

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
October 11, 2010

A public hearing for a CDBG modification was called to order at 6:15 by Mayor David L. Persing. Mayor Persing turned the hearing over to Bill Seigel from SEDA COG.

Mr. Seigel explained the purpose of the hearing was to revise the federal fiscal years of 2008 and 2010. The budget changes are being requested to finance the demolition of four properties in the city. The revisions are to increase the clearance and demolition line item in federal fiscal year 2008 by \$17,060. These funds are coming from unexpended 2008 funds in the Persing Park line item of \$4,410 and in the administrative line item of \$12,650. The 2010 budget changes of \$ 22,100 will come from the Market Street allocation and will be used to increase the clearance and demolition line item. The properties slated for demolition are 1106 and 1116 Miller Street, 143 Walnut Street, 158-160 Linden Street and 83-85 N 8th Street.

At this point, Mr. Seigel asked for any public comment. Hearing none, Mr. Seigel stated the intention of the council to take action on this budget modification. DCED will then be asked to authorize the change to this revision.

At this point, Mr. Seigel turned the hearing back to Mayor Persing who then adjourned the hearing at 6:17 pm.

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

Other City officials in attendance:

Elizabeth R. Kremer, City Treasurer
Michael Apfelbaum, City Solicitor
John Bakowicz, City Engineer
Stephen Mazzeo, Chief of Police
Michael Rhoads, Property Maintenance Officer
Cheryl E. Delsite

There were twelve (12) visitors present.

MINUTES AND REPORTS

The available departmental reports of the Fire Dept., Police Dept., Controller, Treasurer's Office, City Engineer, Code Office, Health Department (quarterly), Public Works, Park & Public Buildings (rink), Park and Recreation, Board, and Planning Commission are in the City Clerk's office for review. The minutes of 9/13/2010 and 9/27/2010 and the reports listed above were approved as presented. Councilman Jim Eister made a motion to accept as presented. Councilman Joe Bartello seconded and the vote was unanimous.

RIVERFRONT PROJECT

Bill Roll will be at the next meeting with his review of the Riverfront bills.

Councilman Eister made a motion for the mayor to drawdown from the line of credit the amount of \$274,212.45. This is for Kinsley's payment request number 6. The motion was seconded by Councilman Snyder. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Eister than made a motion to pay request #6. The mayor seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Eister noted the phase one of this project is coming along well but it is behind schedule. There are some small change orders being worked on and the concrete is being completed.

The Coffor dams will be installed next week for phase two. Once the dams are installed, the company will begin hauling number 6 riprap. About two thirds of the forms for the amphitheater are up.

SECOND READING/REMOVE 109-2 AND 109-3 CURB MARKET

Attorney Michael Apfelbaum informed the council that the current ordinance has limits on timing and days and months on when the curb market can operate. This change would remove those restrictions of the original ordinance dated 1905. Councilman Eister made a motion to accept the changes. Councilman Bartello seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

BROWN STREET CLOCK REPAIR

Mr. Seigel informed council that a proposal for the repair of the Brown Street Clock which is located in front of the American Legion on Market Street had been prepared and sent to qualified companies. Three proposals were received to repair this historical clock. The three companies submitting proposal were Essence of Time, Regulated Time Company and Global Time Wizard. The most complete and lowest proposal appears to be from Essence of Time. Because this is a professional service, council does have the authority to select any of the three companies but SEDA COG is recommending Essence of Time. SEDA COG has done due diligence on this company. They are members of National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors and have very carefully delineated the steps that will be taken to complete the restoration. The clock will be made electric. It was learned during the research phase of the clock that the Brown Street Clock Company was not known for quality mechanism. The total cost of this project is \$13,745.

Mayor Persing made a motion to award the repair to Essence of Time. Councilman Eister seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

CDBG BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

The mayor made the motion to accept the CDBG adjustments recommended in the public hearing and Councilman Eister seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

RFP FOR LEGAL SERVICES/DEMOLITION

Mr. Seigel noted the legal services for the demolition projects are eligible for CDBG monies. However, according to Federal regulations require if the city is going to expend over \$10,000 for professional services, it must provide an opportunity for open and competitive pricing. In order to comply with this regulation, SEDA COG is suggesting the city publish a request for proposal for legal services for the acquisition, demolition and rehabilitation of properties with the city. The City Solicitor is welcome to apply but the city does not have to award it to the lowest price. The City is required to entity best able to supply the services. SEDA COG is requesting permission from the council to solicit at least 3 legal firms.

