

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
August 9th, 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 L. Reichner, Director of Accounts and Finance
Christopher Reis, Director of Public Safety
James R. Eister, Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Buildings

Other City officials in attendance:

Derrick Backer, City Administrator
Joel Wiest, City Solicitor
Bradley Hare, Chief of Police
Jeffrey Wojciechowski, Code Enforcement Supervisor
Jolinn Barner, City Clerk
Steve Welker, Public Works Supervisor

Visitors present: 9

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

Executive Session

There was an executive session held on 7/30/2021 to discuss real property and 8/05/2021 to discuss real property and personnel matters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REPORTS

The Minutes of July 12th, and 26th, 2021 and reports of the Fire Dept., Police Dept., Treasurer, Engineer, and Code Office. 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 Reichner. Unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS

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

Police Building Construction Project

The police building is on schedule to be completed mid to end September, and the grand opening to be October 29th, 2021.

STMP

Councilman Reis made the motion to assign recommendations 6,7, and 8 (use the financial model as an essential tool in the annual budget process, implement the model budget process presented in this report, and take the necessary steps to develop a multi-year capital improvement program and budget) to the City Treasurer. Second Karlovich. Unanimous vote.

Councilman Reis made the motion to assign recommendation 17 (responsibility for implementing the strategic plan for economic development) to city administrator. Second Karlovich. Unanimous vote.

Council then had a discussion on recommendations 12 and 23 (convene Sunbury stakeholders and City partners to update the 2011 strategic plan for economic development, and develop a plan for the highest and best use of the site of the current police department building after demolition and site clearance are completed).

SWEEP Project

City administrator will be submitting a grant application to the Degenstein Foundation tomorrow. The plan with the grant application is to accomplish the trail, walkway, classroom, parking lot, and grass area. Mayor Karlovich announced on Sunday Aug. 22nd from 9am to 2pm Troup 333 and other volunteers will be doing maintenance on the property, and lunch will be provided to the volunteers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Blighted Review Committee

Councilman Eister made the motion to approve the appointed members of the blighted review committee with terms to be determined. Second Reichner. Yes – Karlovich, Reichner, Eister Abstain – Reis. (See attached).

Hiring of Constable Sam Spigelmeyer

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to hire Sam Spigelmeyer as constable. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Non-Uniformed Pension Proposal for New Hires

Councilman Reis made the motion to move forward with Conrad Seigle setting up the defined contribution pension plan. Second Eister. Unanimous vote

APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES

Councilman Reichner moved to approve to Pay Invoices/Vouchers General Fund - \$27,988.62 and Liquid Fuels Fund - \$955.46. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Tax Exoneration

Councilman Reichner moved to accept the tax exoneration of \$2,772.49. Second Reis. Unanimous vote.

Discussion

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

- IT Services for City
- Sunbury Code Enforcement Officer Report
- EMD Director Deadline to Submit Letters is due by 08/16/2021
- CPAC/Community Diversity Office

Announcements

Mayor Karlovich announced SRI will be closing Market Street from Front Street to 3rd Street on Saturday August 14th from 6am to 5pm.

Councilman Eister and other city officials thanked Jolinn Barner for planning National Night Out.

Pre-Submitted Audience Comment

There were no Pre-Submitted Comments

In Person

Tim Galvin: Mr. Galvin had a business for about 15 years in computer repair, and he is concerned with the IT services. Mr. Galvin highly recommends not to purchase anymore IT computer systems, but rather renting them. The city will save a lot of money if renting them, because computer systems depreciate a lot.

Bill Stanley: Mr. Stanley wants to bring up an ongoing problem on race street with the drugs/domestic violence. Mr. Stanley said he talked to the owner about the issue as well and he would like them out as well. Mr. Stanley said there were 7 cops at the location a few weeks ago. Mr. Stanley mentioned that there have been multiple overdoses at that house. Ms. Heather Baker mentioned that at 1 am there are kids that show up to buy sunglasses at the house. Mr. Stanley also mentioned that cars with black tinted windows show up at the house during the evening hours.

The next city council meeting will be held on August 23rd, 2021 at 6:15 pm.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Rissinger,
Administrative Assistant

Blighted Property Review Committee

Chris Reis – Council Member

Clay Rowe – Redevelopment Authority

Andres Manresa – City Planning Commission

Derrick Backer – City Administrator