

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, November 2, 2015 in the municipal building located at 42 W. 8th Avenue, Shamokin Dam beginning at 7:00 P.M. President David Herbert presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Andrew Bickhart, Malcolm Fleming, Mark Benner, Donald Musser, Rue Rothermel, Robert Herbert, and David Herbert were present.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Manager Ed Hovenstine, Solicitor Robert Slivinski, Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, Mayor Joe McGranaghan, Police Chief Tim Bremigen, Frank Witt, Joan Witt, Bruce Ayars, Joshua Herb, and June Stark were present.

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

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Benner to approve the Council meeting minutes of October 5, 2015 and the Workshop meeting minutes of October 15, 2015 as presented, seconded by Councilman Musser, and approved by all.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Manager Hovenstine reported that Panda Power Funds submitted a press release regarding financing of Hummel Station, one of the largest coal-to-natural gas power conversion projects in the United States.

Manager Hovenstine reviewed correspondence received from DEP regarding minor items, based on applicable laws and regulations, missing from the registration package of the Sunbury Pipeline Project. UGI will comply with the regulations to complete the registration.

Lynda Schlegel Culver will have an outreach program on Friday, December 4, 2015 at 10:00 AM. Maggie Jackson will be present update on the by-pass. The outdoor advertising coordinator will also be there.

The Borough received correspondence from PENNDOT regarding the right to enter properties for the CSVT project.

Councilman Herbert arrived at this time.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor McGranaghan updated Council on the bypass.

Power Outage – The Mayor reported that all the power lines that supplies Orchard Hills Development runs behind the shopping center into a 3 phase end of a stub line. Mayor McGranaghan met with PPL regarding rerouting the power during a power outage. The nearest 3 phase power is near the hotel, PPL not willing to run a connector to the 3 phase power. Only possibility would be the bypass connector between Orchard Hill & Gunter Developments, may run a loop to supply residents only. One mile of 3 phase line would cost approximately \$400,000.00 to install. Mayor McGranaghan recommended having generators for the traffic signals available during power outages.

Police Chief Bremigen reported that the police department would like to hire Terrell Lehman and Jacob Shipman as part time police officers. A motion was made by Councilman Musser to hire Terrell Lehman and Jacob Shipman as part time officers at an hourly rate of \$15.00, seconded by Vice President Bickhart, and approved. Councilman Rothermel abstained due to personally knowing Jacob Shipman.

Police Chief Bremigen reviewed the October police report.

Mayor McGranaghan commended the Police Chief and Officer Hassenplug for hard work on solving the Dollar General Store robbery. Police Chief Bremigen reported that Mayor McGranaghan researched and bagged coined evidence for the District Attorney's office.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Proposed 2016 Meeting Nights – President Herbert discussed two Council meeting nights that would be held on Tuesday due to holiday instead of the first Monday of the month. A motion was made by Vice President Bickhart to approve the proposed meeting nights of 2016 as presented, seconded by Councilman Rothermel, and approved by all.

Resolution 2015-2, Non Uniform Pension – A motion was made by Councilman Herbert to adopt Resolution 2015-2, which establishes the non-uniform employees withholding to the pension plan from the required 4 ½ % to 3% for 2016 only, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

Resolution 2015-3, Police Pension – A motion was made by Councilman Herbert to adopt Resolution 2015-3, which waives the uniform employee contribution to the Police pension fund for the year 2016, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

Fireman's Relief State Aid - The Borough received the state aid for the fireman's relief in the amount of \$10,756.70, which was deposited into the general fund, a check was sent to the fire company on October 6, 2015.

Steering Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at 7:00 PM to discuss survey.

Vice President Bickhart discussed resident concerns with dump trucks using 8th Avenue instead of Stetler Avenue to access Route 11/15. Manager Hovenstine will inform Sunbury Generation of dump truck traffic in the Borough.

MANAGERS REPORT:

Reservoir – Manager Hovenstine reported that the last corner of the reservoir will be repaired possibly by the end of the month.

Signs – The new street signs have been installed.

Water Allotment – Manager Hovenstine mentioned that the application would be submitted by end of November. The Borough has been monitoring the water system for approximately one month for leak detection and will get the results on Thursday.

DEP Regulatory Changes – Coliform tests are conducted every month, however the regulations will change to every quarter between four different locations throughout the system.

Leasing Seminar – Manager Hovenstine and Fire Chief Gray attended a meeting with Fulton leasing at FNB Bank.

SOLICITOR:

Solicitor Slivinski reviewed proposed real estate tax. The Borough is allowed up to 30 mils for real estate tax for general fund. The Borough is allowed up to 3 mils for real estate tax for special taxes, such as fire protection tax. The fire protection tax is deposited into a special account for the Borough to use towards fire protection. Solicitor Slivinski explained that the budget would be tentatively adopted tonight, then advertised, and approved at the December meeting. The budget can be adjusted or changed from now until December.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission meeting will not be held in November.

COUNCIL WORKSHOP:

A workshop was held on October 15, 2015 to discuss the proposed 2016 budgets as prepared by Manager Hovenstine.

Water and Sewer Fund Proposed Budget 2016 - Manager Hovenstine reviewed the Water/Sewer Fund section of the Budget Statement. The 2016 Water/Sewer Fund Budget is proposed at \$938,353.00. The proposed Eastern Snyder County Regional Authority (ESCRA) budget shows increase of 1.4% in 2016, from \$2,498,959.00 to \$2,533,852.00. The largest expense in the solid waste collection budget is the regional payment made to ESCRA. Engineering fees would be increased due to the fact that many projects require engineering services. Manager Hovenstine recommended no increase to the water/sewer rates in 2016.

General Fund Proposed Budget 2016 – Manager Hovenstine reviewed the General Fund section of the Budget Statement. The 2016 General Fund Budget was proposed with a restructured tax millage rate of a 10.0 mil general millage rate and a 3.0 mil fire protection tax added to the real estate taxes to continue helping fund the Shamokin Dam fire company. The 2016 General Fund budget is proposed at \$747,653.00.

A motion was made by Vice President Bickhart to tentatively adopt the 2016 General Fund Budget as presented, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

A motion was made by Councilman Rothermel to tentatively adopt the 2016 Water/Sewer Fund Budget as presented, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

Solicitor Slivinski will advertise as required for the tentative budgets and millage change.

President Herbert reported a workshop meeting will not be held on Thursday, November 19, 2015.

Shamokin Dam Borough Christmas Party – The Borough Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at the Shamokin Dam Fire Company beginning at 6:00 PM.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$72,923.60 and Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$24,580.74 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Councilman Musser to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Councilman Rothermel, and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary