

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, October 3, 2022, in the municipal building located at 42 West 8th Avenue, Shamokin Dam beginning at 7:00 P.M. President Musser presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dave Sauers, Shawn Bingaman, Maria Brandt, Mark Benner, Karen Roberts, and Donald Musser were present.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Domenico Barillaro was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Solicitor Robert Slivinski, Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, Manager Edward Hovenstine, Police Chief Timothy Bremigen, Mark Haefner, June Stark, and Marilyn Roberts were present.

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

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Roberts to approve the Council minutes of September 6, 2022, as presented, seconded by Vice President Sauers, and approved by all.

VISITORS:

Royal Farms – Mark Haefner, KCI Technologies, presented a final land development plan for Royal Farms store located at 2943 N Susquehanna Trail. The car wash has been eliminated, the entrance from Eleventh Avenue has been moved further away from Routes 11/15, the signal intersection at Routes 11/15 and Eleventh Avenue has been widened and the signal relocated to the north, and the building has been moved back on the site. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the final land development plan for Royal Farms Store located at 2943 N Susquehanna Trail, contingent upon the following conditions: Comments by Snyder County Planning Commission and the Snyder County Conservation District, verification of sewer and water capacity, and Highway Occupancy Permit from PENNDOT. A motion was made by Councilman Benner to conditionally approve the final land development plan for Royal Farms Store located at 2943 N Susquehanna Trail upon permit approvals, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approved by all.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Central Keystone COG – The Borough received an invitation from Central Keystone COG to attend the annual membership meeting on Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 7:00 PM, President Musser will be attending as Borough representative.

OTHER BUSINESS:

2022 Pension State Aid – The Borough received the pension state aid in the amount of \$62,165.42. Manager Hovenstine stated that the MMO for year 2022 totaled \$82,382.00.

2022 Firemen's Relief State Aid – The Borough received the firemen's relief association state aid in the amount of \$9,991.35, which a check will be approved tonight for the firemen's relief association in the same amount.

Resolution 2022-6, Non-Uniform Pension – A resolution that establishes the non-uniform employees withholding to the pension plan from the required 4 1/2 % to 3% for the 2023 only. A motion was made by Councilman Bingaman to adopt Resolution 2022-6, Non-Uniform Pension Plan, seconded by Vice President Sauers, and approve by all.

Resolution 2022-7, Police Pension – A resolution that waives the uniform employee contribution to the Police pension fund for the 2023 year. A motion was made by Councilwoman Roberts to adopt Resolution 2022-7, Police Pension Plan, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approve by all.

Golf Tournament Proceeds – Golf Tournament Review – The Manager reported that the Hummel Station golf tournament was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021. The Borough received a park donation in the amount of \$9,587.50. President Musser recommended that the ball field specifications are Little League approved.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor McGranaghan was absent due to illness.

Econolodge Issues – President Musser stated that prior conversation regarding the Econolodge was whether it was a nuisance property. Manager Hovenstine reported that complaints of cleanliness and long-term tenants have been received. The Police Chief mentioned that management has been cooperating with the police department.

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

- Received an aggressive driving grant
- Attended training to detect driver impairment for alcohol level and drug driving level
- Attended training on Medical Marijuana
- Attended meeting regarding school shootings/safety
- Received a grant for bullet-proof vests
- Police Chief attended a meeting regarding mental health services in the region
- Officers will complete mandatory handgun/rifle qualifications
- W&L Nissan fall festival
- Part-time and Overtime expenses/reimbursement as attachment

The Police Chief discussed overtime, parttime, and reimbursement of overtime pay and questioned whether 2023 Budget could reflect an increase for overtime pay and parttime pay. President Musser questioned whether the reimbursed pay was work through the attorney general office. Police Chief Bremigen answered that reimbursement for overtime would be received through attorney general office or police grants. President Musser mentioned that there are other cost factors (benefit, risk, and equipment) associated with the reimbursed overtime. Police Chief Bremigen told President Musser that he would walk away from this job, if he continued to look at him in the aspect that it is all about the money, putting that in record, did not like that

approach. Vice President Sauers stated that not everyone on Council feels that way about the Police Chief, and if the Borough is spending a few thousand dollars a year helping to stop drugs in another municipality that is money well spent. President Musser stated that he supports drug enforcement, however Borough residents to have visibility of the police and patrolling the Borough streets.

Police Chief Bremigen left at this time.

Councilman Benner reviewed the process to request information from FEMA to collect previously damaged losses. Manager Hovenstine suggested that Councilman Benner draft the letter required to request information and present at the November Council meeting for approval.

MANAGERS REPORT:

2023 Budget Preparation – The 2023 budget preparation has begun; the Manager is awaiting the 2023 health insurance quotes and ESCRA budget. A workshop meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 7:00 PM to discuss the 20223 Budget.

2022 Streets Schedule – 2022 Street Project will begin on Monday, October 10, 2022, on Jonathan Road and will include Maple Street from Eighth Avenue to Tenth Avenue. The project will be completed by October 31, 2022. The Borough distributed letters to residents that will be affected by the project.

Equipment Tradeshow – Manager Hovenstine attended an equipment trade show and suggested purchasing a woodchipper and a leaf collector with an approximate combined cost of \$60,000.00.

Manager Hovenstine will attend a conference regarding DEP regulations for lead and copper testing.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Solicitor Slivinski reviewed annexation between municipalities and mentioned that Monroe Township would be willing to annex property located at 111 West Eleventh Avenue to the Borough at no cost. The Solicitor will establish a joint hearing, advertise hearings and ordinances would be written.

Property Maintenance Update – Lewis property located at 3042 North Old Trail was demolished, Golden Chopsticks restaurant located at 3004 North Susquehanna Trail was demolished, Burkey property located at 112 Queen Avenue continues with repairs, Weaver property was sold to Carl Carr, Jr located at 3517 North Old Trail and continues with repairs, Kyle Mirolli property located at 3710 North Old Trail, 3718 North Old Trail and 3720 North Old Trail are under agreement to be sold, and Fellman property located at 3507 North Old Trail insurance dispute continues. Manager Hovenstine questioned whether anyone had purchased the United Methodist Church located at 3603 North Old Trail at public auction. No one heard any information on the public auction.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 7:00 PM to discuss final land development plan for Royal Farms and Eagle Wind Coffee Shop.

WORKSHOP:

A Workshop meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 7:00 PM to discuss the preliminary 2023 Budget.

President Musser announced an acknowledgement of misstep with Police Chief Bremigen concerning costs in the police department, regrets stating that the police department would not use personal vehicles at no cost and that the Police Chief was concerned about money. President Musser will always be concerned how the police department manages costs and should not have reacted in such a negative manner to the information presented by the Police Chief.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$115,649.58, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$14,595.08, Fire Protection Tax Fund in the amount of \$10,540.00 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Vice President Sauers to approve payment of the bills as presented, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary