

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Tuesday, October 5, 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, Robert Herbert, Rue Rothermel, Donald Musser, Mark Benner, and David Herbert were present.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Malcolm Fleming was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Solicitor Robert Slivinski, Manager Ed Hovenstine, Mayor Joe McGranaghan, Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, Police Chief Tim Bremigen, Jon Gray, Bruce Ayars, Dave Sauers, Ralph Sanchez, Jesse Herman, and Bob Garrett were present.

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

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Rothermel to approve the Council meeting minutes of September 8, 2015 as presented, seconded by Councilman Musser, and approved by all.

VISITORS:

Comprehensive Plan –Bob Garrett reported that a Planning 101 was held on Saturday, September 26, 2015 between 8:00-11:00 AM at the Greater Susquehanna Chamber of Commerce building. The Steering Committee will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month between 7:00-8:30 PM at the Greater Susquehanna Chamber of Commerce building. Proposed timeline for October: Survey questions drafted/outreach methods established/survey sent, Working set of maps published/reviewed, Field view conducted/if needed, Launch website/interactive bulletin board, Draft of historical background and statistical background information delivered, Objectives for planning drafted, final set of deliverables with due dates published. Walter Whitmer, Borough native and professor at Penn State University, will be providing help with the survey.

Bob Garrett left at this time.

Fire Company – Ralph Sanchez reported that Bruce Amerman completed the review of financial records for year ended December 31, 2014. Jesse Herman forwarded the report onto the Auditor General. Mr. Sanchez reported that Jeff Snyder’s past balance has been paid in full and the remaining previous account balances are decreasing. Councilman Rothermel stated that the representatives have done an incredible job with the financial status of the fire company. The fire company will have an election of officers in October for the term beginning in year 2016. Mayor McGranaghan commended the fire department and local assisting agencies for an outstanding

job with safety during power outage on Friday, October 2, 2015 at the Orchard Hills Shopping Center.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Manager Hovenstine reviewed the correspondence sent to Kathy Showers addressing some of the issues presented to Council. Solicitor Slivinski reported that Council could change regulations to require the developer to provide 25-40 pounds at the water main or install a pressure pump to the homeowners. Phase II plan of the development would fall within the current five year NPDES permit requirements; any change to regulations would not apply.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor McGranaghan reviewed power outage issues (losses to businesses/residents) on Friday, October 2, 2015 and sent correspondence to Terri McBride of PPL regarding an alternate means of service (circular service) when power outage occurs.

Police Chief Bremigen reviewed the September police report.

Police Chief Bremigen reported that Samantha Ortona, police officer, resigned as of October 4, 2015. The Police Chief distributed correspondence related to a proposed part time police officer employment at a rate of \$15.00 per hour and full time police officer hire in 2016 with a beginning salary of \$34,000.00. Councilman Musser agreed with a part time hire, however Council should reevaluate part time police officer situation after the first quarter of 2016. A motion was made by Councilman Musser to approve part time police officer hire for the remaining year 2015 and first quarter of year 2016, seconded by Councilman Benner. Discussion: Bruce Ayars questioned whether Council should consider equipment purchase. Councilman Musser suggested an equipment purchase up to two vests with an equipment purchase agreement. Police Chief Bremigen stated that a \$2,000.00 equipment budget would be enough to purchase needed equipment (vest, handgun, etc.). Councilman Musser amended the motion to approve part time police officer hire for the remaining year 2015 and first quarter of year 2016 by including approval of \$2,000.00 equipment budget to be used for police officer equipment at the discretion of Police Chief Bremigen, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

Mayor McGranaghan stated that future full time police officers hired will be informed that the police department will provide a vest and handgun, however if the officer leaves within one year of service, then the purchase amount will be deducted from the officer's salary.

MANAGERS REPORT:

Zoning Permits (Power Company) – Manager Hovenstine issued a zoning permit for Sunbury Generation (Hummel Station) for a power generation facility with an estimated cost of a building combined to be \$39,800,000.00. Bechtel Infrastructure & Power Corporation began the site excavation.

Budget – A meeting will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 7:00 PM to discuss the proposed 2016 Budgets.

Reservoir – Manager Hovenstine requested authorization for structural repair of the last corner at the reservoir with an estimated cost of \$10,000.00. A motion was made by Councilman Rothermel to authorize structural repair on the fourth corner at the reservoir with an approximate cost of \$10,000.00 per corner, seconded by Vice President Bickhart, and approved by all.

ESCRA Refund – ESCRA billed on flows for years 2010-2013 and in 2014 ESCRA billed on flows and loads. The Borough received an invoice with fourth quarter 2015 regional billing in the amount of \$94,498.45 and accumulated credits from 2010-2014 in the amount of (\$101,482.74). The invoice totaled a credit amount of (\$6,984.29). Manager Hovenstine requested that ESCRA lower the estimated sewer flows for year 2016.

2016 Liquid Fuels – The Borough received correspondence indicating that the Borough will receive 2016 liquid fuels in the amount of \$52,284.00.

Pension State Aid – The Borough received the pension state aid in the amount of \$47,050.01. The 2015 non uniform pension minimum municipal obligation was \$30,577.00 and the 2015 police pension minimum municipal obligation was \$16,035.00 for a total of \$46,612.00. The excess amount of \$438.01 was deposited into the non uniform pension.

SOLICITOR:

Solicitor Slivinski reviewed ESCRA and Selinsgrove Borough law suits.

Comprehensive Plan – The Solicitor mentioned that funding is available for multi municipal planning.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission meeting will not be held in October.

COUNCIL WORKSHOP:

President Herbert reported a workshop meeting will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015 to discuss proposed 2016 Budget.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$111,184.46, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$29,872.66, Motor Fund in the amount of \$46,100.00, Local Service Fund in the amount of \$19,268.70, and FNB Lease Fund in the amount of \$2,000.00 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Councilman Rothermel to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary