

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
April 24th, 2023
6:15 pm

An Executive session was held prior to a regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Sunbury to discuss personal matters, a regular scheduled meeting of the Council of the city of Sunbury was called to order with the Honorable Mayor Brosious, presiding. There was a quorum with the following in attendance:

Ric Reichner, Director of Finance
John Barnhart, Director of Public Safety
Lisa Martina, Director of Public Works
James R. Eister, Director of Parks, Recreation

Other City officials in attendance:

Jolinn Barner, City Clerk
Ronald Rupp, Fire Chief
Bradley Hare, Chief of Police
Joel Wiest, City Solicitor
Jerome Alex, City Controller
Jeff Wojciechowski, Public Safety Supervisor
Derrick Backer, City Administrator

Visitors present: 18.

Public Agenda Comment

Josette Burgess: I need a paper to be signed for the sale of my house.

Joel Wiest the City Solicitor informed her that she was on the agenda and will be taken care of by the end of the meeting.

Agenda Additions

Vote to allow City Solicitor to file eminent domain against Sun-Re Cheese Co. and Sunbury Cold Storage

Mayor Brosious made the motion to add the City Solicitor to file eminent domain against Sun-Re Cheese Co. and Sunbury Cold Storage to the Agenda. Second Councilman Barnhart. Unanimous Vote.

Zimmerman's Request Waiver of Storm Management Project

Mayor Brosious made the motion to add Zimmerman's Request for Waiver of Storm Management Project to the Agenda. Second Councilman Barnhart. Unanimous Vote.

S.W.E.E.P

Kurt Karlovich updated out of the \$1,000.00 Charles B. Degenstein grant using it for expenditures having we are down to \$571.85. The kids are having a blast at this program. Last Sunday was our April S.W.E.E.P Stewardship program. The S.W.E.E.P Committee, boy Scout Troop #223 were all coming out. In total we had 33 volunteers, 17 of the volunteers were students who all gave 101 hours of community service. They collected two forty-five-gallon trash bags filled with garbage and litter scattered about the property, and light maintenance of all the trails. The participants planted ninety-three saplings provided by the Sunbury Shade Tree Commission. They planted forty eastern redbuds, twenty dogwoods, and twenty river birch trees within the property. The kids were learning about the plants, and they had a good time doing it. The participants also learned about duck litter flying in squirrel boxes and we had the material there, and we constructed these wildlife boxes, and we plan on installing these within the Property approximately June this summer.

Kurt Karlovich requested permission to apply for a small Truist Grant S.W.E.E.P Committee. He wants to apply by May 1st and will be working with the City Administrator to apply for this Grant. Mayor Brosious made the motion to allow the S.W.E.E.P Committee to apply for a small Truist Grant. Second Councilman Eister. Unanimous Vote.

May 28th is our next Stewardship program.

Shade Tree

Julie Brosious updated the Council about the peace pool for Keithan's Garden. On behalf of the Commission, we received a letter that this pole could use some TLC. Brian Seward of Sun-tech contacted me and advised he would put the project forward with the students, Brian also advised he felt the dedication plaque could also use some TLC, the dedication reads "these poles are handcrafted poles presenting the peace message. Presenting peace on earth and in different languages. Their purpose is to spread the message "may peace prevail on earth and to act as a constant reminder to work for pray for visualize and think about peace, in our lives, homes and in the world. It was constructed by the Sun career Center in 1997-1998 cabinetry class presented by the girl scout troop 455 Saint Monica's 1998. Another letter was penned about the gateway to the city. Section of south second and South Front Street, some of the trees are crowded in that area and are dead. Since it is a gateway, the request is made to improve to complement for Keithan's gardens and to make it more appealing for visitors to welcome them to our city.

Sapling Giveaway: received 14 species out of the 16 species ordered, and we found a home for all the 14 species of Saplings, and we had a variety of people from different areas as far as Shamokin, Herndon, Milton, and near Pittsburgh. As result of the tree giveaway there were three individuals that expressed that they would want to join the commission.

Unfinished Business

Event Trailer Purchase

Councilman Eister made the motion to order the Event trailer through ARPA funds for \$10,000.00. Second Mayor Brosious. Unanimous Vote.

