

City of Shamokin Regular Council Meeting
April 10, 2023
6:00 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE TO FLAG:

PRAYER:

ROLL CALL: Milbrand, Leschinskie, Moyer, Annis, Ulrich
Absent: None

PRESENTATIONS:

Susan Ward presents an oil painting of the Shamokin Welcome Booklet Cover by Claude Harrington donated by Far Better Together. It will be put up in the City Hall lobby downstairs.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Recognition of Welding Technology Students from the Northumberland County Center and a technology Center. Certificates of Appreciation were presented.

Instructor: Craig Fegley

Students: Tucker Snyder, Chet Honicker, Tyler Weikle, Gabe Ramirez, Seth Segar, Conner Hetrich

BIDS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

MINUTES:

MOTION BY: Milbrand to accept the minutes of The City of Shamokin Council Meetings on March 13, 2023 (Regular Council Meeting) and on March 31, 2023 (Special Council Meeting).

Second by: Moyer

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Milbrand, Leschinskie, Moyer, Annis, Ulrich
Nays: None
Absent: None

BILLS:

MOTION BY: Annis to approve the bills from March 2023, as listed on the Bill List.

Second by: Leschinskie

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Milbrand, Leschinskie, Moyer, Annis, Ulrich
Nays: None
Absent: None

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Accounts & Finance

General Fund \$ 527,104.03
Motor License \$ 78,068.26
Library \$ 132,590.36
Debt Service \$ 165,887.83
Recreation \$ 290,121.71
Street Lighting \$ 8,915.55
American Legion \$ 1,547.00
Neighborhood Mitigation \$ 34,196.89
Code Department Credit Cards \$ 4,262.50
Police Department Credit Cards \$ 3,373.74
Total All Funds \$ 1,246,067.87

Fund balances as of April 1, 2023 submitted by Brenda Scandle, City Treasurer.

Parks and Public Buildings

Councilwoman Moyer spoke about the item she mentioned in the workshop that is item number nine under new business to approve regarding the pet waste station that the Garden Club is requesting be placed on Lincoln Street. She also mentioned at the workshop that she will be meeting with Larry Strausser sometime at the end of this week or the beginning of next week to start thinking about the pool season.

Streets and Public Improvements

Councilwoman Leschinskie mentioned that Kevin has stated starting next week they are going to start with warnings for the sweeper and a lot of people are not moving their vehicles. She also stated to please make sure your vehicle is removed during scheduled times.

Public Safety

Fire Department reported 95 total calls for the first quarter of 2023.

Code Office collected \$14,609.00 in total revenue for the month of March.

Treasurer

Nothing at this time.

SEDA-COG

Betsy stated the opening for the Illumination Station Pocket Park is April 25 at 7 o'clock. Everybody is invited and she will be sending special invitations to City Council and also the Council that was in place back when they started in 2021. They do need to get some cameras put in there and she will be reaching out to the City Administrator to figure that out. The application for \$50,000 for Northumberland County ARPA will be put in for, contingent upon it being passed tonight with Council approval for her moving forward with that. She has meetings this week with Department of Transportation for their successful grant for Safe Streets for All and the Downtown Makeover Project. SEDA-COG is working on the City's behalf for the FEMA appeal. She was able to get in the DCNR Grant application last Wednesday for the Volunteer Park Master Plan and the bridge Feasibility Study between the two parks.

See SEDA-COG report.

Chief of Police

Police Department reported 1,310 total calls for March 2023.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request a motion to approve GoShamokin/SABER's event Heritage 5k on May 27th, 2023, with registration starting at 730am, run starting at 9am, with route on map.
2. Request a motion to approve SABER/Fios Senior Night at Claude Kehler Park on May 28th, 2023 5pm-9pm, closing Arch St from 3rd St to 5th St from 4pm-10pm, using the facilities.
3. Request a motion to approve the Coal Township/Shamokin Joint Veterans Committee's Memorial Day march & Service on May 29th, 2023.
4. Request a motion to approve the West End Fire Co's Annual Block Party on June 2nd & 3rd, 2023 5pm-10pm, closing W Pine St from 6th St to 5th St and the East side of 5th St from Pine to Mulberry May 31st, 2023 at 3pm until June 4 at 3pm.
5. Request a motion to suspend the Open Container Ordinance for the West End Fire Co's Annual Block Party on June 2nd & 3rd, in the specified event corridor for alcoholic beverages sold within the event corridor.
6. Request a motion to approve CMA Church's Outside Service at Claude Kehler Park on June 25, 2023 9:30am- 11:30 am, using the facilities.

7. Request a motion to approve CMA Church's Outside Service at Claude Kehler Park on August 27, 2023 9:30am-11:30am, using the facilities.
8. Request a motion to approve CMA Church's Sunrise Service at Claude Kehler Park on March 31, 2024 6:30am-8am, using the facilities.
9. Request a motion to approve the Shamokin Community Gardens purchasing a pet waste station and having it installed on Lincoln St.
10. Request a motion to accept the resignation from Justin Minnich as City Controller effective April 21st, 2023.
11. Request a motion to approve the City Administrator to advertise the vacancy of City Controller, to be appointed until the end of his appointment.
12. Motion to approve the Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement relative to the administration and delivery of the City's H & H Study. The amendment is necessary due to the need to complete floodway analysis, floodway delineation, and all items necessary for the City to have a complete Appeal submittal to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) where SEDA-COG has agreed to reduce its compensation.
13. Motion to allow SEDA-COG's Betsy Kramer permission to pursue a \$50,000 grant from Northumberland County ARPA on behalf of the City of Shamokin's Mayoral Blight Task Force with matching funds from the City to assist with the initiative for an Endangered Property Program (EPP).
14. Motion to approve the Shamokin Mayor's Blight Task Force initiative to create a Vandalism fund utilizing \$10,000 from City of Shamokin ARPA funds to provide up to \$500 for commercial properties (in good standing) providing a police report regarding damage caused by vandalism. Restitution will be sought upon prosecution to create a revolving fund.
15. Motion to approve the Amendment to the Professional Engineering Services agreement for the H&H scope of work between the City and GPI, to complete floodway analysis, floodway delineation, and all items necessary for the City to have a complete Appeal submittal to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which is added at a lump sum fee of \$15,000.

MOTION BY: Moyer to approve items #1-15 under New Business as listed on the agenda.

Second by: Milbrand

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Milbrand, Leschinskie, Moyer, Annis, Ulrich

Nays: None

Absent: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

SOLICITORS REPORT:

Nothing at this time.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Jesse Storm spoke about how well the Code Officers are doing in the city and he would like to honor them for their hard work and dedication. He would also like to see if there is some way they can honor the City's Police Officers for the hard work they've been doing in the City. The citizens of Shamokin need to come up with a way to show their gratitude to these people putting themselves out on the front line and keeping the City safe. He asked if they had any suggestions to honor them. He would like to step up and sponsor something too if they can in some way to honor the City's Police Officers or Code Enforcement Officers. The streets and roads are looking great and the guys in Public Works are working hard and getting potholes and things like that from the winter taken care of. All of the City's employees really need a thank you and they need to do something to at least thank them for their hard work and dedication. We have a Council who's working hard to try and make things better here in Shamokin and are focused on moving forward. He thinks they need to spend some time and some money to thank everybody for their hard work and dedication. The City Administrator stated he will pass that on to the Public Works Department tomorrow.

Mike Duganitz wanted to remind Council that on Saturday, April 22 is Rosalind Kane day for the Community City cleanup starting at 12 if anybody would want to help out. There's also going to be Metal Mania which is recycling and that will be behind Bader's Furniture so if anybody in town has any metal that they want to get rid of that is on Saturday April 22 Earth Day.

John Zanella asked about the blight in Shamokin and if that covers the entire city. He has been complaining about this and would like to have the Code Enforcement look at the properties around his place. The City Administrator stated they can meet outside of this meeting because they have had numerous meetings and brought numerous Code Enforcement Officers to that area. They will set up a date and time and they'll go up there again. Mr. Zanella also spoke about the roads up there and the water coming out from the PPL property. The City Administrator stated he will also address that with PPL. The water leaks into his house at times. The City Administrator asked if that has been done since he was last up there. Mr. Zanella said PPL stated they made a couple improvements but it didn't do anything. Councilwoman Leschinskie stated she will be up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION BY: Milbrand to adjourn the meeting.

Second by: Leschinskie

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Milbrand, Leschinskie, Moyer, Annis, Ulrich

Nays: None

Absent: None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting ended at 6:32 PM

Minutes taken by Aeman Kamran, Administrative Accountant