

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
November 9, 2015
6:15 pm

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

David L. Persing, Mayor
John K. Shipman, Director of Accounts & 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:

Kevin Troup, City Treasurer
John Bakowicz, City Engineer
Brianna Apfelbaum Kula, City Solicitor
Brad Hare, Police Chief
Michael Bordner, Public Works Supervisor
Michael Rhoads, Zoning Officer
Terry Specht, City Clerk

There were twenty-three (23) visitors present.

An executive session was held at 5:00 pm, prior to this meeting concerning personnel and the police dept.

Mayor Persing recognized the veterans attending the meeting for their service.

MINUTES AND REPORTS

The minutes of 10/12/15 and 10/26/15 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 and Police Pension Board (quarterly) are in the City Clerk's office for review. Motion to accept was made by Councilman Henry. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote. Minutes will be posted at cityofsunbury.com.

PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Persing asked for public comment on agenda items and there were no comments.

SRI UPDATE

Ms. Meghan Beck reported the elevator project is almost complete at the Albright Center. The light posts have been removed and will be sandblasted and repainted. They applied for a PPL grant to help with refurbishing the lower level. The Hill Neighborhood's Boos and Brews Festival was very well received and they made a profit. Christmas decorating will begin on November 16th and volunteers are needed and appreciated. The Santa parade begins at 6:30 pm on Friday Nov. 27th. The New Year's Eve celebration planning is well under way. The Promotions Committee is preparing for Late Night Shoppers which is scheduled for Dec. 3rd from 5 to 10 pm. Veteran's banner will be removed and the ceremony will be Saturday at 11:00 am. Aimee Buehner said the Biz Pitch competition will have the final event Saturday Nov. 14th at 2 pm in the 2nd floor at Sunbury Elks. Many sponsors donated approximately \$10,000 in prizes. There were 6 finalists left from 15 applications, 1 stepped out so there are 5. It is important to keep all 15 new businesses in this area. The public is welcome to attend.

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY UPDATE

Councilman Reichner moved to pass a Resolution naming 212-214 Speece St. a public nuisance and allow city council to move forward and take care of the blighted conditions at the property. Second - Henry. Unanimous vote.

Ms. Kula announced an auction will be held on November 14th beginning at 9:00 am at 144 South St., 9:30 am 1062 Miller St. and 10:00 am at 116 S. 4th St.

CHESTNUT ST. PROJECT UPDATE

Councilman Eister said Chestnut St. is finished except for the traffic lights. PPL has to hook up the electric. The lights will be flashing for 1 week due to state law.

MARKET ST. UPDATE

Councilman Eister said the curb is almost finished on Market St. The wall is partially done and they will continue to work on that and pour the sidewalks. They are on schedule and should be finished by the end of November.

INVOICE #6 FOR CHESTNUT ST. PROJECT

Councilman Eister moved to pay the invoice in the amount of \$669,842.62 from the Keystone Communities Grant and CDBG Grant. Second – Reichner. Unanimous vote.

HARB APPROVAL

Councilman Reichner moved to approve the request from HARB to allow St. Monica Church to install stain glass windows. They will be clear storm window on the outside and stain glass on the inside. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote. Councilman Reichner also moved to approve the request from HARB to allow Joel and Rachel Wiest at 5 N. 2nd St. to refurbish the front porch by enclosing 2/3 of it to increase their lobby space. It will be as close to the original look as they can make it. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES

Councilman Shipman moved to pay the invoices reported on the voucher's payable report in the amount of \$31,709.93 from the General Fund and \$2,096.80 from the Liquid Fuels Fund. Second - Henry. Unanimous vote.

AUDIENCE COMMENT

Ms. Laurie Johnson: Everyone is invited to participate in the 4th Annual Hayride event in downtown Sunbury on Saturday Nov. 14th. It has been a very successful promotion. The tractor will be going between different restaurant/bars in Sunbury every 15 minutes.

Mr. Ruell Whipple: Are there plans to fix cracks in the streets because it would be less expensive to maintain them than do complete restorations. Councilman Henry said they have spent in excess of \$10,000 in hot patch and they have also done some crack seal too.

Mr. Joe Bartello: Asked if tonight was a first reading of the budget and the answer is no, it is just discussion.

Chief Brad Hare: The street sweeper schedule is complete Nov. 20th.

DISCUSSION

Mayor Persing stated that the city and the Municipal Authority are concerned about Sun Re Cheese and they are trying to do what they can to keep them in Sunbury.

Councilman Shipman said a preliminary budget is in place and the first public meeting is scheduled for Thursday Nov. 12th at 5 pm in council chambers. There is a deficit showing at this time in the

new budget. Councilman Shipman had a worksheet for the 2015 budget year to date. Each department is over to some degree through October 31st.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Specht
City Clerk