New Business

Appointment of Constance (Connie) Plonowski to Shade Tree Commission as an Alternate-

Mayor Brosious made the motion to Appoint Constance Plonowski to Shade Tree Commission as an Alternate. Second Councilwoman Martina. Unanimous Vote.

Typographical Provision of Public Nuisance Ordinance “Abatement” to replace word “Allentown” with word “Sunbury”.

Mayor Brosious made the motion to approve Typographical Provision of Public Nuisance Ordinance “Abatement” to replace “Allentown” with “Sunbury”. Second Councilman Barnhart. Unanimous Vote.

Request to satisfy 2005 Mortgage that falls under the Program Income Loans

Mayor Brosious made the motion to satisfy the 2005 Mortgage that falls under the Program Income Loans. Second Councilman Eister. Unanimous Vote.

Vote to allow City Solicitor to file eminent domain against Sun-Re Cheese Co. and Sunbury Cold Storage

Mayor Brosious stated we took care of the City Solicitor to file eminent domain against Sun-Re Cheese Co. and Sunbury Cold Storage. No Vote.

Zimmerman’s Request Waiver of Storm Management Project

Mayor Brosious made the motion to approve Zimmerman’s Request for Waiver of Storm Management Project. Second Councilman Barnhart. Unanimous Vote.

Shikellamy All Sports Complex Project Extension Request

Councilman Barnhart made the motion to approve the Shikellamy All Sports Complex Project Extension Request. Second Councilwoman Martina. Unanimous Vote.

City Website

Councilman Eister made the motion to go with Seven Mountains Media to build a new website for the city. Second Mayor Brosious. Unanimous Vote.

Gannett Fleming Contract for Comprehensive/Zoning Plan

Councilman Eister made the motion to accept the Gannett Fleming Contract for Comprehensive/ Zoning Plan. Second Councilman Reichner. Unanimous Vote.

Keystone Collection Group 2024 Delinquent Tax Collector

Councilman Reichner made the motion to change our Tax Collector from Statewide to the Keystone Collection Group 2024 Delinquent Tax Collector. Second Mayor Brosious. Unanimous Vote.

Approval of Abstract/Vouchers for Gf is \$159,939.41 and LF- \$2,131.94.

Councilman Reichner made the motion to approve the Abstract/Vouchers for GF of \$159,939.41 and LF of \$2,131.94. Second Mayor Brosious. Unanimous Vote.

Discussion

Brushes with Destiny, LLC Community Mural Project

The City Administrator discussed partnering with Brushes with Destiny, LLC Community Mural Project to paint beautiful murals throughout the city and partnering with organizations. They asked if we would give them a monetary contribution. If you would like to learn more about it they are willing to come and give a presentation so we could learn more about what they do. They do it in private buildings, they are asking more if we are ok with it.

The council asked about setting up a meeting to see what they can do, and what they are about.

Riverfront Fire Department /Youth Field Day Event

Councilman Barnhart discussed spoke to several fire companies about needing more youth involvement. Wants to have a display at the fire departments and river rescue see if the high school would be willing to have a field day down in that area so we can get the kids involved. Asking if anyone has any ideas to get the kids more involved in firefighting.

City Public Auction of Bikes and Miscellaneous Items-

Councilman Eister discussed cleaning bicycles out of the shop. He then asked Chief hare how long we must keep them once they are collected. Hare responded there is no time frame. He will have more information on what he wants done by the next council meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Accepting letters of interest to fill the vacant 3-year term for the Board of Appeals and HARB. Please submit letters of interest to City Clerk at jbarnier@sunburypa.org .

460 Arch Street, Sunbury, PA (otherwise known as “Arch and 5th Streets” and Tax Parcel #053-01-008-024) will be auctioned by the Sunbury Redevelopment Authority on **April 29, 2023**. More information will be made available on the website at sunburyredevelopment.org.

City of Sunbury Mulch Giveaway May 6 from 7:30 a.m. to noon located at the Brush Recycling Center, at the old Celotex lot.

