

City of Shamokin Regular Council Meeting
May 8, 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:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

BIDS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

Citizens for a Better Community – Fireworks Display (June Meeting)

Jesse Storm – Letter for consideration for RDA Board position (Boards and Committees Section-Appointment by the Mayor)

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

Mr. Bogetti spoke about the suggestions for CDBG. He was told there was a hearing in regards to that program at the conclusion of this meeting which is being held by SEDA-COG.

MINUTES:

MOTION BY: Milbrand to accept the minutes of The City of Shamokin Council Meeting on April 10, 2023 (Regular Council Meeting).

Second by: Leschinskie

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

MOTION BY: Moyer to accept the minutes of The City of Shamokin Council Meeting on April 24, 2023 (Special Council Meeting).

Second by: Milbrand

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

BILLS:

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

Second by: Moyer

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Accounts & Finance

General Fund \$ 669,752.80
Motor License \$ 33,052.24
Library \$ 147,054.34
Debt Service \$ 250,662.80
Recreation \$ 336,941.81
Street Lighting \$ 19,230.74
American Legion \$ 1,553.30
Neighborhood Mitigation \$ 34,196.89
Code Department Credit Cards \$ 5,270.00
Police Department Credit Cards \$ 3,605.74
Total All Funds \$ 1,501,320.66

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

Parks and Public Buildings

Councilwoman Moyer spoke about the all of the volunteers and the participants of the Earth Day event or Rosalind Kane Day. There were a lot of volunteers and it was a great event, very productive and they appreciate it. Also the Metal Mania Event, its always an important event. She had a meeting with Larry Strausser on Friday and he gave some updates regarding the pool. It will open June 9. He would like to have it open a couple days before that but there are personnel that work there who are not available because they work for some school districts so

it's not possible. Matt Weller has agreed to certify lifeguards in the lifeguard program so we're okay on the number of lifeguards at this point. Equipment is all okay at this point. They got a new diving board last year. She also met with Kevin Richardson at the 2nd Street Playground about the new equipment that's arriving there. Larry also told her the boiler at City Hall was inspected and passed inspection. She wanted to thank everybody who's involved in the last few weeks in many of the events that have been going on around the city.

Streets and Public Improvements

Councilwoman Leschinskie commended the Public Works Dept on everything that's been going on in the City such as Lincoln Street and Market Street. Those guys have been out all month doing the work. Also the street sweeper schedule is posted. A lot of tickets are going out. Please move your vehicles.

Public Safety

Fire Department reported 40 total calls for the month of April.

Councilman Milbrand spoke about how he has heard that the Housing Authority collects a fee for every time there is an automatic fire alarm because of somebody having an accident. He doesn't know if this is true or not but he will look into it. Because the Fire Dept is called out all these time for the automatic fire alarms, if they are collecting a fee they should be entitled to at least a portion of that fee.

Code Office collected \$10,979.59 in total revenue for the month of April. They collected an additional \$5,000.00 because Lincoln Towers paid that amount for their Landlord Tenant fee; it was marked as Snow Removal but it has been corrected. So, total revenue for the Code Office for April was actually \$15,979.59.

Controller

Mr. Kinder provided an update. As of last Friday, he was given access to the internet banking program. He signed all the necessary papers at the bank so he now has access to the accounts that are necessary for him to perform his duties. Larry Strausser has been able to populate QuickBooks with all the accounts that he needs that are necessary. He just has one more task to be completed and that is to have the 2023 payrolls downloaded and from that point he will be able to move forward.

Treasurer

Absent.

SEDA-COG

Betsy mentioned that they have around \$5 million worth of grants that they applied for that they are waiting on. There's action for SEDA-COG for FEMA on the agenda.

See SEDA-COG report.

The City Administrator mentioned, for the people that are here for the SEDA-COG hearing regarding the City's CDBG, at the conclusion of this meeting that will be started immediately afterwards.

Chief of Police

Police Department reported 1,392 total calls for April 2023.

The Chief stated that, as Councilwoman Leschinskie mentioned, the schedule is out for the street sweeper. The Officers have been noticing a lot of vehicles that haven't been moving, but the sweeper is running and they are ticketing for sweeper violations.

The Mayor mentioned he was working with Michelle on letters for the House of Representatives, Senate, Lieutenant Governor, and Governor regarding Act 47 along with the Resolution that Council all signed. It was completed today and it will be going out in the mail tomorrow. Hopefully, they will get some good feedback

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request a motion to approve GoShamokin/SABER event Independence on Independence, July 1, 2023 (rain date July 2, 2023) 1pm-9pm, closing Independence St from Anthracite St to Wendy's Drive Thru and 8th St from Water St to Commerce St 11am-after fireworks.
2. Request a motion to suspend the Open Container Ordinance for GoShamokin/SABER's Independence on Independence July 1, 2023 (rain date July 2, 2023) in the specified event corridor for alcoholic beverages sold within the event corridor.
3. Request a motion to approve Synergy's event on July 7, 2023, 7pm-10pm in the East Parking Lot, closing it from 10am-11pm.
4. Motion to approve the revised 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.

5. Request a motion to ratify the rehiring of Michelle Irizarry as Part Time Support Staff at City Hall, at a rate of \$10/hr, max 28 hours a week with no benefits.
6. Request a motion to hire Noah Smith and Ethan Roughton as Full Time Shamokin Patrolmen, covered by and under Collective Bargaining Agreement with a starting salary of \$43,814, effective May 8, 2023.
7. Request a motion to promote Tyler Bischof and Wesley Fleming to the rank of Corporal, based on the recommendation of Chief Siko, covered by and under the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

MOTION BY: Annis to approve items #1-7 under New Business as listed on the agenda.

Second by: Leschinskie

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

MOTION BY: Annis to approve Resolution 23-04 2023 LATS bus, to pay Shamokin's share \$2,042.

Second by: Moyer

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

Presentation took place for the two Police Officers promoted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

1. Request a motion to reappoint Pamala Rhoades to the Shamokin-Coal Township Library Board of Trustees for an additional 3 years effective May 1, 2023.
2. Request a motion to accept the resignation of Cameron Jacoby from the RDA board effective May 1st.
3. Request a motion to accept Mayor Richard Ulrich's appointments (2) of Shamokin Residents/Business Owners to the RDA board.

MOTION BY: Moyer to reappoint Pamala Rhoades to the Shamokin-Coal Township Library Board of Trustees for an additional 3 years effective May 1, 2023.

Second by: Milbrand

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

Absent: None

MOTION BY: Milbrand to accept the resignation of Cameron Jacoby from the RDA board effective May 1st.

Second by: Annis

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

MOTION BY: Ulrich to appoint Lanza Williams to the RDA board.

Second by: Annis

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

MOTION BY: Ulrich to appoint Jesse Storm to the RDA board.

Second by: Leschinskie

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

SOLICITORS REPORT:

Mr. Greco requested that the Social Media Policy Resolution be tabled due to one or two issues. They can put it on the agenda for next month.

The Solicitor provided an update on litigation. There was a civil action that was filed months ago in Federal Court against former Mayor, members of City Council, and Mr. Slaby that was handled through the insurance carrier. They were able to have everyone dismissed but one former Council member but the litigation is still ongoing. There was another matter of litigation that was also handled by the insurance carrier and that has effectively been dismissed.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting ended at 6:39 PM

Minutes taken by Aeman Kamran, Administrative Accountant