

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
May 14, 2018
6:15 pm

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Sunbury was called to order with the Honorable Mayor Kurt Karlovich, presiding. There was a quorum with the following in attendance:

Kurt Karlovich, Mayor
Elizabeth R. Kremer, Director of Accounts and Finance
Richard L. Reichner, Director of Public Safety
Christopher Reis, Director of Public Works
James R. Eister, Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Buildings

Other City officials in attendance:

Kevin Troup, City Treasurer
Joel Wiest, City Solicitor
Steve Bennick, Captain, Police Department
John Bakowicz, City Solicitor
Michael Rhoads, Zoning Officer
Terry Specht, City Clerk

Visitors present: 23

A moment of silent reflection was held prior to the beginning of the meeting. Mayor Karlovich thanked past and present veterans and emergency responders for all their selfless acts and devotion for the betterment of others.

An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel matters.

Mayor Karlovich introduced Mr. Joel Wiest, Esq., whose law firm will serve as the new city solicitor.

MINUTES AND REPORTS

The Minutes of 4/9/18, and 4/23/18 and available departmental reports of the Police Dept., Treasurer's Office, Controller, Health Dept. (quarterly), Fire Dept., City Engineer, Code Office, Park and Recreation Department, Park and Recreation Board, Public Works Dept., Planning Commission, Redevelopment Authority (bi-monthly) and Police Pension Board (quarterly) are in the City Clerk's office for review. Motion to accept was made by Mayor Karlovich. Second – Reis. Unanimous vote. Minutes will be posted at cityofsunbury.com.

PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Karlovich asked for public comment on agenda items and there were none.

S. 4TH ST PROJECT

Councilman Eister said depending on the weather, they will be milling next week and paving the week after that. The project should be finished by the end of May. He asked people to stay away from that area if possible because the traffic will be bad.

SOLICITOR'S EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Mayor Karlovich moved to pass the solicitor's employment agreement (see attached) between Mr. Wiest's office, Wiest, Wiest Benner & Rice, LLC as solicitor for the City of Sunbury. The city code calls for a written contract for any attorney working for the city. The paid employment portion of the agreement would begin on May 1st, prior to that the city will not be billed. The hourly rate is \$150 up to \$5,000/month. They will not bill for more than 1 attorney working at the same time. The agreement can be terminated for good cause shown with no notice to the firm. The term is month-to-month. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Mr. Wiest explained the Apfelbaum Kula Law Firm will still be retained as the solicitors for the Redevelopment Authority (RDA). They are a separate body and have the right to hire any law firm they choose. The agreement (see attached) states they will charge \$1/year to serve as counsel for the city to the Redevelopment Authority. Mayor Karlovich moved to appoint the Apfelbaum Kula Law Firm as special counsel for the City/Redevelopment Authority for the sole purpose regarding RDA projects supervised by the city and coordinated with Mr. Wiest. Second – Reichner. Unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION/FLOOD MITIGATION GRANT

Mayor Karlovich moved to pass the Resolution (see attached) for the Flood Mitigation Grant for flood mitigation at the Reagan St. underpass, designating Mayor Karlovich to execute all documents and agreements and to complete the grant for \$500,000. Second – Reis. Unanimous vote.

1ST READING/CHAPTER 134-10

Councilman Reichner said revisions (see attached) to Chapter 134-10 will include changes to Section B Requirements which states No occupancy license or residential housing unit permit will be issued, reissued, or sustained if the owner of the premises fails to maintain required fire insurance, has delinquent property tax, Sunbury Municipal Authority (SMA) fees. Section C – a copy of current paid property tax bill, fire insurance certificate, paid SMA fees will be required prior to issuance or renewal of any residential housing unit permit. Section E. – Criteria for Recommending and/or Applying Discipline. Section F. – Grounds for Imposing Discipline. G. Procedure for Non-renewal, Suspension or Revocation of License and Section H. – Nonexclusive Remedies. Second – Reis. Unanimous vote.

HARB APPROVAL/250 CHESTNUT ST.

Councilman Reichner moved to approve HARB’s recommendation for replacement windows at 250 Chestnut St. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

OPEN BIDS FOR SEIPLE ALLEY ROAD PROJECT

Councilman Reis explained they have several paving projects planned for the next several years and the first one is Seiple Alley. The bids returned were:

New Enterprise	\$26,350.00
Meckley’s	\$18,950.00
G & R Charles	\$18,350.00

This work will be performed by G & R Charles in the next week. Second – Reichner. Unanimous vote.

MOU/SHIKELLAMY SCHOOL DISTRICT ROAD SALT

Councilman Reis moved to pass the Memorandum of Understanding with the Shikellamy School District for Road Salt. The school district has no place to store salt so they purchase it from the city’s supply and pay the actual rate for it. They are CoStars members as well. Second – Karlovich. Unanimous vote.

DERBY VIXENS/REQUEST FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AT MATCHES

Councilman Eister moved to allow the public to bring beer to the roller derby matches at the ice rink. Mr. Wiest asked if the city has insurance for that and Councilman Eister answered yes. Mayor Karlovich asked if it was just to consume and the answer is yes. Second – Karlovich. Unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES

Councilwoman Kremer moved to pay the invoices reported on the voucher’s payable report in the amount of \$407,552.38 from the General Fund and \$4,260.19 from Liquid Fuels. Mr. Troup said that

pays the TAN note off and the police pension payment is made in May. Second – Karlovich. Unanimous vote.

TAX EXONERATION

Councilwoman Kremer moved to pass the tax exoneration as requested by Statewide Tax Recovery. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mulch Give-away May 19th 7:30 am – 12:00 noon or until gone

WXWC4 Wrestling at the Ice Rink May 26th with a meet and greet of 4 former World Wrestling Entertainment Hall of Famers including “Soul Man” Rocky Johnson, Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson’s dad beginning at 5:00 pm and match begins at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$15/each and \$2 from each ticket will be donated to the Shikellamy Theater Program.

Mayor Karlovich asked for volunteers at 8:00 am Saturday to start to cut brush at the wetlands area to begin the clean-up process. Volunteers must sign a liability waiver and bring their own equipment.

SRI is hosting the Hometown Heroes event on May 26th. The Event will include a free breakfast at the Masonic Lodge for veterans, active duty military and first responders that live in Northumberland County. Mayor Karlovich will perform a flag retirement ceremony with the JROTC from Shikellamy School District.

Memorial Day services will be held at the S. 4th St. cemetery at 11:00 am on Monday May 28th with a short parade prior to the service.

Councilman Eister congratulated Mayor Karlovich upon his graduation from Bloomsburg University.

AUDIENCE COMMENT

Stephanie Sterner: The property in the 1100 block behind her house is still in need of clean-up. It was referred to SRI for clean-up and they did a good job but there is junk all over the property again. Councilman Eister asked if anyone is living there and Ms. Sterner said she doesn’t know how anyone could get in the house. Mr. Rhoads said the Redevelopment Authority is pursuing legal action toward that property. Mayor Karlovich explained the legal process takes time. A code officer will check the property.

Slade Shreck: Thanked the city for allowing the Shikellamy School District to use Cameron Park for the prom. It was a beautiful night and successful. Everything looked beautiful in the park. Councilman Eister said the junior class did a good job decorating as well.

The next city council meeting will be held on June 11, 2018 at 6:15 pm.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Specht, City Clerk