

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 4, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, October 4, 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 Sauers, Mark Benner, Rue Rothermel, Maria Brandt, Domenico Barillaro, and Donald Musser were present.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kyle Jessick was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Manager Edward Hovenstine, Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, Mayor Joseph McGranaghan, Solicitor Matt Slivinski, Police Chief Bremigen, Shawn Bingaman, Vicky Bickhart, Joe Zokaites, Scott Shambach, Elaine Herbert, and June Stark were present.

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

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brandt to approve the Council minutes of September 7, 2021, as presented, seconded by Councilman Barillaro, and approved by all.

VISITORS:

Sunbury Generation-Hummel Station-Subdivision – Joe Zokaites reviewed the Hummel Station LLC add-on subdivision, Final Subdivision Plan. The intent of this subdivision is to create an add-on lot to the current Hummel Station LLC property to convey an existing warehouse building. This property is to be incorporated into the existing acre tract and may not be conveyed independently. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the final subdivision plan. A motion was made by Councilman Sauers to approve the Sunbury Generation-Hummel Station-Final Subdivision Plan, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

Solicitor Matt Slivinski arrived at this time.

Scott Shambach and Joe Zokaites left at this time.

Vicky Bickhart – Vicky Bickhart reviewed two properties that may possibly need repair in the North Old Trail section and notified Council that tractor trailer trucks (Prime trucking) were traveling to the end of the North Old Trail and were running up over sidewalks. Manager Hovenstine will contact Central Keystone COG regarding the two properties. The police department will contact National Beef regarding the Prime trucking issue.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Public Meeting – Ambulance Service – Ambulance Service, Public Meeting – A public meeting was held on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 7:00 PM to discuss the Ambulance Service. President Musser thanked Councilwoman Brandt, Councilman Benner, and Councilman Barillaro for organizing the public meeting and was well attended by Councilmembers. A motion was made by Councilman Barillaro to appoint the closest available ambulance instead of naming a primary ambulance service for the Borough, seconded by Councilman Benner, roll call vote called: Rue Rothermel-No, David Sauers-Yes, Donald Musser-No, Mark Benner-Yes, Maria Brandt-Yes, Domenico Barillaro-Yes. 4-Yes 2-No

Elaine Herbert left at this time.

Firemen’s Relief State Aid – The Borough received the firemen’s relief association state aid in the amount of \$8,260.52, which a check will be approved tonight for the firemen’s relief association in the same amount.

Resolution 2021-4, Non-Uniform Pension Plan – A resolution that establishes the non-uniform employees withholding to the pension plan from the required 4 1/2 % to 3% for the 2022 only. A motion was made by Councilman Benner to adopt Resolution 2021-4, Non-Uniform Pension Plan, seconded by Councilman Barillaro, and approve by all.

Resolution 2021-5, Police Pension Plan – A resolution that waives the uniform employee contribution to the Police pension fund for the 2022. A motion was made by Vice President Rothermel to adopt Resolution 2021-5, Police Pension Plan, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approve by all.

MAYORS REPORT:

Police Report – Police Chief Bremigen reviewed the September police report.

Police Chief Bremigen left at this time.

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

PPL Power Outage Update – The Mayor reviewed the positive response from PPL regarding the power outage issue. PPL will perform and review the vegetation growth in the Borough and install a smart grid near the traffic signal near W&L Nissan within first quarter in year 2022.

FNB Letter – FNB has not responded to the correspondence sent regarding the non-compete request.

Legislative Issues – Mayor McGranaghan updated Council on the status of radar enforcement, which remains with the appropriations committee.

MANAGERS REPORT:

2021 Pension State Aid – The Borough received the pension state aid in the amount of \$57,567.39. Manager Hovenstine stated that the MMO for year 2021 totaled \$79,560.00.

2022 Budget Preparation – The 2022 budget preparation has begun, the Manager awaiting the 2022 health insurance quotes,

Gas Company Project – UGI gas project has been completed and the Manager will attend a wrap up meeting with the gas company. Council discussed issues that occurred during the project to relay to UGI.

New Crew Member – Manager Hovenstine hired Aron Hummel, Borough resident and fire department member, on October 4, 2021, as Borough crew and water distribution specialist. The salary of Aron Hummel will be paid half from General Fund and half from Water/Sewer Fund.

Golf Tournament Review – The Manager reported that the Hummel Station golf tournament was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021. President Musser questioned whether the completion of the ball field would be dependent upon the annexation of the rental property located at 111 West Eleventh Avenue into Shamokin Dam. Manager Hovenstine answered that the total completion of the ball field would be after the annexation.

East Eighth Avenue Sewer Issue – The Borough has an issue with the sewer and stormwater drainage at 100 East Eighth Avenue after receiving large amounts of rainfall or snow melt. The Manager mentioned that a stormwater system may require legal services to establish an easement to install infrastructure to allow better drainage. The sewer issue would require assessing the manholes and overflow on North Old Trail. Manager Hovenstine will be attending the infiltration meeting on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, with ESCRA to discuss the infiltration networking.

The Borough received notification from PENNDOT that the estimated Liquid Fuels allocation for 2022 is \$53,627.08, which will be used for the 2022 street project. The County Liquid Fuels in the amount of \$1,435.00 will be used to purchase road salt for the winter.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Phillips Motel Update – Solicitor Slivinski reported that Robert Grayston did not submit a plan at an earlier request, so there will be a hearing on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 10:00 AM to discuss.

Stephanie Lewis Update – Solicitor Slivinski stated that a case management order was issued on Friday, September 17, 2021, and that the timetable for the case management order bench trial will be in year 2022.

All visitors left at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel Issue – Council went into executive session at 8:00 PM to discuss personnel issue and reconvened at 8:30 PM. Action taken: established a method to recollect overpayment.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission meeting was held to discuss Hummel Station Lot Addition on Wednesday, September 8, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

WORKSHOP MEETING:

A workshop meeting will be held on October 21, 2021, at 7:00 PM to discuss the 2022 Preliminary Budgets.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$93,098.87, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$17,674.70, 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 Barillaro, and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary