

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
November 11, 2012
6:15 pm

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Sunbury was called to order with the Honorable Todd E. Snyder, Vice-mayor, presiding. There was a quorum with the following in attendance:

Todd E. Snyder, Director of Accounts and Finance
Joseph J. Bartello, III, Director of Public Safety
Kevin E. Troup, Director of Public Works
James R. Eister, Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Buildings

Other City officials in attendance:

John R. Bakowicz, City Engineer
Stephen Mazzeo, Chief of Police
Ken Long, Asst. Public Works Supervisor
Michael Rhoads, Zoning Officer
Terry Specht, City Clerk

There were eleven (11) visitors present.

MINUTES AND REPORTS

The Minutes of 10/8/12 and 10/22/12 and the available departmental reports of the Police Dept., Treasurer's Office, Controller, Health Dept., Fire Dept., City Engineer, Code Office, Park and Recreation Department, Park and Recreation Board, Public Works Dept., Planning Commission, Redevelopment Authority and Police Pension Board are in the City Clerk's office for review. Motion to accept was made by Councilman Snyder. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote. Minutes will be posted at cityofsunbury.com.

SRI UPDATE

Ms. Meghan Beck reported that the Old Towne Committee has Mr. Scott Doyle from the PA Historical and Museum Commission speaking on Nov. 27th and the topic will be regarding historical tax credits. Anyone interested may attend. SRI is also promoting the "Small Business Saturday" campaign to promote shopping in the downtown on Saturday November 24th. Preparations are still underway for the New Year's Eve celebration.

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY UPDATE

Councilman Eister stated that by the end of the week water and sewer should be hooked-up at 202 Washington Ave, back-filled, heating system installed, basement steps installed and other finishing touches. An Open House is scheduled for December 12th and an auction to sell the new home on December 15th. Councilman Troup said the neighbors in that area are very happy with the looks of the new home.

RIVERFRONT PROJECT PAYMENTS

Councilman Eister moved to pay Buchart Horn invoice #82586 in the amount of \$4,803.07 from CDBG funds for engineering fees. Second Troup. Unanimous vote.

Councilman Eister moved to pay HRI, Inc. as funds are available for the following invoices:

#18	\$197,060.14
#19	\$457,973.48
#20	\$148,742.11
#21	\$ 55,409.05

Invoice #20 will be paid right away. Second – Troup. Unanimous vote. RACP funds should be arriving soon. A check was cut 2-3 weeks ago but has not been released. Rep. Culver is checking to see why the check has not yet been processed. Other communities are waiting for RACP funds also.

SURVEILLANCE CAMERA PROJECT

Councilman Snyder explained that the 2 low bidders for the surveillance camera project are national wholesalers. They have since pulled their bid because they were bidding against their re-sellers and

had lower prices because of that. The next low bidder is Genesis Security Integrations so the bid will go to that company for the purchase of the cameras. Genesis will also honor for every 20 cameras purchased one will be free. Some of the other equipment that has to be purchased is:

DDB Unlimited/\$28,500.67 – 17 aluminum enclosures that will house the video recorders and Verizon Wireless routers and battery back-up systems to each of the camera locations that are not mobile.

Genesis Systems Integrations/\$158,688. – 6 SeSys mobile cameras. The units are shipped from the United Kingdom. They integrate with the Mobotix system and can be deployed any where at any time. They have 10+ hours of battery life. These are state of the art portable cameras and the most current available. Councilman Troup asked if there aren't any American made cameras and Councilman Snyder answered most surveillance cameras are engineered in China or Europe and are the best of the best. In this case there is no US option. Councilman Bartello asked if this price includes the cases shown on the picture and it does. 20 servers to store video footage for the fixed video system locations that support up to 200 cameras. 6 tripod mount systems for the mobile cameras that can be utilized for rooftop surveillance and/or special events. Councilman Eister asked if there were tracking devices for the cameras in case any of them are stolen. Councilman Snyder explained that the cameras have integrated GPS. Each video file is also embedded with GPS coordinates.

Provantage/\$11,875.77 – 16 units 1 terabyte onsite backup storage. Gives the ability to have backup and cameras record even during a blackout condition for 1-2 hours.

Councilman Troup thanked Councilman Snyder for all the time and effort he put into this project. Councilman Snyder said any technology investment made must be carefully chosen because it is outdated so quickly. That is why he waited as long as he could so when the purchase is made the equipment is the best of the best that can be procured at this time. This equipment should also give a revenue generating opportunity because the mobile units can be made available to other departments for surveillance. Councilman Snyder moved to begin the process of purchasing all the equipment as noted. Councilman Bartello asked how much the total for the project is and Councilman Snyder answered right now it is \$165,000 with the remaining funds to be used specifically for cameras. Installation will be done in-house. Councilman Eister asked how businesses buy into the package and Councilman Snyder answered he knows what the price points are now so anyone that wants to participate can. He would like to see a business crime watch established which would help to protect them, their employees as well as what is going on in the street. Mr. Rick Reichner asked how much it would cost to purchase a camera and Councilman Snyder said at this time he isn't sure because the mayor is working on the business aspect of the project. Mr. Mike Rhoads asked if there would be a monthly maintenance fee and Councilman Snyder said there will be minimal maintenance and it will also be performed in-house. The mobotix cameras are German made and have no moving parts. The lenses needing cleaned will be the most maintenance they will need. Power surges will be the biggest problems with the system and the equipment being purchased should protect them from anything but a lightning strike. Mr. Francis Scarcella asked if every business in Sunbury became involved with this project with no fee, wouldn't it put a burden on city employees? Councilman Snyder said that would be part of the business crime watch and involves pro-active training. Second – Troup. Yes – Eister, Snyder, Troup. No – Bartello. Motion carried. Councilman Troup asked Councilman Bartello if he does not want safety in the City. Councilman Bartello answered he does not like the maintenance fees that will come with it years down the road.

APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES/VOUCHER PAYABLE REPORT

Councilman Snyder moved to pay the invoices reported on the voucher's payable report in the amount of \$166,605.58 from the General Fund as funds are available. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

TAX EXONERATION

Councilman Snyder moved to pass the tax exoneration list as requested by Statewide Tax Recovery. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

The Hazard Mitigation Plan has been given to council members and annual amendments have been made to it. Council does not have to take action on the Plan, it is for informational purposes only.

FEMA/PEMA REIMBURSEMENTS FOR 2011 FLOOD

Councilman Snyder said the total reimbursement for FEMA/PEMA is \$81,456.10 (see attached). \$30,591.68 must be used on the blow-out at the river wall. The other items are reimbursements for funds spent already. Councilman Eister said the basement at city hall is not yet finished. Anything that is a direct reimbursement can come back into the general fund to be used on other items. He would like council members to think about what should happen with this funding. The ice rink needs a new roof,

the basement needs to be finished to store records and there are many other projects that need attention. The ball field reimbursement has already been made to the line item the repairs were taken out of. Some of the needed expenses might be able to be taken out of the 2013 budget. Councilman Eister said the \$30,000 is not enough to repair the river wall blow out and he would like to go back to FEMA and ask for more funds to do the repairs. The Municipal Authority is aware of this project. The flood control dept. would like to dismantle that section of WPA wall and use Redi-rock for the repair. Ms. Specht reminded council members the Nov. 19th budget meeting is changed to Saturday Nov. 17th at 8:00 am. Councilman Bartello asked why it was rescheduled - so no one can make it? Ms. Specht answered it was rescheduled so Councilman Troup could attend and Councilman Snyder said it was ok to reschedule for that reason. Ms. Specht reminded Councilman Bartello it is a public meeting and anyone can attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Troup announced the street sweeping schedule is over for the season.

Councilman Eister said the Wolverton St. project is \$85,000 over budget and they have applied to PA DOT for more funding. Lighting is one of the reasons it is over budget. Councilman Troup said with a \$1.1 million project it would look incomplete without changing the lighting.

An un-identified woman asked if there was anything that could be done about the flood wall being put up in Bloomsburg. She is afraid it will cause more flooding in Sunbury. Mr. Scarcella said it is to be erected around 2 businesses and will not affect communities south of Bloomsburg. She also asked if anyone talks about dredging the river to get some of the debris out of it because it is so low right now. Mr. Bob Werline answered he does not think they would not dredge the river due to mercury concerns.

AUDIENCE COMMENT

Mr. Rick Sinko read from a statement that announced his retirement from the Sunbury Fire Dept. effective this date (see attached). Councilman Snyder said he is sorry the mayor could not attend this meeting to hear Mr. Sinko's letter and Mr. Sinko stated there is a letter in an envelope for the mayor and fire chief. He also stated he would not be answering any questions. Councilman Eister said he told Mr. Sinko to follow procedures and Mr. Sinko said he did and has been denied an appeal 3 times. The Sunbury Fire Dept. did not take any action. Chief Mazzeo said there is an investigation open and at this time they are waiting for information to be sent to the police department by the Rescue Hose Co. Mr. Sinko said he is moving out of Sunbury due to this situation so he cannot be a fire chief no matter what the outcome is. Fire Chief Rhoads said he was not prepared for Mr. Sinko's resignation letter. The fire department does not have anything to do with this situation at this time. It is a Rescue Hose Co. issue and has no involvement with any other company. As far as the suspension goes, the fire dept. followed the ordinance that states you have to be a member in good standing to hold a chief's position. Chief Rhoads said council did take a position by not removing him from the position, he is on administrative leave. Councilman Snyder said he felt that's how council interpreted the problem. He feels as a council they should request in writing, the due process procedure through the Rescue Hose Co if they are not following through with their own by-laws. At that point council could say since they are not abiding by the by-laws, there would be repercussions, as in funding. Councilman Snyder said he is sorry Mr. Sinko is moving out of the city. Councilman Troup said everything to this point is hearsay and council cannot get involved in that. Chief Rhoads said the fire department would not get involved until they had written notification from the Rescue Hose Co. Mr. Sinko said he was told on September 17th by the president of the company Mr. Stan Wirth that there would be no appeals. Councilman Eister feels the mayor should send a letter to the Rescue Hose Co. asking why procedures weren't followed. Councilman Eister said he hopes the Rescue's has their facts right because Mr. Sinko has been crucified in the newspaper. Chief Mazzeo explained that nothing was released to the newspaper by the police department. If the Rescue Hose Co. passes the information on they will do their job. They cannot proceed at this point with an investigation because the information has not been turned over to them. The Attorney General's office has been contacted in case this is something the police department cannot handle. Councilman Snyder said the City has already lost a citizen and volunteer so council needs to make sure this does not happen again. Mr. Sinko said the bottom-line is he does not want to have anything to do with the Rescue Hose Co.

Councilman Eister said several weeks ago Councilman Bartello made a complaint about house numbers on the side of his apartment at 406 Walnut St. because they were not the proper size and Councilman Eister changed them. Councilman Bartello said they were handwritten on a piece of cardboard. Councilman Eister said that is not correct however, within 5' of his property there is another rental unit that has no numbers on it and Councilman Bartello didn't see that? Councilman Bartello said no, he only had complaints on the 406 Walnut St. address. Councilman Eister asked Councilman Bartello where he is living and Councilman Bartello answered at 401 Market St. Councilman Eister asked if he knows the Edison Hotel does not have street numbers on it. Councilman Bartello said there are others that don't have numbers on it but he can't stay on top of all of them.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Specht
City Clerk