

CITY COUNCIL  
Sunbury PA 17801  
May 22, 2017  
6:15 pm

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

David L. Persing, Mayor  
Elizabeth R. Kremer, Director of Accounts and Finance  
Richard L. Reichner, Director of Public Safety  
Dale L. Henry, Director of Public Works  
James R. Eister, Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Buildings

Other City officials in attendance:

Brianna Apfelbaum Kula, City Solicitor  
Timothy Miller, Police Chief  
Michael Rhoads, Zoning Officer  
Russell Wertz, Fire Chief  
Terry Specht, City Clerk

Visitors: 15

A moment of silent reflection was held after the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor Persing asked for comments on agenda items and there were none.

**EMS WEEK PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Persing stated that EMS week is an opportunity to recognize pre-hospital EMS practitioners. They spend many hours in training to care for residents in the community. He read the EMS Week Proclamation (see attached).

**HIRE 2 PT POLICE OFFICERS**

Mayor Persing moved to hire Ernest Delp and Michael Vognetz as part-time police officers. Second – Henry. Unanimous vote.

**CES ENGINEERING BILL**

Councilman Eister moved to pay Invoice #170118 in the amount of \$6,000 to CES Engineering for Phase 2 of the Chestnut St. project. Second – Reichner. Unanimous vote.

**PENN DOT ROAD CLOSURE**

Councilman Henry moved to pass the road closure permit approval for National Night Out August 1<sup>st</sup>, Soap Box Derby July 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunbury Celebration July 8<sup>th</sup>. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES**

Councilwoman Kremer moved to pay the invoices reported on the voucher's payable report in the amount of \$138,635.96 from the General Fund and \$175.68 from the Liquid Fuels fund. Second – Henry. Unanimous vote.

## **DISCUSSION**

Mayor Persing announced the Redevelopment Authority will also be looking at vacant commercial properties. To date, they have been dealing with residential properties only. Hopefully this will clean up areas and perhaps with buildings in decent condition, bring more business to Sunbury.

## **AUDIENCE COMMENT**

Chris Wilkinson: If Chestnut St. is shut down for construction how can Market St. be closed for the Soap Box Derby? Councilman Eister answered they will be sure Chestnut St. is open that day.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Memorial Day Parade begins at 8:30 am and ceremony is in Cameron Park on May 29<sup>th</sup>

Lackawanna College satellite is coming to Sunbury in the former McCann School of Business site. Mayor Persing stated this is major for Sunbury. They have been talking to universities for years to come to Sunbury. The Community College, in his opinion, will not be funded. There are still people staying with that concept. Lackawanna College is a credited college so students can immediately transfer credits if they want to. This could lead to a campus in future years. People in our area should be able to afford to go to Lackawanna College, unlike Susquehanna or Bucknell. Mayor Persing asked everyone to back off the Community College idea and support Lackawanna College. David Whipple asked if Lackawanna College approached Sunbury or the other way around. Mayor Persing said they approached the city. Regina Russell said she agrees a college in the city is good but a community college is also good. The fees are different and will give everyone an opportunity for higher education. Councilman Eister said he hopes Dave Persing stays with the process next year.

Sunbury received another HOME grant in the amount of \$500,000

Sunbury received a Green-Light-Go grant to be shared with Coal Township in the amount of \$354,332.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Specht, City Clerk