CITY COUNCIL

Sunbury PA 17801

May 13, 2024

6:15 p.m.

There was a Work Session held prior to tonight’s meeting.

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

John Barnhart III, Director of Public Safety

Nathan Savidge, Director of Finance

Lisa Martina, Director of Public Works

Other City officials in attendance:

Robyn Garinger, Administrative Assistant

Ronald Rupp, Fire Chief

Jerome Alex, City Controller

Derrick Backer, City Administrator

Michael Rhoads, Public Safety Supervisor

Travis Bremigen, Police Chief

Visitors present: 23

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

N/A

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

Mayor Brosious made a motion to approve the minutes and reports listed above. Councilman Savidge seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**National Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation**

Mayor Brosious announced that June 7, 2024, is National Gun Violence Awareness Day and read the proclamation.

**Keithan’s Gardens Staff Recognition**

Mayor Brosious read a Letter of Recognition for the Keithan’s Gardens Staff. James Eister gave Lane & Paul Murray a Caring Award for their dedication to caring for Keithan’s Gardens. Lane & Paul gave a small speech and thanked all those who’ve helped them.

**SWEEP Update**

Kurt Karlovich gave an update on the SWEEP Project. So far this year they have had 59 volunteers help with the park and 189 hours of community service. Last month they surprised 30 of the participants with a field trip to Alderfer Lumber, in Mt. Pleasant Mills where they had a two-hour tour of the facility. They currently have a grant balance of $3,210.49 and a donation balance of 30,678.00.

**Agenda Additions**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to add the Notice of Award to Tra Electric for Reagan Street Traffic Intersection Improvements to the Agenda. Councilman Eister seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

N/A

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Notice of Award to Tra Electric for Reagan Street Traffic Intersection Improvements**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to accept the winning bid from Tra Electric, Inc. for the Reagan Street Traffic Intersection Improvements. Councilwoman Martina seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Vote to Amend Council Meeting Minutes from May 8, 2023**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to amend the council meeting minutes from May 8, 2023, to include public comment and description of the comment. Councilman Eister seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Promotion of Corporal Bradley Slack to Sergeant**

Chief Bremigen gave a background of Corporal Bradley Slacks dedication with the City of Sunbury. Mayor Brosious made a motion to accept the promotion of Corporal Bradley Slack to Sergeant Bradley Slack. Councilman Savidge seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Councilman Savidge wanted to recognize Officer Blank for his professionalism with an accident that occurred last week.

**Removal from Probationary Period of Officer Riley Bremigen**

Chief Bremigen stated that Riley Bremigen was hired as a full-time officer on May 8, 2023, and he has completed his probationary period as of May 8, 2024, and asked for council to remove him from his probationary position. Mayor Brosious made a motion remove Officer Riley Bremigen from probationary period and appoint him to Patrolman 2. Councilwoman Martina seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Police Academy Documentation**

Chief Bremigen explained that the police department has gone through a Civil Service testing process. They are looking for approval to send the candidates who passed the background investigations to the academy. Three candidates will be sent with the approval of council. They will start at Harrisburg Area Community College in July of 2024 and return in December of 2024 and be on the schedule as full-time officers on January 1, 2025. Mayor Brosious made a motion to accept the documentation that’s being presented to the potential officers and at the end of their schooling offer the three highest scoring candidates’ employment with the Sunbury Police Department. Councilman Barnhart seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Robyn Garinger Salary Increase**

Mayor Brosious gave a background on the training and knowledge of multiple departments in the City of Sunbury. Mayor Brosious made a motion to increase the salary of Robyn Garinger, Administrative Assistant, to $20.00/hour starting on June 1, 2024. Councilwoman Martina seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Hiring of Renee Duran PT Office Manager at the Police Station**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to accept the Hiring of PT Police Office Manager Renee Duran at the hourly rate of $20.00 per hour. Councilman Eister seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Hiring of Tina West PT Office Manager at the Police Station**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to accept the Hiring of PT Police Office Manager Tina West at the hourly rate of $20.00 per hour. Councilman Barnhart seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Resolution #2024-023, shredding City Hall Basement Documents**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to approve Resolution #2024-023 of Shredding City Hall Basement Documents. Councilman Eister seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Public Nuisance Abatement Ordinance**

