CITY COUNCIL

Sunbury PA 17801

October 28, 2024

6:15 p.m.

The 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:

Atty Joel Weist, Solicitor

Jeff Wojciechowski, City Clerk

Ronald Rupp, Fire Chief

Jerome Alex, City Controller

Travis Bremigen, Police Chief

Steve Welker, Public Works Supervisor

Derrick Backer, City Administrator

Joyce Neidig, Code Officer

Visitors present: 17

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

N/A

**AGENDA ADDITIONS**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to add the Geisinger Parking Lot Agreement and Code Personnel to the agenda. Councilman Barnhart seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

N/A

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Geisinger Parking Lot Agreement**

Jeff Wojciechowski explained that Geisinger utilizes 16 parking spaces alongside their building the cities parking lot and 3 roaming spots in the parking lot next to Coles Hardware. Starting December 1st of this year Geisinger will pay $3800.00 a year with an increase of 3% every year for the next 10 years for the 19 parking spaces. Mayor Brosious made a motion to accept the agreement. Councilwoman Martina seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Code Personnel**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion to increase the wages of Joyce Neiding and Jennifer Martina to $20.00 an hour. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; Mayor Brosious and Councilman Barnhart were in favor; Councilwoman Martina, Councilman Eister and Councilman Savidge were against the wage increase.

**2023 City Audit**

Jerome Alex, City Controller, stated that we received the audit for 2023. It’s very clear and it’s fine. Councilman Savidge made a motion to accept the 2023 City Audit and sign the management letter to send back. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Meck-Teck Fee Schedule**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion to accept the fee schedule set by Meck-Tech. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Amend Ordinance #134-12 Housing Permit Addendum**

Councilman Barnhart made a motion to table the Amendment to Ordinance #134-12, Housing Permit Addendum, until next meeting. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**PenTeleData Service Contract**

Jeff Wojciechowski explained that there are 3 upgrades for the following departments: City Hall, Department of Public Works, and Parks and Recreation. Councilwoman Martina would like to amend the proposed contract and increase the DPW speed to 200 in and 25 out. Mayor Brosious made a motion to accept the PenTeleData Service Contract with the amendment of the DPW upgrade. Councilman Eister seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Reappointment Letter Request for SWEEP Committee – Donald Brouse & Appointment Request Letter for SWEEP Committee – Pablo Santos**

Mayor Brosious made a motion to add reappoint Donald Brouse and appoint Pablo Santos to the SWEEP Committee. Councilman Savidge seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Statewide LSA Grant**

Derrick Backer explained that new information came to light after the last council meeting. It was approved to apply for $100,000.00 for the LSA Grant. They were advised to apply for more and apply for the project. The new estimate for the project is $711,321.00. He’s asking to amend the vote from last week and apply for the current cost of the project instead of the $100,000.00 that was approved at the last meeting. There was discussion on the matter. Councilwoman Martina made a motion to amend the amount they applied for, for the LSA Grant. Councilman Eister seconded the motion; Councilman Savidge, Councilman Eister, and Councilwoman Martina were in favor. Mayor Brosious and Councilman Barnhart were not in favor.

**SRI Statewide LSA Grant Request**

Derrick Backer explained that SRI wants to apply for the Statewide LSA Grant as a subgrantee through the city for $25,000.00 to do a study to look at the Albright Center. They have an individual from SEDA-COG that is willing to volunteer and do the grant writing. Mr. Backer did advise them that the person would have to be an allowable individual to write the grant on their behalf and submit it for the city. There was further discussion on the matter. Mayor Brosious made a motion to allow SRI to use the information that they need and before submitting the grant it needs approval/review of the City of Sunbury. Councilman Savidge seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**Approval of Abstracts/Vouchers for GF $107,281.91, LF $0.00, Private Grants $331,638.18, and Payroll $53,435.25**

Councilman Savidge made a motion to pay the above abstracts and vouchers. Mayor Brosious seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**DISCUSSION**

**Skating Rink Parking Lot**

Mayor Brosious asked Steve Welker what the plan was for paving the Skating Rink Parking Lot. Steve said that they will do an analysis of it and see where we are getting the funds to fix it.

**Liquid Fuels Funds**

Steve Welker explained that over the last 6 years we have saved around $850,000.00. The projections of where those funds are going are $110,000.00 for a New T-Tag, $460,000.00 being put into Packer Street next year, $225,000.00 going into paving streets next year, and $400,000.00 allocated for 2026 Memorial Drive Project which leaves us with a deficit of $75,000.00. We are getting more Liquid Fuel Funds in 2025 and grants help offset some of the cost.

**City Hall Remodel**

Mayor Brosious wanted opinions on where to start with the city remodel. Councilman Barnhart would like to see cameras go in with the two incidents that occurred over the last two weeks in the City Hall. Councilman Eister explained that Ted Strosser is working with Jamie Shrawder making a list up to go out for bid starting with the offices and installing a glass barrier, the electrical, the list of importance, and then the alternates. There was further discussion on the matter.

**Keithan’s Gardens**

Mayor Brosious announced that one of the workers helping with the gardens may not be coming back next year. With him not coming back and Paul Murray passing away, they are going to be down quite a bit of help. Mayor Brosious wants to be proactive and start finding help. Councilman Eister will be talking with Lane Murray about future plans.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-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)

- Trick-or-Treating will be held October 31st from 6pm-8pm

-Sunbury Santa Parade & Tree Lighting Ceremony, November 29th at 5pm in Cameron Park

-Cereal with Santa & How the Grinch Stole Santa’s Seat, December 7th at 9am at the Albright Center

-Sensory Friendly Santa, December 8th at 10am at Santa’s House in Cameron Park

-Ugly Sweater Christmas Party, December 29th at 4pm at the Ice-Skating Rink

-New Year’s Eve Celebration, December 31st

-Accepting letters for open 2025 board positions.

- City Clerk’s Office will be closed tomorrow, October 29th due to Training

-Steve - November 30th is the final day for the no parking ordinance.

- Steve - Leaf pickup did start, if you have a pick call DPW for pickup

-Laurie Johnson - Late Night Shoppers – 8 businesses are supporting and purchasing Lego kits this year. Shikellamy and Line Mountain Students are going to build them, and the businesses will display them in the windows. Citizens can be entered in to win the Legos. Winners will be drawn 3 days before Christmas. 4 will be open, 4 will be unopen.

**Next City Council Meeting will be held at City Hall on November 11, 2024, at 6:15p.m.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ken Blechman is part of a group looking to purchase the Celotex Site. They work with impaired sites and develop solar on those sites. The soil tests came back with arsenic contamination. 2/3 of the soil fits in the clean fill regiment and 1/3 fits in the polluted section. They spoke with PADEP and explained their concerns. They explained the pros of installing solar on the site. There was further discussion on the matter.

Julie Brosious asked if Ken had a website or a drive for the information.

Joe Bartello asked if the city held the auction today. Mayor Brosious explained that it was at 4:30pm. The total amount the city brought in was $23,500.00.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Garinger

Administrative Assistant