

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
November 8th, 2021
6:15 pm

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

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

Other City officials in attendance:

Joel Wiest, City Solicitor
Jolinn Barner, City Clerk
Bradley Hare, Chief of Police
Jeffrey Wojciechowski, Code Enforcement Supervisor
Kevin Troup, City Treasure
Derrick Backer, City Administrator
Ronald Rupt, 1st Assistant Fire Chief

Visitors present: 9

A moment of silent reflection was held prior to the beginning of the meeting.

AGENDA ADDITION

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to add under discussion the appointment process for a vacant position of an elected official and under discussion the preservation of historical books of the city. Second Brosious. Yes – Karlovich, Reis, Brosious, Eister. No – Reichner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REPORTS

The Minutes of September 13th, and 27th, and October 11th, 14th, 25th, 2021 and reports of the Fire Dept., Police Dept., Treasurer, Engineer, Code Office, Health Dept, Police Pension Board, and Planning Commission. Reports are in the City Clerk's office for review. Minutes will be posted at sunburypa.org. – Mayor Karlovich motioned to approve the minutes and reports. Second Reis. Unanimous vote.

End of Year Report Police Dept.

Chief Hare gave an end of year report of the police department explaining the amount of calls they had and how they improved throughout the year.

PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Karlovich asked for public comment on agenda items.

Allen Bubb: Mr. Bubb made a comment regarding the Northumberland County Rails of Trails. Mr. Bubb doesn't feel the trail will be feasible due to a business purchasing the land that has access to the right of way where a portion of the trail will go. Mr. Bubb also mentioned other areas that the rail trail may have issues with land. Mayor Karlovich explained that the topic on the agenda is not for the city to make a decision on, but rather for the county to explain what they are doing.

Victoria Rosancrans: Ms. Rosancrans wanted to clarify the reason behind adding the appointment process to the agenda. Mayor Karlovich responded it is to go over the procedures. Ms. Rosancrans encourages that the council explain the procedures and process thoroughly since some citizens might not be aware what happens when Councilman Brosious becomes Mayor, and Ms. Rosancrans feels the citizens have the right to know.

Northumberland County Rails of Trail

Justin Scavery explained the project and answered any questions that the council and citizens had with the project.

SEDA-COG

New Section 3 Plan a requirement of the CDBG Program

Councilman Reis made the motion to adopt the new section 3. Second Eister Unanimous vote.

Update on Susquehanna Ave Competitive Plan

An update was provided to Council

CDBG-CV reallocation from Subsistence Program

Council and City officials had a discussion regarding this topic. Council discussed moving the funds to S.W.E.E.P or to city businesses.

Police Building Construction Project

There has been a delay of materials and will hopefully be complete by end of year. Joel asked council if it would be possible for the dedication to be Nov. 19th since he was contacted by the Woodring family, and with the uncertainties it will not be a possible date.

Strategic Management Planning Program (STMP)

City Administrator provided a brief update to council

Sunbury Wetland Ecological Education Park (SWEEP)

Councilman Eister mentioned that the survey is still going on and should be completed by the end of the year. Ms. Rosancrans provided an update to council that the Rotary Club's grant has been accepted and they will be donating \$5,800 for the educational signs.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Lackawanna College Agreement

Councilman Reis made the motion to accept the agreement from Lackawanna College. Second Reichner. Unanimous vote.

Resolution 2021-34 Minimum Starting Wage for Full and Part Time Employees

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to accept resolution 2021-34. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote. (See attached)

American Rescue Fund Grant/County

Councilman Reis made the motion to allow City Administrator to apply for the two grants. Second Reichner. Unanimous vote.

Tan Note

Councilman Reichner mentioned that this will be the second year that we will not need to apply for a Tan Note.

Resolution 2021-35 2022 Tax Levy

Councilman Reichner made the motion to table the resolution. Second Reis. Unanimous vote.

1st reading 2022 City Budget

Councilman Reichner made the motion to accept the 1st reading. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Approval to Pay Invoices/Vouchers

Councilman Reichner moved to approve to Pay Invoices/Vouchers General Fund - \$36,919.53 and Liquid Fuels Fund - \$675.00. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Tax Exoneration

Councilman Reichner moved to accept the tax exoneration of \$11.00. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Resignation of Part-Time Department of Public Works Employee

Councilman Brosious made the motion to eliminate the part-time Saturday only position at DPW. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Discussion

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

- GH Lot Parking Lease
 - Giving them 2 extra spots per their request.
- Vacant Position of an Elected Official Appointment Process
 - Joel explained the process of how a councilman must resign from his position before the oath of office is given on the first Monday in January. Once the resignation is given Council will have 30 days to appoint a new member to the board. The candidate/candidates don't have to have the same party affiliation. If council doesn't appoint someone within 30 days, the president judge of the county will appoint someone to the position.
- Preservation of the Historical Books for the City
 - Mayor Karlovich explained where the historical books are being kept in the city, and showed what condition the books are in. Mayor Karlovich feels that council and the next administration should think about finding an archive company to digitalize the books. Council discussed about rebinding the books and other options to preserve the books.

Announcements

Mayor Karlovich announced:

Free Parking on Market St. and All Metered streets from Nov. 24th, 2021 to Jan. 2nd, 2022.

Decorating of the City will begin Nov. 15th – 19th.

Santa Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony will be Sat. Nov. 27th at 6pm

Late Night Shoppers will be December 2nd from 5pm - 8pm.

Pre-Submitted Audience Comment

There were no Pre-Submitted Comments

In Person

Jamie Shrawder: Ms. Shrawder wanted to mention that she ate at a local restaurant and is glad to see the many options the city has, and all of the new businesses that are opening up.

The next city council meeting will be held on November 22nd, 2021 at 6:15 pm.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Rissinger,
Administrative Assistant



FOUNDED JULY 4, 1772

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CHRISTOPHER REIS
JAMES R. EISTER

RESOLUTION 2021-34

Minimum Starting Wage for Fulltime and Parttime Non-Uniform City Employees

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sunbury, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania setting forth a minimum starting wage for the Non-Uniform Full and Part Time Hourly Employees.

WHEREAS: An employee earning poverty wage while in a full or part time job cannot survive on those wages alone and are forced to have multiple low wage job.

WHEREAS: Increasing the minimum starting wage for city employees will allow wages to reflect the cost of living in our community and the surrounding community.

WHEREAS: Increasing the minimum starting wage promotes the health, safety, and welfare of those who works with the City of Sunbury.

WHEREAS: This resolution will enact a minimum starting wage for all current and future fulltime non uniform employees at fourteen dollars and fifty cents (\$14.50).

WHEREAS: This resolution will enact a minimum starting wage for all current and future parttime non uniform employees at thirteen dollars and fifty cents (\$13.50).

WHEREAS: This resolution excludes contractual, seasonal, internship, and PA work study program employees.

WHEREAS: This Resolution shall revoke and replace any prior wage resolutions regarding non-uniform full and part time wages, to adopted by the City of Sunbury.

The same is Hereby Resolved this 8th day of November 2021.

Kurt Karlovich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jolinn Barner, City Clerk