Councilman Barnhart said there are going to be a few changes made to the Public Nuisance Abatement Ordinance. City Administrator Derrick Backer stated there is some language that needs to be cleaned up and removed. We need to amend it so we can ensure the enforceability is correct. This is the first reading. Councilman Barnhart made a motion to approve the first reading of the Public Nuisance Abatement Ordinance amendment. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Dog Leash Law**

Councilman Barnhart announced there have been some incidents within the last year with the Dog Leash Laws. He went over Ordinance number 58 regarding dogs.

**Tax Exonerations**

Councilman Savidge made a motion to accept the request to be exonerated from City Taxes in the total amount of $916.74 for four people, due to three of them being on a limited social security income and one who is deceased. Mayor Brosious seconded; all were in favor.

**Approval of Abstract/Vouchers for GF $399,540.18, LF $10,597.49, and Payroll $67,781.71 (4/26) & $67,387.04 (5/10).**

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

**DISCUSSION**

**DCED MulitiModal Grant**

Derrick Backer, City Administrator stated that the DCED MultiModal Grant submission is due by the end of July. He wants everyone to think about where they would like the funds for this grant to go to and the best use for it.

**Noise Ordinance Reminder**

Councilman Barnhart wanted to bring up the Noise Ordinance with the weather getting nicer. He asked everyone to be courteous to their neighbors.

**IWORQ Bill Pay**

Mr. Rhoads gave a brief description of what the Bill Pay system entails and he brought up his concerns. He spoke with Chief Bremigen about using the same system they have for online payments.

**Boat Launch Lights**

Mayor Brosious has been asked about lights at the boat launch. Jim has talked to K & N, and they are working the lights at the skate park. He has a guy working on the Moon lights on Front Street. They are researching changing the heads out at the boat launch.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Accepting letters of Interest for 1 open spot on 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)

Annual Fire Police Indoor Yard sale, 9am-4pm, 5/22/5/24, Eister Skating Rink

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony 5/27/24, 8am Raspberry,10th, market Streets

All Paws Great and Small Animal Rescue, 6/1/24 8am-1pm, Central Park on 5th Street

Tattoo Convention “Ink in the Rink” – June 7-9, 2024, Ice Rink, Contact Chris Bucher at booking@bodysinkpa.com for more information.

Summer Kickoff – June 8th, 2024, River front

Next City Council Meeting June 10th, 2024, 6:15pm

Television / Metal / Cans Recycling Event - Eister Skating Rink, June 29th 10am – 1pm. There will be a charge of $1 per pound for TV’s. Heavier TV’s will cost more. (No Dishwashers/wood/plastic/glass)

DEI Diversity Festival, Cameron Park, July 20, 2024, time TBD

Christmas in July – Saturday, July 27, 2024, from 9am-4pm at Cameron Park

Latin Festival River Front Park August 10th, 2024, time TBD

**Next City Council Meeting will be held at City Hall on June 10, 2024, at 6:15p.m.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Colleen Cox was attacked by two dogs and called the dog warden, and the warden was not in the area and was told the police can take care of it. There was a discussion between the Chief and Colleen regarding the issue.

Sandra Heim is a representative of Save Our Susquehanna, and they are against the ENCINA Plant. They do not want another dirty oil industry coming to Sunbury. They want to see clean jobs coming in.

 Tyler Kerstetter asked if it would be beneficial for the City or Chief to write a letter to attach with the grant applications. Attorney Wiest gave him some advice on the matter.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Garinger

Administrative Assistant