

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, November 1, 2021, in the municipal building located at 42 West 8th Avenue, Shamokin Dam beginning at 7:00 P.M. President Musser presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Sauer, Maria Brandt, Domenico Barillaro, Rue Rothermel, and Donald Musser were present.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kyle Jessick and Mark Benner were absent.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Solicitor Robert Slivinski, Manager Edward Hovenstine, Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, Mayor Joseph McGranaghan, Police Chief Bremigen, Bob Herbert, Elaine Herbert, Diana Bickhart, Dave Smeltz, Karen Roberts, Marilyn Roberts, Peggy Stover, Gloria Hughes, Joe Hughes, Dr. Michael Dunigan, and June Stark were present.

The meeting was opened with the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Barillaro to approve the Council minutes of October 4, 2021, and Workshop minutes of October 21, 2021, as presented, seconded by Vice President Rothermel, and approved by all.

VISITORS:

Ambulance Service – Elaine Herbert read a letter written to Borough Council regarding the ambulance service and respectfully as Council to reconsider the vote on the ambulance service and remain with Americus Ambulance Service as the primary ambulance.

Karen Roberts arrived at this time.

Karen Roberts submitted notes and letters from Borough residents requesting that Americus Ambulance service remain the primary ambulance service. Ms. Roberts shall petition for Americus Ambulance service if the notes and letters are not enough to rescind the prior month’s motion and reestablish Americus Ambulance Service as the primary ambulance service. Borough residents were not aware that Council voted last month to change the ambulance service to closest available. Karen Roberts suggested that a referendum on the ballot would be an answer for this decision for the Borough.

Dave Smeltz stated that the public meeting was to gain public input, which was not considered when the motion was made last month.

Diana Bickhart voiced her recommendation for Americus Ambulance Service.

President Musser reviewed with the visitors that a public meeting was held, on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 7:00 PM at the St. Matthews Recreation Building. At the Council meeting on October 4, 2021, a motion was made to appoint the closest available ambulance instead of naming a primary ambulance service for the Borough and was passed absent an effective date. Resolution 2021-7, 2022 Ambulance Service would need to be adopted with an effective date of 2022.

Gloria Hughes question whether the visitors could know by a show of hands, who voted for the closest available. Councilman Barillaro, Councilman Sauers, and Councilwoman Brandt raised hands.

Mayor McGranaghan reviewed the letter at the origin of this issue with the ambulance service.

Dr. Michael Dunigan reviewed the possibility of having an ambulance stationed in the Borough in year 2022. President Musser stated that a decision like that will not be made tonight, however will review information in year 2022. Dr. Dunigan agreed with the Mayor to reverse the decision, which was made in October, and readdress the ambulance service in 2022.

Solicitor Slivinski explained that Council voted to change from Americus as primary to closest available but did not specify an effective date. President Musser read correspondence from CSR 911 System stating that to dispatch the closest EMS service, the Council will need to define the response areas for the two EMS agencies providing services. CSR 911 will provide resources to assist those boundaries but will not define the boundaries. Once areas are defined and established the 911 center will need time to implement the changes into the computer dispatch software. Resolution 2017-6 does not specify a time-period when the changes are to be placed into service. President Musser stated that the next action would be to rescind the prior motion or move forward with Resolution 2017-7.

A motion was made by President Musser to rescind a motion made at the Council meeting dated October 4, 2021, to appoint the closest available ambulance instead of naming a primary ambulance service for the Borough and reverting to naming Americus Ambulance Service as the primary ambulance service for year 2022, seconded by Vice President Rothermel, roll call vote called: Domenico Barillaro-No, Rue Rothermel-Yes, David Sauers-Yes, Donald Musser-Yes, Maria Brandt-Yes

Dave Smeltz questioned whether the leaf collection started. President Musser answered that the equipment was installed and testing equipment, so within the next seven to ten days should be begin the collection process.

Dave Smeltz, Diana Bickhart, Bob Herbert, Elaine Herbert, Peggy Stover, and Karen Roberts left at this time.

COMMUNICATION:

The Borough received correspondence from ESCRA informing the Borough of a credit in the amount of \$31,372.40 from 2020 estimate.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Proposed 2022 Meeting Nights – Proposed 2022 Meeting Nights – President Musser discussed that two Council meeting nights in July and September would be held on Tuesday, due to holiday, instead of the first Monday of the month. A motion was made by Councilman Barillaro to approve and advertise the proposed meeting nights of 2022 as presented, seconded by Vice President Rothermel, and approved by all.

