

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
September 13th, 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
Joshua Brosious, Director of Public Works
James R. Eister, Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Buildings

Other City officials in attendance:

Jerome Alex, City Controller
Joel Wiest, City Solicitor
Bradley Hare, Chief of Police
Jolinn Barner, City Clerk
Kevin Troup, City Treasure
Derrick Backer, City Administrator

Visitors present: 19

A moment of silent reflection was held prior to the beginning of the meeting for the victims of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and to the 13 US service members who were killed in an August attack outside the international airport in Kabul Afghanistan.

Executive Session

There was an executive session held on 8/30/2021, to discuss personnel matters involving the Administration Office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REPORTS

The Minutes of August 9th, and 23rd, 2021 and reports of the Fire Dept., Police Dept., Treasurer, Engineer, Code Office, and Police Pension Board. 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 Brosious. Unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS

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

Police Building Construction Project

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to approve Change order #21 with an additional cost of \$428.00, Change order #22-A with an additional cost of \$413.00, and Change order #23-A for a 51-day completion date extension. Second Reis. Unanimous vote.

Strategic Management Planning Program (STMP)

A STMP meeting will be held on Thursday Sept. 26th, 2021 to discuss the recommendations.

Sunbury Wetland Ecological Education Park (SWEEP)

Applied for a NEEF Grant for \$20,000.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Appointment of Emergency Management Director

Mayor Karlovich's recommendation to the Governor will be Paul Brown for the position. No vote was required.

PD Planit Schedule Software

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to accept the 1-year trial. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

1st Reading Community Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to accept the first reading of Community Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office ordinance. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Mayor Karlovich announced that the city will be accepting letters of interest for the position until Oct. 22nd at 12pm.

City Engineer

Councilman Eister made the motion to appoint Mike Thomas as city engineer. Second Karlovich. Unanimous vote.

Susquehanna River Valley Visitors Guide

Councilman Eister made the motion to place an ad in the Susquehanna River Valley Visitors Guide up to the price of a full page. Second Reichner. Yes – Karlovich, Reichner, Brosious, Eister. No - Reis.

Degenstein Grant

Refund/Alternative Project for Opportunity Zone Seminar Money

Councilman Eister made the motion to apply for reallocation of Degenstein funds to the skate park, and if Degenstein foundation denies that request then apply for the funds to be reallocated to the family room in the police station. Second Karlovich. Unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Proclamation Hispanic Heritage Month

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to accept the proclamation. Second Reis. Yes – Karlovich, Reichner, Reis, Eister. Abstain – Brosious. (See Attached)

COBRA Administration for City Health Benefits

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to accept COBRA services for \$500 a year from Swift and Kennedy. Second Reis. Unanimous vote.

Amend Resolution 2021-29 Covid Mitigation

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to keep the current covid-19 policy in place other than change the policy to make it recommended that all employees and members of the public where their masks while on city property, and change the end date to January 6th, 2022. Second Brosious. Unanimous vote.

Sunbury Baseball covered under the city's EIN number

Mayor Karlovich made the motion that we write a letter saying that Sunbury Baseball is covered under the City's EIN number. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Siegel Non-Uniform Pension Benefits Invest Committee

Council and Public Officials had a discussion regarding this topic.

Amendment to 2018 Albright Grant

Mayor Karlovich made the motion to accept the extension request and additional project scope request. Second Brosious. Yes – Karlovich, Reichner, Brosious, Eister. Abstain – Reis.

APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES

Councilman Reichner moved to approve to Pay Invoices/Vouchers General Fund - \$78,402.40 and Liquid Fuels Fund - \$744.58. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Tax Exoneration

Councilman Reichner moved to accept the tax exoneration of \$125.82. Second Reis. Unanimous vote.