Mayor Persing made a motion to authorize SEDA COG to go out for bids for the legal services for the acquisition, demolition and rehabilitation of properties in the City of Sunbury. Councilman Eister seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

RECORDS CLERK

Mayor Persing informed council he promoted Paula Mitchell from meter person to full time Records Clerk. Her salary will increase from \$18,000 to \$21,000. This is due to the retirement of the former records clerk who made just under \$25,000.

Mayor Persing made the motion to promote Paula Mitchell. Councilman Bartello seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

SNACK BAR WORKER

Councilman Eister made a motion to hire Kerstin Taylor for the ice rink's snack bar. Councilman Snyder questioned the starting salary. Mr. Eister believes it is around \$5.00 because the position is seasonal. Councilman Bartello seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AMENDMENT TO CITY ENGINEER'S CONTRACT

Councilman Eister made a motion to increase the engineer's stipend by \$50 a month for 2011. Mr. Bakowicz is no longer on the City's insurance. Mayor Persing seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

COPS TECHNOLOGY GRANT

Mayor Persing mentioned the City was notified by Congressman Carney's office concerning the \$200,000 earmark. Mayor Persing would like to talk to the school district and the housing authority about their being involved in this project. The current areas being considered for monitoring are recreation area, the entrance and exits to the city, and the school perimeters. He hopes to have the money and a preliminary plan by the end of the year. The mayor stressed citizens rights will be protected but the streets and sidewalks are public.

There was discussion about the computers in the police cars.

INVOICES

Councilman Todd Snyder made a motion to pay from the general fund the invoices which total \$63,256.01 and from Liquid Fuel invoices totaling \$36,777.00 as funds are available. Councilman Eister seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

TAX EXONERATION

Councilman Snyder made a motion to accept the tax exonerations as presented. Councilman Eister seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Justin Dunkleberger reported on behalf of SRI on the Spruce Street Cemetery tour they will be holding on October 16th from 6 pm to 8 pm. There is a fee of \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 12 and under. The event is rain or shine.

He also informed council about their annual Holiday Parade which will be held November 26th starting at 6:30 pm. He invited individuals, groups, marching bands and organizations to get involved. The parade will form at 6 pm on Raspberry Avenue and step off at 6:30 pm. The parade will travel down South 10th Street to Market Street to Cameron Park.

The mayor asked Mr. Dunkleberger to inform SRI that the city was not successful in trying to establish some type of event in Stroh Alley. The mayor would like to know if SRI had any suggestions.

The mayor announced the Halloween Parade is Thursday, October 21st at 7 pm. Trick or Treating is Saturday, October 30th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. He reminded citizens to turn their lights on if they wanted trick or treaters and to turn off their lights if they did not. He also reminded everyone to watch out for the children.

FINANCIAL SYSTEM UPGRADE

Councilman Snyder provided the council a summary sheet of the cost of the system. Initially, it was a 36 month lease with a \$1.00 buyout. The monthly cost would be \$1,297 for a total of \$46, 692. If he took \$10,000 from the fiber optic funds as a deposit, it would bring the payment to \$926. a month.

He also mentioned if any of the councilmen had technology needs, they may want to consider leasing the computer equipment. The cost could be built into their budgets.

Attorney Apfelbaum questioned if this should have been bid. Beth Kremer noted there is no other company that can upgrade the Main Street system. It is a sole source provider.

Mr. Seigel noted if the Community Development Block Grant uses this system, some of the cost could be pro rated to help with the cost. Cheryl Delsite informed the council that the CDBG accounts are on Quickbooks and not Main Street.

Councilman Snyder made a motion to take \$10,000 from the fiber optic funds to be applied to the cost of the financial system upgrade costs. Councilman Eister seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl E. Delsite
Admin. Asst.