CITY COUNCIL

Sunbury PA 17801

February 12, 2024

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:

James R. Eister, Director of Parks & Recreation

Lisa Martina, Director of Public Works

Ric Reichner, Director of Finance (by phone)

John Barnhart III, Director of Public Safety

Other City officials in attendance:

Jeffrey Wojciechowski, City Clerk

Ronald Rupp, Fire Chief

Jerome Alex, City Controller

Derrick Backer, City Administrator

Michael Rhoads, Public Safety Supervisor

Travis Bremigen, Police Chief

Visitors present: 31

**PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS**

N/A

**Approval of Minutes and Reports: Minutes of January 8th, January 22nd and Reports of the Fire Dept., Police Dept., Treasurer, Controller, Code Office, Health Dept., Parks and Rec, and Planning Commission.**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to approve the above minutes and reports. Councilwoman Martina seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Commercial Ordinance Resolution #2023-017 to Re-Affirm, Adopted 3/27/23**

Councilman Barnhart wanted to re-affirm the Commercial Property Ordinance. He read the exemption process because citizens have had questions regarding the process.

**AARP Grant**

Derrick Backer asked council what projects they would like applied to this grant. Must benefit the community as a whole. There was a discussion on the matter. Mayor Brosious made a motion to table the AARP Grant to a later date but prior to the deadline. Councilman Eister seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**City Hall Upgrade**

Mayor Brosious went over the estimated cost of the City Hall Upgrade project. Rocky Baer needs to know if we are going to move forward with the project. There was a discussion on the matter. Mayor Brosious made a motion to continue with the process of the Upgrade without committing to any dollar amount. Councilwoman Martina seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Accept Resignation of Police Officer Tamborelli as of 12/31/23**

Mayor Brosious made a motion made a motion to accept the resignation of Police Officer Tamborelli as of 12/31/2023. Councilman Eister seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**New Proposed Emergency Procedure and Pay Policy**

Jerome Alex stated it was an updated version of what needs to be for the city. There was a discussion on the matter. Mayor Brosious made a motion to table the policy to review the entire handbook. Councilman Barnhart seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Planning Commission Board Appointment (Lisa Pfleegor)**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to accept the appointment of Lisa Pfleegor to the Planning Commission Board. Councilwoman Martina seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Accept the Resignation of Councilman Reichner as of 2/25/24**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to accept the resignation of Councilman Richard Reichner as of February 25, 2024. Councilwoman Martina seconded the motion; Mayor Brosious and Councilwoman Martina were in favor, Councilman Eister and Councilman Barnhart were not in favor; Councilman Eister rescinded his no vote and voted in favor.

**Purchase Floor Mats for P.D., City Hall and the Rink**

Mayor Brosious made the public aware that we are interested in purchasing floor mats and steamers to save money and do the cleaning in house. Mayor Brosious made a motion to purchase the floor mats and equipment. Councilman Eister seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Police Equipment**

Chief Travis Bremigen addressed with council what the Police Station is going to need to hire 2 more police officers to have a total of 11 full time officers. In addition to the officers, they will need to purchase 2 new handguns. The cost will be roughly between $1,700.00 and $1,800.00 including the trade-in of one the handguns in inventory. Mayor Brosious made a motion to approve the purchase of 2 handguns with a maximum price of $1,800.00 total. Councilman Barnhart seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Resolution #2024-002 Vote for Accepting Final Report of Bike & Pedestrian Report**

Derrick Backer stated that a resolution must be passed to close out the Bike and Pedestrian Audit Grant. Councilman Eister made the motion to pass Resolution #2024-002. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Hire K. Wojciechowski Part Time (16hr/week) Janitorial Services**

Councilman Eister made a motion to hire K. Wojciechowski for part-time at 16 hours a week for $15.00 an hour to clean at the Police Station and City Hall. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Approval of Abstract/Vouchers for GF $130,372.36, LF $1,581.28, Private Grants $31,011.98, Payroll $62,140.44**

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

**DISCUSSION**

**COVID-19 ARPA PA Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program Grant**

Derrick Backer presented a new grant for ARPA Funds through the PA Multi-Purpose Facilities Program Grant. It can be used for the facilities and equipment and there is no match for it. It is a minimum of $250,000.00. The deadline to apply for the grant is April 20, 2024. There was a discussion on the matter.

**Code Enforcement Update**

Councilman Barnhart read a new mission statement. The Code Enforcement Office and the Sunbury Police Department will be working closer together. Chief Bremigen and Public Safety Supervisor Michael Rhoads spoke about the benefits of the departments working together.

**Purchase of Televisions and HDMI cables for City Hall**

Councilman Eister wants to mount a TV in the first-floor conference room because the code department and project meetings are held in that room, and they need to be able to project the maps on the screen for all to see. There are no figures in the works yet. They are looking into a 55” screen which is roughly $400.00 with the HDMI cables costing roughly and extra $20.00. There was a discussion on the matter. They will look into getting a TV for the Council Chambers as well.

**Facility Fees**

Councilman Eister asked council what they want to do about charging facility fees for events. There was a discussion on the matter.

**American Rescue Funds Allocation**

There is a remaining balance of $103,250.00 in the American Rescue Funds. Jamie Shrawder from SEDA-COG mentioned we have to be re-allocate those funds to something else by the end of this year. There was a discussion on where to use the remaining funds.

**Digital Marquee**

There was a discussion on placing a digital marquee in front of City Hall for events, emergencies, and promotions.

**Police Officer Equipment and Recruitment**

Mayor Brosious talked about paying for the Act 120 Training to recruit more officers. There was a discussion on the matter. Chief Bremigen read off his report from the beginning of the year and with all they have done in the span of a month hiring another officer would be beneficial to the city. Chief Bremigen also wanted to discuss putting in an impound facility by the Police Department and other equipment that needs to be updated.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Accepting letters of Interest for 1 open shot H.A.R.B. (Historical Architectural Review Board) – Must be a License Contractor

Accepting letters of interest for 7 open spots (5 active & 2 alternates) on the Nuisance Abatement Board of Appeals (1 City Executive, 1 City Councilperson, 1 Police Officer, 2 Business Owners and 2 Sunbury Citizens)

Mayor’s Office will be closed on 2/16/2024

Open City Council seat replacement will be announced at the next meeting, February 26, 2024

Electronic Recycling Day April 20, 2024, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., City Skating Rink Parking Lot

Coffee with Corgis for Watson’s Wish Foundation, April 20, 2024 at the 3rd Street Train Station

Cameron Park & Front Street Cleanup will be held on April 22nd at 9:00 a.m.

Summer Kickoff will be held on Saturday, June 8th along River Front

Tattoo Convention “Ink in the Rink” will be held June 7th – 9th at the Ice Rink

Easter Egg Hunt, Ball Fields, March 23rd hosted by the Police Dept and Good Will Hose Co.

**Next City Council Meeting will be held at City Hall on February 26, 2024, at 6:15pm**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Julie Brosius asked what the deadline was for the open committee seats. Mayor Brosious told her until they are filled. She also asked for more information about the meeting with SRI before next council meeting. Mayor Brosious said that SRI requested the meeting.

Jeremy Hayes commented about raising money for the skatepark and getting advice from Attorney Joel Wiest. The lights are still not working, and they want to be able to enjoy the park in the evening hours. He also commented on his opinion on the Essential Worker Policy.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Garinger

Administrative Assistant