

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 3, 2017**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, April 3, 2017 in the municipal building located at 42 West 8th Avenue, Shamokin Dam beginning at 7:00 P.M. President Herbert presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Sauers, Mark Benner, Andrew Bickhart, Bob Herbert, Rue Rothermel, Donald Musser, and David Herbert were present.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Solicitor Robert Slivinski, Manager Ed Hovenstine, Mayor Joseph McGranaghan, Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, Police Chief Bremigen, Jon Gray, Frank Witt, Joan Witt, Chyvonne Rhoads, Kyle Jessick, Trish Carothers, Tina Nail, June Stark, John Reed, Ginny Mendler, Domenico Barillaro, and Leroy Yoder were present.

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

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Musser to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2017 meeting of Council as presented, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

VISITORS:

Susquehanna Greenway – Trish Carothers reviewed correspondence sent to the Borough prior to Council meeting. Susquehanna Greenway would be an applicant for matching grants to DCNR, Commonwealth financing authority and PENNDOT funding. Trish Carothers stated that usually a 15% local tax match is required for each municipality. Susquehanna Greenway requested \$3,000.00 from Shamokin Dam Borough towards feasibility study of the land. The trail feasibility study would examine the possibility of creating a bike and pedestrian trail along Route 11 that would link Shamokin Dam Borough, Monroe Township, and Northumberland Borough. Mayor McGranaghan discussed the Nestlerode property. Trish Carothers explained that the Nestlerode family would be interested in selling property. Ms. Carothers expressed to the Nestlerode family that Susquehanna Greenway would apply for grant money, the property would be appraised by a state certified appraiser, and the land would be purchased at fair market value. Trish Carothers will contact the Nestlerode family to retrieve correspondence stating that they are in agreement that the feasibility study should be completed and are interested in selling the property for this use at fair market value. Susquehanna Greenway would need a letter supporting the trail feasibility study and willing to pledge \$3,000.00 in cash support for the feasibility study. Mayor McGranaghan suggested sending correspondence in support of trail feasibility study and pledge of \$3,000.00 contingent upon the Nestlerode family members support. Council agreed.

Trish Carothers and Tina Nail left at this time.

Fire Company – Fire Chief Jon Gray updated on the new engine purchase and reviewed the contract signed in September 2016. The chassis will be delayed from March/April to August. A motion was made by Councilman Musser to sign the title for Engine 91 back to the Volunteer fire department #1 and use Municibid and other avenues to sell engine with a reserve of \$25,000.00, seconded by Vice President Bickhart, and approved by all.

District Magistrate Reed – John Reed reported that he has been local District Magistrate for the past 5 ½ years for Shamokin Dam Borough, Monroe Township, Selinsgrove Borough, Penn Township, Jackson Township, and Middle Creek Township; and is on the ballot for the fall election. An estimated 25,000 cases in the past five years and majority of the cases are due to substance abuse issues. District Magistrate office has approximately 4,600 cases involving traffic citations.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Manager Hovenstine reported that Green Park Management did not submit an application for a medical marijuana facility.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Manager Hovenstine reported that the 2016 real estate tax collection rate was at 97.2% and the 1st quarter water/sewer billing collection rate was at 99.1%.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor McGranaghan reviewed a Susquehanna Valley Community data sheet with Council.

Council reviewed the March police report.

Police Chief Bremigen mentioned that three hand guns were replaced and intended to sell them to proposed police officers. Gator Guns estimated the hand guns from \$275.00-\$350.00. A motion was made by Vice President Bickhart to sell hand guns to proposed police officers at a cost of \$325.00 each and ownership would be transferred by Gator Guns with any additional cost paid by the purchaser, seconded by Councilman Sauers, and approved by all.

Police Chief Bremigen applied for a grant (that is only available if the police officers are clean certified) to purchase a fingerprint reader for in the vehicles.

The Police Chief contacted a dealer for cameras at the Fabri Dam park with no response at this time. Mayor McGranaghan suggested contacting Mr. Tech for pricing or contact information. Manager Hovenstine contacted two suppliers regarding a gate with no response at this time.

MANAGERS REPORT:

Audit Update – The audit has been submitted to DCED by a deadline of 3/31/17, no issues at this point, and presentation of final audit will be May or June.

King Avenue & 9th Avenue Water Line – Manager Hovenstine mentioned that the water line at King Avenue and 8th Avenue and 9th Avenue needs upgraded.

WTP Equipment Upgrade – Manager Hovenstine reported that the water treatment plant had some digital equipment upgrades (a gauge at the reservoir will alert the Borough crew when the level drops to 2/3 full). The elevated tank will be added this month for alerts.

Shamokin Dam LLC Conditions – Manager Hovenstine reported that Shamokin Dam LLC met all conditions for the subdivision and land development plan of the second power plant.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Verizon Agreement – Solicitor Slivinski stated that the Verizon water tower lease agreement was mailed and waiting on return of signed agreement. Manager Hovenstine mentioned that Verizon needs samples of the paint on the water tower.

Solicitor Slivinski reported that changing the boundaries at 111 W 11th Avenue require the Borough to petition with 5% of the vote in the last gubernatorial election. The referendum will be on the 2018 Spring/Fall ballot.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 7:00 PM to discuss a sketch plan of the Robert Grayston property in Orchard Hills for subdivision and land development.

COUNCIL WORKSHOP:

A Workshop meeting will not be held in April.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$90,113.00, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$15,802.40, and 111 W 11th Ave Property Fund in the amount of \$722.00 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Councilman Benner to approve payment of the bills as presented, seconded by Councilman Sauers, and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary