

CITY COUNCIL  
Sunbury PA 17801  
October 13, 2008  
7:00 pm

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

Jesse C. Woodring, Mayor  
John Shipman, Director of Accounts and Finance  
Mark Walberg, Director of Public Safety  
Kevin Troup, Director of Public Safety  
James R. Eister, Director of Parks/Recreation and Public Buildings

Other City officials in attendance:

Elizabeth Kremer, City Treasurer  
John Bakowicz, City Engineer  
Stephen Mazzeo, Chief of Police  
Ken Long, Asst. Public Works Supervisor  
Michael Rhoads, Property Maintenance Officer

There were six (6) visitors present.

### **MINUTES AND REPORTS**

Reports of the Police Dept., Fire Dept., City Engineer, Code Office, Public Works Dept., and Planning Commission were accepted on a motion by Woodring. Eister – second. Unanimous vote.

### **HOME PROGRAM**

Mr. Tim Brickley from SEDA-COG suggested at the last meeting that there is no defined period of years after which the mortgage is satisfied for the HOME Program and that city council should define that policy. Mayor Woodring moved to allow a re-application into the program after the original grant/mortgage has been satisfied and the satisfaction period will be after 5 years. This decision will be retro-active to the grants that are active at this time. This policy can only be waived in case of an emergency and that must be brought before council for a decision. Second Eister. Yes-Troup, Eister, Shipman, Woodring. No-Walberg. Motion carries.

Councilman Eister moved that a client that is in arrears on city taxes or water/sewer/flood maintenance must be on an approved payment plan for 6 months in order to qualify for the HOME program. Second Walberg. Unanimous vote.

### **STATE ROUTE 147/RIVERFRONT ENHANCEMENT PROJECT REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT #033201/RESOLUTION TO SIGN**

Councilman Eister moved to authorize Mayor Woodring to sign all documents regarding the above mentioned Agreement with Penn DOT. Second Troup. Unanimous vote.

### **NEW HIRE/TREASURER'S OFFICE**

Councilman Shipman moved to hire Ms. Brenda Fogelman as Treasurer's Office Clerk I at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, 1/3 to be paid by the school district and 1/3 to be paid by the county. Eight of the applicants were interviewed and many of the interviewees had many of the qualifications the City is looking for in a clerk for the treasurer's office. Second Woodring. Unanimous vote.

### **REASSESSMENT REQUEST**

Councilman Shipman noted that he has been notified by the county that several property owners are requesting a reassessment of their real estate taxes. It was decided that Mr. Apfelbaum should attend the meeting scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **OCTOBER EXPENDITURES**

Councilman Shipman moved to pay the 1<sup>st</sup> October AP expense run in the amount of \$137,537.46. Second Troup. Unanimous vote.

## **TAX EXONERATION**

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

## **ELECTRIC RATES 2009**

Councilman Eister explained that he met with PPL and discussed the rates being charged to the City. There are 88 street lights on Market St. being charged at a fixed rate of just over \$3.00. By 2012 that rate will over \$9.00. Their suggestion to the City was to join a consortium to purchase electricity. The City has been approached by the CSIU, PLCM and the Costars program to see what can be done to purchase electricity and natural gas at the lowest rate possible. The metered electric rates and the demand rates will also go up in varying amounts. PPL has agreed to discuss this further after the study being performed by SEDA-COG is complete. PPL advised Councilman Eister that the City will be able to purchase electricity through a 3<sup>rd</sup> party at a lower rate.

## **PENSION PAYMENTS**

Councilman Eister explained once again that the pension payments will be going up due to the decline in the market in 2008. He suggested that the City budget money in the 2009 Budget for 2010.

## **BUDGET WORKSHEET**

Councilman Shipman handed-out budget worksheets and asked to have them returned to the city clerk by October 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **PENN VALLEY AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD**

Councilman Eister explained that the City must appoint someone to the Penn Valley Airport Authority Board with the resignation of Mr. John Rickards. He also said that Mr. Robert Snyder is interested in being appointed to that board. Mayor Woodring stated that he has had contact with someone from Weis Markets in regard to this appointment. He will follow-up with that contact to see if he is interested in the position. This matter will be brought before council for an appointment and vote at the next council meeting.

## **AUDIENCE COMMENT**

None.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

“Trick or Treat” will be from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Friday October 31, 2008.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Specht  
City Clerk