CITY COUNCIL

Sunbury PA 17801

September 25, 2023

6:15 p.m.

**There was an Executive meeting held prior to tonight’s meeting to discuss personnel.**

There was 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:

John Barnhart III, Director of Public Safety

James R. Eister, Director of Parks & Recreation

Lisa Martina, Director of Public Works

Other City officials in attendance:

Jeffrey Wojciechowski, City Clerk

Ronald Rupp, Fire Chief

Joel Wiest, City Solicitor

Jerome Alex, City Controller

Derrick Backer, City Administrator

Michael Rhoads, Acting Code Supervisor

Sergeant Travis Bremigen, Acting Police Chief

Visitors present: 16

**POLICE UPDATE**

Sergeant Travis Bremigen went over reports and updates on the Police Department.

**CDBG FINAL PUBLIC HEARING**

Jamie Shrawder recessed regular meeting and called to order the CDBG Final Public Hearing. Jamie went over the project selection and resolutions for review. Being there was no public comment the hearing was adjourned, and Josh Brosious reconvened the council meeting.

**Insurance Claims**

Councilman Eister discussed the process of how claims need to be submitted to the city clerk.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS**

N/A

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution #2023-29 to Apply for FFY 2023 CDBG**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to adopt the resolution to apply for FFY 2023 CDBG. Eister seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Fair Housing Resolution #2023-30**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to adopt the resolution for Fair Housing. Martina seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**504 Officer Resolution #2023-31**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to adopt the resolution for the 504 Officer. Barnhart seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**LSA Grant Submission (Paving)**

Derrick discussed apply for an LSA Grant for paving and infrastructure for Walnut St & Memorial Drive. It comes out to $982,805.00 there are no match requirements for LSA. There was discussion on the matter. Martina made a motion to apply for the grant. Brosious seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Public Works New Hire PT $15/hr.**

Councilwoman Martina withdrew. Applicant is no longer interested in the position.

**Code Enforcement New Hire Sandra Anspach PT $14.50/hr.**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion to table until next council meeting. Brosious seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Meck-Tech 2024 Billing Rates**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion to accept the Meck-Tech 2024 billing rates. Brosious seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Waiver Request for 1214 Line Street**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion to approve the waiver request for 1214 Line Street. Mike Rhoads explained it if for the waiver or the preapplication plan, preliminary plan and to print on regular paper instead of cloth. Brosious seconded the motion. Eister abstained. Brosious, Barnhart, Martina and Reichner in favor.

**HARB Approval for 112-114 Chestnut St**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion for HARB approval for 112-114 Chestnut Street. Brosious seconded the motion.

**Approval of Abstract/Vouchers for GF $328,158.17, LF $348.55, Private Grants $120,154.15, and payroll $60,586.06**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to pay the above bills. Eister seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**DISCUSSION**

**AED Police Station**

Mayor Brosious discussed adding an AED to the Police Station. There was discussion on the matter. It was already voted on so the city will purchase an AED for the Police Station.

**City Hall Upgrades**

Councilman Eister is waiting for Rocky to get back to him regarding the upgrades.

**Positive Question/Comments**

Councilman Barnhart explained that he is not trying to take away from people’s rights and amendments. Wants the public to understand that Public Comment is not a Q & A, and the three-minute time limit should be enforced.

**Susquehanna Avenue Street Cuts**

Steve Welker talked about how a lot of money is being put into the Susquehanna Avenue Project. Any elective cut will not be approved for 5 years, only emergency cuts. Wanted to make the public aware that if they wish to convert to gas, they will need to do it now because it will not be allowed for 5 years after the project is complete. We do not want to put all the time and effort into paving the street for it to be cut up again.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

New Year’s Eve Celebration Meeting will be held on September 26, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall; all are welcome.

A Flood training exercise will be held on September 27, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. throughout the city. There will be multiple street closures.

Susquehanna Avenue Gas Relocation and Five-Year Moratorium of Elective Street Cuts in Specified Areas

In early October 2023, UGI will begin the removal and replacement of their gas lines on Susquehanna Avenue from Reagan Street to Amy Street as well as on Packer Street from Susquehanna Avenue to Front Street. If property owners in these specific areas require an additional or new gas service where non exists now, they must make those request to UGI immediately. UGI can be reached at 1-800-276-2722.

Parking Restrictions

Parking restrictions will be implemented as needed by UGI for the gas line work on Susquehanna Avenue starting early October 2023. UGI currently estimates the gas line work will be completed by the end of this year.

Phase 1 Susquehanna Reconstruction

Full roadway, sidewalks, curbs, water, sewer and storm reconstruction for Phase 1 of the Susquehanna Avenue Project is scheduled to commence in the spring of 2024, or earlier dependent on weather conditions. Pending any weather, supply delays or complications, Phase 1 Construction of Susquehanna Avenue should be completed by the end of 2024.

**Next City Budget Meeting will be held at City Hall on October 9, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.**

**Next City Council Meeting will be held at City Hall on October 9, 2023, at 6:15pm**

**Mayor Brosious announced that the city webpage is going to be launching soon. If there are any questions or concerns, please call the office.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Victoria Rosencrans expressed her opinion regarding public comment.

Deborah Betz asked what the vouchers were for and commented that the public meetings are for those that cannot make it during regular office hours. She was also concerned about a tree on Front Street.

Robert Walter asked what it takes to get a property on the nuisance list. There was discussion on the matter regarding 925 Reagan Street.

Julie Brosius wanted to express that she was not trying to upset anyone regarding the events in the city. She discussed what other communities are doing and why we can’t do the same. She asked questions regarding the police violations.

Jeremy Cochran asked if there is anything happening with Sunbury Hospital. He also voiced his concern at 925 Reagan Street.

Justin Strawser asked if we could update the public regarding Brad Hare. Mayor Brosious told him due to personnel issues we cannot comment on that.

There being to further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Garinger

Administrative Assistant