

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 5, 2020**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, October 5, 2020 in the municipal building located at 42 West 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Shamokin Dam beginning at 7:00 P.M. President Musser presided.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

David Sauers, Mark Benner, Andrew Bickhart, Domenico Barillaro, Kyle Jessick, and Donald Musser were present.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Manager Edward Hovenstine, Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, Solicitor Robert Slivinski, Mayor Joseph McGranaghan, Courtney Solomon, Diana Haas, Laura Benfer, Carol Fisher, John Fries, and Victoria White 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 September 8, 2020 as presented, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

**VISITORS:**

Audit – Courtney Solomon with Herring Roll & Solomon presented the 2019 Financial Audit to Council. Inadequate segregation of duties over the bookkeeping function is an internal control deficiency. As the Borough is a small local government entity, a staff large enough to provide adequate segregation of duties over the financial reporting system is not practical or affordable. They have evaluated this issue as a significant deficiency that is not considered to be a material weakness. The auditor issued an unmodified and/or clean opinion for the Shamokin Dam Borough’s financial statement of 2019.

Courtney Solomon and Diana Haas left at this time.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Council received correspondence from three interested residents (Victoria White, Maria Brandt, and John Fries) for the vacant Council position. John Fries and Victoria White introduced themselves to Council. Maria Brandt was out of town and could not attend the meeting. Councilman Sauers nominated Maria Brandt for the Council position. Vice President Bickhart nominated John Fries for the Council position. Council President Musser closed the nominations for the Council position and reads Maria Brandt, Roll Call Vote called: Dom Barillaro-Yes, Kyle Jessick-Yes, Andrew Bickhart-Yes, Dave Sauers-Yes, Don Musser-Yes, Mark Benner-Yes. A motion was made by Councilman Sauers to adopt Resolution 2020-6, Maria Brandt to fill vacancy on Council, seconded by Councilman Jessick, and approved by all.

Council recommended that interested parties may run for election of Borough Council/Mayor with a term from 2022-2026 (Petitions need filed at the Voter Registration and Elections, Primary would be in May 2021 and election would be in November 2021).

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Pension State Aid – The Borough received the pension state aid in the amount of \$59,085.99. Manager Hovenstine stated that the MMO for year 2020 totaled \$74,262.00.

Firemen’s Relief State Aid – The Borough received the firemen’s relief association state aid in the amount of \$9,324.52, which a check will be approved tonight for the firemen’s relief association in the same amount.

Resolution 2020-7, Non-Uniform Pension Plan – A resolution that establishes the non-uniform employees withholding to the pension plan from the required 4 ½ % to 3% for year 2021 only. A motion was made by Vice President Bickhart to adopt Resolution 2020-7, Non-Uniform Pension Plan, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

Resolution 2020-8, Police Pension Plan – A resolution that waives the uniform employee contribution to the Police pension fund for the year 2021. A motion was made by Councilman Barillaro to adopt Resolution 2020-8, Police Pension Plan, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

**MAYORS REPORT:**

Weller Field Maintenance – Mayor McGranaghan discussed the condition of the dugouts and the field at Weller Field. Manager Hovenstine stated that the Weller Field is well maintained, and the dugouts have been addressed. The Mayor mentioned that no action was taken to annex the rental property in the Borough of Shamokin Dam. Solicitor Slivinski reviewed the process: A petition would need signatures from Shamokin Dam and Monroe Township, the petitions would be presented to the election board, and then the question would be added to the ballot. Solicitor Slivinski will check on which election year that the question could be added to the ballot.

Queen Avenue Update – Mayor McGranaghan reported on an abandoned property located at 112 Queen Avenue, that Central Keystone COG has posted. The property owner has thirty days to respond to that post.

Update on Illegal Activity at the Econolodge – Management of the Econolodge are working to deter illegal activity with the police department; and installed working security cameras.

Mayor McGranaghan mentioned that the Golden Arrow Motel was posted uninhabitable by Central Keystone COG. Dusan Bratic was offensive and disobeyed the order.

The police department will be updating the 911 Center Reports, will be barcoding documents and evidence, and participated in three DUI patrols last month, which the overtime was reimbursed.

Police Report – Mayor McGranaghan presented the September police report.

**MANAGERS REPORT:**

Elevated Tank Inspection – Manager Hovenstine received a summary of a full inspection of the elevated tank that was conducted in July. The elevated tank was installed in year 2001. Manager

Hovenstine will review plans and payment plans for this service, which would have an estimated cost of \$250,000.00-\$300,000.00. The tank would be out of service for approximately eight weeks. The Manager recommended this project for year 2023.

Reservoir Valve Project – Manager Hovenstine reviewed the reservoir valve project that is mandated by DEP. Two of the three valves have been installed and the Borough plans on installing the third valve in November. Installation of the vault and automatic shut off valve would complete the project by the end of year 2021. A portion of the existing line would then become a bypass to the system.

CD Renewal/Debt Satisfaction – Manager Hovenstine reviewed two Mifflinburg Bank certificate of deposit that matured with combined amount of \$335,000.00 and suggested satisfying debt with Northumberland National Bank in the amount of \$209,974.07. A motion was made by Councilman Sauers to not renew the matured certificate of deposits in the amount of \$335,000.00 and use the funds to satisfy debt at Northumberland National Bank in the amount of \$209,974.07, seconded by Councilman Benner, and roll call vote called: Dom Barillaro-Yes, Kyle Jessick-Yes, Andrew Bickhart-Yes, Dave Sauers-Yes, Don Musser-Yes, Mark Benner-Yes (Note: The final amount to satisfy the debt was \$201,625.65)

ESCRA Budget Planning – Manager Hovenstine reported that the Budget Planning would be a reduction of approximately 11.6% for the Borough in year 2021.

Solar Farm Zoning Variance Request – The Zoning Hearing Board will hold a meeting to discuss a zoning variance request from Talon/PPL for a solar farm located at the ash basin.

Manager Hovenstine mentioned that the 2020 Streets Project would be completed tomorrow, weather permitting.

Annual Cleanup & Shredding Review – Manager Hovenstine reported that the Annual Clean Up was completed on Monday, September 21, 2020 with approximately 30 ton hauled away. The Shredding event was held on Friday, September 25, 2020 between the hours of 9:00-11:00 AM. Secretary Leitzel reported that the event was well attended, and that Borough residents thanked the Borough for offering this service.

**SOLICITOR REPORT:**

Stephanie Lewis Property – Solicitor Slivinski filed to enforce the liens for water/sewer charges. Stephanie Lewis filed a letter to make payments, however \$1,000.00 payment was not received. The Solicitor will file a motion for summary judgement after the fifteen days of Ms. Lewis being served with notice.

Golden Arrow Motel – Solicitor Slivinski reported that Central Keystone COG will have an inspection of the property before anyone can stay at the motel.

East Eleventh Avenue, Public Street – Solicitor Slivinski sent a copy of the deed of dedication for East Eleventh Avenue to Sunbury Generation, however there were some minor changes. The

Solicitor anticipates receiving the updated version of the deed of dedication and then the next step would be to advertise and adopt.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

A Planning Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM to discuss the land development plan of INSA, LLC Phase 2.

**WORKSHOP MEETING:**

A Workshop meeting will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM to discuss the proposed 2021 Budget.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

General Fund bills in the amount of \$29,096.64, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$16,298.35, 111 W 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue Fund bills in the amount of \$40.00, and PLGIT Recreation Account in the amount of \$753.53 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Councilman Sauers to approve payment of the bills as presented, seconded by Councilman Jessick, and approved by all.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel  
Borough Secretary