother Cabrini.

Reconvening meeting (from the February 2020 meeting at Mother Cabrini) in happening in February 2023. Asked council to attend planning meetings.

Betsy Kramer: next meeting 27th (September?) at 6 pm. CSO building.

Moyer: met with SABER and Shamokin Community Gardens reflect on the volunteer/s park. Coming up with idea. Haven't dropped the ball. Want to talk into account both SABER and Shamokin Community Gardens' suggestions.

Craig Rhodes

Proposed a place and structure to place steel from World Trade Center. Provided Slaby concept. Kim Architecture. Placement right outside of City Hall. Made out of stone. Would like to electricity, security camera. Would like to see this move forward as soon as possible. Willing to help make this happen. Look for volunteers to help. Please look and give blessing.

Slaby: did not give out to council yet. Want to show them and talk about at workshop. Good idea, have electricity and lights there. It will fit in nice, we won't have to dig/fill a spot. Requests that members of council stop by to talk about it

Jim Keel(?)- Pearl St (passed out pictures)

Bought property on Clay St. spent a lot on it, but a new roof for \$8k. Red X building right by. Hole in the sidewalk that goes down into the basement. 2 kids live on that block. Will walk pass to go to school, can we please address this?

Mayor: anyone in this building (red x).

No one is in it. Sold before and believe its back on taxes

Cherry St Wall (passed out pictures) falling down, in the gutter.

September 12, 2022

Tom Nye- 7th St (passed out packet)

Opiate problem in area. Drugs being manufactured in property by him. He is sick of it. Doesn't want to interfere with any investigations. Worried about parks turning into a needle disposal spot. Something needs to happen. Want to feel safe.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, adjourn the meeting.

Minutes taken by Sarah Shepard