Discussion

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

- Meeting Policy Update
- August Code Update
- Parking Permits
- Hire Alex Rissinger as Full-Time Administrative Assistant
- Blighted Property Review Process
- LERTA
- American Rescue Funds

Announcements

Mayor Karlovich announced the next S.W.E.E.P cleanup with the volunteers will be this coming Sunday at 9am at the wetland property.

Pre-Submitted Audience Comment

There were no Pre-Submitted Comments

In Person

Laura Bubb: Ms. Bubb is apart of the Central PA Pickleball Lovers Club board and is requesting pickleball lines be painted on two of the tennis courts. Ms. Bubb explained what pickleball is and how popularity is growing. She mentioned having 2 tennis courts painted would give them 4 pickleball courts. Ms. Bubb mentioned other places in the surrounding area that are allowing them to paint the courts in handicap blue for Pickleball. Ms. Bubb said that all she is asking for is someone to come out and paint the courts, and they will supply the paint. Ms. Bubb thanked council for their time and consideration.

Tim Gelvin: Mr. Gelvin feels that the Sunbury Baseball switching banks throws up a red flag, and that they should be audited. Mr. Troup responded that they are most likely being audited, but the reason that they could be switching banks could be due to interest rates being better. Mr. Gelvin had a suggestion for the city to look into a parking meter system similar to an area in Lancaster where you just download an app and pay over your phone. He feels it was very easy and would be better for the city.

Dimos Panagolulia: Mr. Panagolulia feels that it is hard to explain his concerns that he has within 3 minutes. Mr. Panagolulia wanted to know if there was any progress on the incident that happened at his building on Sept. 20th, 2020? Was a suspect found? Mayor Karlovich made the comment that if it is an incident be looked into there will be no comment. Mr. Panagolulia feels that there are problems with the judges, and school district about how they handle cases. Mayor Karlovich told Mr. Panagolulia that his concerns were passed on to the County, and there is nothing else the city can do. Mayor Karlovich recommends that Mr. Panagolulia call the county administration office and attend their public meetings.

Dave Whipple: Mr. Whipple made the comment that the street sweeper should go down Edison Ave more often due to the construction and all the trucks that are driving on Edison Ave causing it to be extremely dirty.

Allen Bubb: Mr. Bubb feels that it should be the contractor's job to clean the street and not the city.

The next city council meeting will be held on September 27th, 2021 at 6:15 pm.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Rissinger,
Administrative Assistant

CITY OF SUNBURY

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 1988 the United States Congress authorized Hispanic Heritage Month to be observed from September 15 to October 15 to encourage all citizens to recognize, understand and appreciate the contributions of Hispanic-Americans; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans have served with honor and distinction in every conflict since the Revolutionary War and have made invaluable contributions through their service and dedication to the United States of America; and

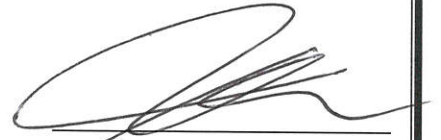
WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans lead corporations, not for profits, social movements, and places of learning. They serve in government at every level from school boards to statehouses and from city councils to Congress; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic men and women play an integral role in the progress and productivity of our great City, State and Country; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, Sunbury has a Hispanic population of 6.6%; and

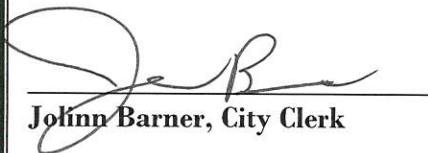
WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans continue to enrich our City and Nation's character and shape our common future. They strengthen American's promise and affirm the narrative of American unity and progress; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Kurt Karlovich, being Mayor of the City of Sunbury, County of Northumberland, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim the month of September 15 – October 15, 2021 as National Hispanic Heritage Month. I encourage all to recognize the substantial contributions of Hispanic Americans that build onto the cultural fabric of our great city.



Kurt M. Karlovich, Mayor
09/13/2021

ATTEST:



Jolinn Barner, City Clerk

