

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
January 11, 2021
6:15 pm

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Sunbury was called to order by video/teleconference with the Honorable Mayor Karlovich, presiding. There was a quorum with the following in attendance:

Richard L. Reichner, Director of Accounts and Finance
Christopher Reis, Director of Public Safety (Zoom)
Joshua Brosious, Director of Public Works
James R. Eister, Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Buildings

Other City officials in attendance:

Derrick Backer, City Administrator
Jody Ocker, City Administrator
Joel Wiest, City Solicitor
Kevin Troup, City Treasurer (Zoom)
Bradley Hare, Chief of Police (Zoom)
Mike Rhoads, Zoning Office
Jolinn Barner, City Clerk (Zoom)
John Bakowicz, City Engineer
Steve Welker, Public Works Supervisor (Zoom)
Alexander Rissinger, Administrative Assistant

Visitors present: 2, Zoom (2), Facebook (10)

A moment of silent reflection was held prior to the beginning of the meeting for the recent acts of violence against the Nation's Capital that occurred last Wednesday.

Mayor Karlovich mentioned that this will be Jody Ocker last time participating with council as City Administrator. This will also be the first meeting that Derrick Backer will be participating with council as the City Administrator.

ADDING TOPIC TO AGENDA

Councilman Reichner made the motion to add to the agenda the Reagan Street Multimodal Grant. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

Adjourn Meeting for FFY 2017 Budget Modification Public Hearing

Mayor Karlovich adjourned the meeting and Jamie Shrawder Spoke about the Budget Modification.

Meeting Called to Order

FFY 2017 Budget Modification

2017 Budget Modification

Councilman Eister made the motion to accept the 2017 Budget modification to put it into Reagan Street Project. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

2017 Extension Request

Councilman Eister made the motion to accept the extension request for 2017. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

MINUTES AND REPORTS

The Minutes of December 14, 2020 and reports of the Fire Dept., Treasurer, Engineer, Code Office, and Planning Commission. Reports are in the City Clerk's office for review. Minutes will be posted at sunburypa.org. – Mayor Karlovich moved to accept the minutes and reports. Second- Reichner. Unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Karlovich asked for public comment on agenda items. There were no public comments.

SEDA-COG

Funds to be allocated to 2020 CDBG activity

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to put the rest of the funds in Susquehanna Ave. Second Eister. Yes – Karlovich, Eister, Brosious, Reichner. No – Reis.

Approval of subrecipient agreements with SRI, School District, CSO, and Americus for CV funds

Councilman Eister made the motion to approve all subrecipient agreements. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

Remote Learning Access Program

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to accept the remote learning access program and the operation procedures. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

Delegation of Signing of CDBG Home Invoices for C000074062/C000065782

Mayor Karlovich motioned to approve the Delegation of Signing. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Resolution 2021-02-Environmental Review Certifying Officer Derrick Backer

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to Certify Derrick Backer as the Environmental Review Officer. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Resolution 2021-02-504 Compliance Officer

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to name the city administrator as the 504 Compliance Officer. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Reagan Street Matching Funds

Councilman Brosious made the motion to take \$38,900.10 out of Liquid Fuels to pay the difference. Second Karlovich. Yes – Brosious, Karlovich, Eister, Reichner. No – Reis.

Relieve Tax Collector from Collecting 2020 Taxes

Councilman Reichner made the motion to relieve the tax collector from collecting 2020 taxes. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Appoint Delinquent Tax Collector/Statewide Tax Recovery

Councilman Reichner made the motion to appoint Statewide Tax Recovery as the delinquent tax collector. Second Karlovich. Unanimous vote.

Deliver Delinquent Taxes to Delinquent Tax Collector

Councilman Reichner made the motion to deliver delinquent taxes. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES

Councilman Reichner moved to approve to Pay Invoices/Vouchers General Fund - \$38,458.58 and Liquid Fuels Fund - \$1,797.68 for 12/28/2020. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Councilman Reichner motioned to approve to pay invoices/vouchers General Fund - \$136,831.88 and Liquid Fuels Fund – \$12.40 for 1/11/2020. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

Tax Exoneration

Councilman Reichner moved to accept the tax exoneration of \$27.50. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote

Board Appointment/Reappointment

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to appoint/reappoint board members (See attached). Second Brosious. Unanimous vote. Councilman Eister sustained on the vote for Jenna Eister Whitaker.

Resolution 2021-03 – Right to Know Officer

Councilman Eister made the motion to accept resolution 2021-03. Second Reichner. Unanimous vote.

Demolition of City Property Located at the Wetlands

- Structure located: Rear 614 Race St. / Sunbury City 051-Ward 6.
Pin- 051-04-006-126A. Deed- 2693-318

Mayor Karlovich made the motion for in house demolition of the building by the end of June 2021. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Upper Augusta Easement Request

Councilman Eister made the motion to approve the easement request. Second Karlovich. Unanimous vote. (see attached)

Rescind/Replace Resolution 2020-19 – 2021-04 Peer Circuit Grant Through DCNR

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to replace resolution 2020-19 with resolution 2021-04. Second Reichner. Unanimous vote.

Resolution 2021-05 Signatory for Grants and Contracts

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to allow the city administrator Derrick Backer to be an authorized signatory for the City of Sunbury to conduct city business in the absent of the Mayor and City Clerk. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

Fourth Street Intersection Project Change Order #4

Councilman Eister made the motion the motion to accept the change order #4. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

Accept the RACP Grant of \$500,000 for the Albright Center

Councilman Eister made the motion to accept the funds of \$500,000. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

Re-Appoint Pandemic Officer

With Jody Ocker leaving her position Mayor Karlovich made the motion to appoint City Administrator Derrick Backer as the Pandemic Officer. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

City Amazon Account

Councilman Brosious brought to the attention of council that it would be beneficial for the City to create a Amazon account. Council agreed to set up a city Amazon account. No vote was required.

Discussion

There was discussion regarding the following topics between council and public officials,

- CPAC Ordinance
 - Don Heillick made a comment that he has been a bridge between the police and the public before, and said he would like to be apart of it.
- Community Alert System

Announcements

Mayor Karlovich had no announcements.

Pre-Submitted Audience Comment

Steven Hollenback: made a comment regarding pedestrian safety in crosswalks, and he mentioned that he experienced numerous close calls with vehicles running red lights; not yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks. Many residents have no vehicle; walking is primary means of getting around. Many residents use scooters. In

the past there has been other resident complaints about pedestrian safety, especially for elderly/disabled. Joel mentioned to council that in order to enforce crosswalks there must be signs posted.

Facebook Live:

Administrative Assistant read the Facebook chat to council.

Donna Thompson: Ms. Thompson made the comment “I would like to know if there is ever going to be paving work done on Penn Street behind the cheese plant and Miller Street, It's bad down here”. Councilman Brosious said that they will input it into the iWorks system once it is purchased, and then crews will go out and survey which streets are in need of repair and make a priority list of the streets for repair. Once a list is prepared the public will be made aware of it.

Cassie Marks: Ms. Marks made a comment “I would like to see if we could start a TNR (trap-neuter-return) program for the stray and feral cats of Sunbury!” Mayor Karlovich responded by saying that there is a program within the city. Ms. Ocker also mentioned that if she would need a point of contact that she could contact the code office.

Melissa Fuhrman: Ms. Fuhrman also mentioned that Council should draft some leash/harness laws and license laws for cats that are similar to dogs.

Sherry Rowe: Ms. Rowe made the comment “Just wanting to share the abandon and illegal cars in the city setting on public streets taking up able parking spaces. Reporting them today and being told basically maybe they don't have the money to keep up with them and me saying they seem to have money for everything else. You know who you are that said this. If I would let illegal, abandon cars setting I know I would be fined n most likely have them towed. That is not the answer to keeping these vehicles legal and not putting babies and children into them driving around. They are illegal for a reason. Do people not understand putting your child's life in danger is a crime itself or is it not? Then these said people place illegal vehicles also into Beck School Parking lot. Is it not a law in this city to not leave abandon, illegal cars parked on city streets? Then these people selectively use these illegal vehicles as needed having a so-called legal vehicle but choose to randomly use the illegal ones? To put yourself into these vehicles is one thing but then to use the illegal vehicles and place babies and children in or is another. If I were to do this would I be fined and have my vehicle placed into storage or wherever? What is the law and why is it not being upheld with illegal cars in the city of Sunbury? So, because the statement was made to me.... maybe they can't afford it? So this makes it ok to leave them on public streets and use them illegally? Oh yes, I must add this is not a lone vehicle but multiples. This occurs on north sixth street. How many others are left seton streets illegal if reported? Just wondering. Our parking spaces are few for parking and leaving these illegal vehicles continue to take up our spaces is very wrong. money can be made for the city if rules are enforced. If it's ok for them then why not others?” Ms. Ocker responded she spoke to her on the phone when she called in earlier today. Ms. Ocker mentioned that she will pass the information on to the police department and the parking official. Ms. Ocker mentioned that it is illegal to park an unregister vehicle on city property.

Victoria Rosancrans: Ms. Rosancrans posted a link pccd.pa.gov for council to learn more about Citizen Advisory Boards.

Tammy Koonsman: Ms. Koonsman made the comment “I encourage council to approve the sale of 314 market st.” City Solicitor responded that this is something that can't be discussed at a public meeting right now, because it involves things that are not open to the public and the event occurred today.

Zoom Chat

City Administrator Derrick Backer read the zoom chat to the council.

Lorrie: Lorrie had a question for council, and it was why is the school district receiving chrome books that the city is paying for, and why is the school district the only one receiving them? Councilman Reis sent her a message explaining that everyone had a chance to apply for those funds and explained to her that they were not city funds, but rather COVID-19 funds. Councilman Reis told her that if she would like to go into detail farther that he could explain it to her.

Don Heillick: Mr. Hellick wanted to bring to the attention that he has a unit that can kill Covid-19 within minutes. He would like the opportunity for Council to purchase these units from him. Mayor Karlovich responded to Mr. Heillick that he should send the information to City Clerk office so council can review it.

Brie Apfelbaum: Ms. Apfelbaum made the comment that the Redevelopment Authority is accepting bids for 630 Susquehanna Ave through Jan 29th, 2021. Ms. Apfelbaum also mentioned that it is a sealed bidding process, because they can't hold a in person public auction due to Covid-19 restrictions. Ms. Apfelbaum also

made a comment thanking Jody, Joel, and council for all the hard work that they have done on the ordinances, which is going to help the redevelopment authority stay on track and continue the good work in 2021. Councilman Eister responded saying thank you to Ms. Ocker and Ms. Apfelbaum for all the hard work that they have done for the redevelopment authority.

Matt PhillyPhilly: Matt made the comment “Has there been any talks of how our city plans to go forward with snow removal? Contingency plans?” Councilman Brosious responded that Steve Welker and other city personal will to come together to create a plan stating what streets will be considered snow emergency routes, and also how to notify the public of a snow emergency. Councilman Brosious also mentioned that they have already meet and are working on a plan.

The next city council meeting will be held on January 25, 2021 at 6:15 pm Via Zoom/Facebook Live.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Rissinger,
Administrative Assistant