2022 Reappointments – 2022 Reappointments – The 2022 reappointments are as follows: Appointees – Tim Minori, Derrick Backer, and Solicitor Cravitz, Zoning Hearing Board- Gloria Hughes, Planning Commission- Don Musser, Central Keystone COG-Dr. Michael Dunigan, ESCRA- Mark Benner, Fire Co President, Fire Chief, Emergency Services Task Force- 2 Vacancies, Citizen, East Snyder Park Board- 1 Vacancy, Citizen, Emergency Services Task Force- 1 Vacancy, Civil Service Commission- David Herbert, Vacancy Board. The Manager will contact the members and find out if they are interested in continued service.

2021 Christmas Party – Council Sauers suggested holding the 2021 Christmas Party. Michael Dunigan stated that the fire company would be able to host and cater the event. President Musser suggested Thursday, December 9th or Thursday, December 16th, if the fire company is available to hold the Christmas Party. Secretary Leitzel will mail invitations after setting the date.

Dr. Michael Dunigan left at this time.

MAYORS REPORT:

Queen Avenue Update – Mayor McGranaghan updated Council on the condition of the property.

Phillips Motel Update – Mayor McGranaghan reported that the property is under contract and will be redeveloped.

PPL Outages – PPL will work on installing manual switches in certain areas to instantly restore electric service.

Police Report – Police Chief Bremigen reviewed the October police report. President Musser requested that the police report show the vehicle information.

All full time and part time officers qualified with handguns during daylight, state requirement.

Chief Bremigen is working with the DA and AG offices to create a policy, handling drug related incidents by way of possession or other misdemeanor offenses, which provides officers with the ability to offer rehabilitative measures rather than filing charges.

The Police Chief is working with the DA office to develop a Peer Support Program/Employee Assistance Program.

A contractor from Georgia took approximately three hundred gallons of water from a fire hydrant. The police department is working with Manager Hovenstine toward a resolution. Summary charges may be filed, or the contractor may replace the monetary value (approximately \$10.00) to the borough or both. Manager Hovenstine will contact American Water Works Association whether there might be knowledge of a comparable situation and/or solution.

Police Chief Bremigen followed up on a complaint regarding the trucking company from National Beef getting stuck at the end of the North Old Trail, the directional sign at plant is still in place directing traffic to turn right when exiting the plant.

Officer Hassenplug was provided with a service chevron that will be part of his uniform for completing ten years of service with the Borough.

MANAGERS REPORT:

2022 Budget – Tentative Adoption - Proposed 2022 Budget –The 2022 General Fund Budget and the Water/Sewer Fund Budget were presented for tentative adoption and advertising. The 2022 General Fund budget is proposed at \$935,087.00 with no tax increase. The 2022 Water/Sewer Fund Budget is proposed at \$1,025,045.00 with no increase to the water/sewer rates in 2022. A motion was made by Vice President Rothermel to tentatively adopt and advertise the proposed 2022 Budgets as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approved by all. The Manager will advertise the 2022 Budgets for adoption on Monday, December 6, 2021.

I/I Committee Update – Manager Hovenstine attended I/I committee meeting that will help with a plan to correct infiltration and inflow in the sewer lines.

DEP – Update – Minor permit amendment this month.

Manager Hovenstine and President Musser attended the ARPA fund meeting. The income loss study and upgrades to technology and security are possibilities for spending of funds.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

111 West Eleventh Avenue – Annexation – Solicitor Slivinski explained that annexation must be done by referendum on the ballot of a general election, which is year 2022 at a primary or general election. President Musser suggested that the Borough plan to have information needed for the May primary election.

Stephanie Lewis – Solicitor Slivinski tried contacting the attorney representing Stephanie Lewis, however no contact has been made at this point.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission meeting will not be held in November.

WORKSHOP MEETING:

A workshop meeting will be held on November 18, 2021, at 7:00 PM to discuss the proposed fishway and easement agreement for the fishway.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$24,648.37, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$24,866.84, Fire Protection Fund in the amount of \$1,800.00 and 111 W 11th Avenue Fund bills in the amount of \$40.00, were presented for payment. A motion was made by Vice President Rothermel to approve payment of the bills as presented, seconded by Councilman Sauers, and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary