CITY COUNCIL

Sunbury PA 17801

July 22, 2024

6:15 p.m.

**An Executive Meeting was held prior to tonight’s meeting to discuss personnel and possible litigation. Also, an executive meeting was held on July 15 to discuss personnel as well.**

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:

Jeffrey Wojciechowski, City Clerk

Kevin Troup, City Treasurer

Ronald Rupp, Fire Chief

Derrick Backer, City Administrator

Visitors present: 17

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

N/A

**New Business**

**Notice to Proceed for Reagan Street Intersection**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to approve the notice to proceed for the Reagan Street Traffic Intersection improvements with Tra Electric. Councilwoman Martina seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Susquehanna Change Order**

Derrick Backer explained there was a change order for the Susquehanna Avenue Project Phase 1 to change an eight-inch water line main, from ductile to C-900 DR-18 and the unit prices will be reduced. Municipal Authority is aware and agreed to it. Councilman Eister made a motion to approve the change order. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**City Administrator Ordinance 1st Reading**

Derrick Backer explained that currently we do not have a City Administrator Ordinance within our codes. This follows the third-class city code with a few changes, specifically working with the city clerk on any investigations or disciplinary recommendations to city council and working to prepare the budget with council. There was discussion on the matter. Councilwoman Martina made a motion to table it for a job description at our next meeting. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Termination of Michael Rhoads from Code Enforcement**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion the terminate Michael Rhoads from the Code Enforcement Office. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Public Safety Logistics Officer**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion to create the position of Public Safety Logistics Officer and start advertising for it. The pay will start at $19.00 per hour and is a full-time position. Councilman Savidge questioned this position and a new supervisor. Councilman Barnhart stated that he will not be hiring a supervisor now. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**First Reading Chapter 175-112 Zoning Fee Ordinance Revision**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion to approve the 1st reading of Chapter 175-112 Zoning Fee Ordinance revision. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Code Clerk, Cheryl Delsite, Pay Rate $16.00 an Hour, 32 Hours a Week**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion to accept the pay rate of Cheryl Delsite at $16.00 for 32 hours a week. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Approval of Abstract/Vouchers for GF $150,127.83, LF $0.00, Private Grants $321,983.36, Payroll $69,774.12**

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

**DISCUSSION**

**Fire Department Consolidation Building / Location**

Councilman Barnhart stated that the fire department consolidation is in the process of happening. The bylaws have been approved and they adopted a new name for the entity which is Sunbury Regional Volunteer Fire Rescue. To save money they are looking at the Goodwill Playground and building a 6 bay pole building with enough room to add on as needed. Rick Shemory gave his opinion on the location of the new fire station. There was further discussion on the matter.

**Boat Launch Lights**

Mayor Brosious asked Councilman Eister about when the boat launch lights. Councilman Eister says it’s on his list and should be done this year.

**IT Infrastructure Citywide**

Mayor Brosious stated that by the end of this year we will need to purchase new computers for all city employees because the current computers will not be compatible with the new update. He stated that we need to come up with a plan because our IT contract is expiring next year as well. There was further discussion on the matter.

**City Events**

Mayor Brosious has had some concern from businesses and residents regarding street closures with city events. They are not being notified of the road closures and they are getting frustrated. Our RAVE notification system should be up and running soon, which will help get the word out to residents and businesses.

**OVR State Program**

Mayor Brosious stated that we had students from Shikellamy in the OVR program do some work around the city this summer. He brought up creating a part-time position that can float between departments and use them where they are needed. There was further discussion on the matter.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Accepting Letters of Interest for 1 open spot H.A.R.B. (Historical Architectural Review Board) – Must be a Licensed Contractor. Please contact Robyn or Jeff in the Mayor’s Office.

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, & 2 Sunbury Citizens). Please contact Robyn or Jeff in the Mayor’s Office.

Joe Snedeker/WNEP – 12 Noon Cameron Park July 23rd, 2024. Dunking booth will be used to raise money for St. Joe’s Hospital. 11am – 1pm. Excepting Volunteers.

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

National Night Out – Tuesday, August 6, 2024, from 5pm-8pm at James Eister Community Center

Latin Festival – Saturday, August 10, 2024, at Merle Phillips Park

**Next City Council Meeting will be held at City Hall on August 12, 2024, at 6:15p.m.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Francis Scarcella voiced his concern about the lack of security during the council meetings. Mayor Brosious let him know that they were supposed to be here, but unfortunately there were other pressing matters that they could not attend.

Jody Ocker mentioned that August 16th and 17th will be Sunbury’s River Festival. There will be a Car Cruise In. Also, September 20th is the Lake Augusta Wine & Brew Festival from 4:30pm to 8:30pm. She then announced that there will be a Sunbury Business Owner’s annual dinner on September 30th at the Albright Center between 5pm and 6pm and she extended the invitation to all of City Council. They are planning a Community Engagement Event on Saturday, October 12th at Cameron Park. Wednesday, July 24th is the Blueprint Communities Workshop. This is all 10 participating communities and their teams, will be at the Albright Center.

Erica Miller-Driscoll is a local business owner and was concerned about the city not having a health inspector. Her health license expired and wanted to make sure she wasn’t going to be in violation. Jeff let her know that he will call the state inspector so he can come and inspect it.

Julie Brosious asked if the city has looked into Sysco or Dell for computer equipment and someone local for support. Mayor Brosious said we are looking into it and are still in the planning stage. Also, she said the school board has not heard anything about the Fire Department Club.

Victora Rosancrans wanted the city to be mindful if they hire the OVR students that they may need a job coach. This will set them up for adulthood and will make them successful in our community. Also, on August 17th from 12:00pm to 4:00pm at the Goodwill Playground is an all-inclusive splash day.

Joe Bartello asked what the decision was on the sandwich boards. Council let him know that it was tabled, and that Joel was looking into the legalities of it.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Garinger

Administrative Assistant