City of Sunbury Public Safety Office

Neighborhood Walk Around Monday, June 5, through Friday, June 9, 2023

TV and Tire Recycling Event June 10, 2023, 9am to 12pm

Next City Council Meeting will be held at City Hall on May 08, 2023, 6:15pm

PUBLIC COMMENT

Julie Brosious: Chair of the Shade Tree Commission, I have a question about the Shade Tree Commission! If other people are interested in joining the Commission, what is the process of Changing the ordinance for this many members to grow the commission.

Joel Wiest: Gave out his contact information to her.

Also, for the murals on Fourth street coming off walnut on the side of the building that was the grocery store, it is faded but it says Pillsbury is the best. That is how they advertised back in the day.

Recruitment of fireman: That the existing firemen are open to truth. And not all of them are as welcoming and it deters us from getting more volunteers.

Cory Fasold: Here to make an announcement: May 23rd @6pm reopening grand opening of the Kiwanis playground. We invite all the City Council there. We are trying to do a revamp and make sure there is quality safety for children. It hasn't been done in over 50 years and it is very important. As everybody knows money is happy, we have it handled, we are almost at our goal. There will be two entrances we hope the Citizens really get good use out of it. The press will be there, there will be hotdogs and the hill neighborhood is partnering with us with Volunteerism. We are doing something Positive for Sunbury. Thank the City for the Help with up there.

South front Street Haven: it's going very well hoping to get Bids out in June for Beginning of July for We with the communities' big hearts and donations from citizens and businesses over \$450,000 for the project. We are adding 10 new rooms with 4 four places. Out of the 10 rooms 9 will be new places to live. The other will be a laundry room, the other rooms are going to be one and half times the size of the already existing rooms. The good thing about Haven is you can't be there more than 6 months. There are some exceptions, normal turn rates are about 5 months. Another Government agency got involved, and money wise they will take someone that we think are ready with some type for job the government agency will help them with money. Our goal is that we don't want someone to become a sponge. We want these people to become contributors and get them the training and some type of job so they can start contributing to the community.

Thank you to the city council for all the help you given. We are working on one large Grant to really get things going and make things better.

Victoria Rosecrans: I want to suggestions for the city website, I have suggested this several times but to refresh your memories. We really need a language box up in the corner and you hit Spanish in the drop down and there are many languages they could pick from so our website would be more inclusive. Just a suggestion on that, Chief Hare I think I know my answer now the weather is getting warmer I see people going out on motorcycles on market street and I'm

not sure what establishment there went in, but a scooter plated like a vehicle was parked on the pavement twice, so if you could investigate that because that is not where they belong.

Christmas in July: Cameron Park, location changed bringing it back to downtown and to the businesses and bring more foot traffic down to the business and it will work with my level of volunteers. Sidewalk sales do need a permit for that, Jeff Responded to \$10.00 for sidewalk sales. Mayor Brosious commented we have been waiving the fee as long as we know who is doing what.

We have businesses with tables and barrels on market street so that would be the same thing, right? "Yes" Ok thanks.

Permission to apply for Grants for books for Rosenbloom for Ugly Sweater and apply for grants for Ugly Sweater and Degeinstein for Lightfest. "Yes" okay.

I would like to also have a festival this February focus being the Ice rink and the Vendors highlighting the rink with an open skate Zamboni demonstration, Figure Skating demonstration and Hockey demonstration. And food trucks outside and the funds would be split between the Sunbury Lightfest and the Sunbury youth and Community Center. Is that something you're ok with? Councilman Eister responded that they would discuss it when it gets closer so they can make sure the schedule aligns.

I have seen the lights were taken down from the gazebo that weren't working anyway, so do we want to get more because it does look pretty when they are all lit up. I will get some icicle lights from Riley's, the good ones not the crappy ones we have been purchasing. Would you like me to investigate that and get it light up for the summer or do you want to wait til Christmas?

Councilman Eister stated Carl the Supervisor of Parks and rec will be looking into that because like you said they were junky and that's why we took them down.

The other council said they will let Carl look into that.

Joe Bartello: Recycling where will it be located?

Jeff The Public Safety Supervisor said it will be located at the Skating Rink and there will be a small Fee to use it.

Mayor Brosious said that we will send a flyer to him with the information on it as well.

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ciara Chappell

Administrative Assistant