

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
June 25, 2018
6:15 pm

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

Kurt Karlovich, Mayor
Elizabeth R. Kremer, Director of Accounts and Finance
Richard L. Reichner, Director of Public Safety
Chris Reis, Director of Public Works
James R. Eister, Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Buildings

Other City officials in attendance:

Michael Rhoads, Zoning Officer
Paul Brown, Fire Chief
Terry Specht, City Clerk

Visitors: 27

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

An executive session was held on June 25 to discuss personnel issues.

A CDBG Public Hearing was held to discuss the FFY 2018 CDBG Program.

PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Karlovich asked for public comment on agenda items and there were none.

RESOLUTION TO DISSOLVE REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Ms. Linda Sterling explained a Resolution (see attached) must be passed by council to dissolve this fund. It was set up in the 1970's and had been operating as a fund used to redevelop properties in Sunbury. If owners were low/moderate income and could not afford to make improvements needed to stay in their home, they could apply to this fund to use the money and in return a lien was put on the property and the money was paid back into the fund. There have been changes to community development grant income tracking and this is something they call program income. When money comes back into that loan it is considered CDBG income. The revolving loan has not been used to fund new projects but was never formerly dissolved by vote of council. The funds going into the account through pay-backs will be used to fund any eligible CDBG project. Mayor Karlovich moved to dissolve the Housing Revolving Loan Fund as requested. Second- Reis. Unanimous vote.

APPOINT TRUMAN PURDY TO PENN VALLEY AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD

Mr. Michael Kula stated the city has a representative on the board because the city is a stakeholder in the Penn Valley Airport. There are 9 stakeholders altogether. The airport is a very important asset to the region and serves many businesses and private individuals. The city's most recent representative on the board, Rep. Lynda Schlegel Culver, had to step back because she has been very busy. A sub-committee of the board recommends to city council to appoint Mr. Truman Purdy as the Sunbury representative to the Penn Valley Airport Board. Mayor Karlovich moved to appoint Mr. Truman Purdy as the Sunbury representative to the Penn Valley Airport Board. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

ROAD CLOSURE/COLOR RUN/RIVER FESTIVAL

Councilman Reis moved to include the intersection at Chestnut St. and S. 4th St. in the road closure for the River Festival on August 18th to accommodate the 5K Color Run. Second – Reichner. Unanimous vote.

ENGINEERING AMENDMENT/CHESTNUT ST. UTILITIES PHASE 2

Councilman Reichner moved to approve an amendment to the engineering contract to allow the same engineer be used for Phase 3. This is allowable under CDBG guidelines because it is less expensive than starting over with a new engineer. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

ADVERTISE FOR RFP FOR REAGAN ST. ENGINEERING PHASE 1 & 2

Councilman Eister moved to direct SEDA-COG to advertise an RFP for Reagan St. Engineering for Phase 1 & 2. The reason they do double phases is because it saves time and money. An ad will be placed in The Daily Item and an RFP packet will be worked up which will list all criteria and services required by the engineering firm. A meeting will be held to open the RFP's received and an engineer will be selected. Second – Reis. Unanimous vote.

Mayor Karlovich said Ms. Sterling has been lovely to work with and he feels she cares for the city of Sunbury in working with the mayor and council with CDBG projects.

APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES

Councilwoman Kremer moved to pay the invoices reported on the voucher's payable report in the amount of \$83,682.61 from the General Fund and \$20,237.55 from Liquid Fuels. Second –Reis. Unanimous vote.

RETIREMENT/STEPHEN BENNICK

Mayor Karlovich received a resignation/retirement letter from Captain Bennick. Mayor Karlovich moved to accept the retirement of Captain Stephen Bennick as of August 23, 2018 with his permanent leave effective immediately. Mayor Karlovich thanked Captain Bennick for his years of service to the city. Second – Reis Unanimous vote.

DISSOLUTION OF CAPTAIN POSITION IN SUNBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Karlovich moved to dissolve the position of captain from the Sunbury Police Department in accordance and agreement with the outstanding Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) allegation of the Sunbury Police Union. Second – Kremer. Unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a reward being offered for the apprehension of the person(s) that kicked the spindles in at the gazebo on Chestnut St. Please call 570-286-4584 "0" with any pertinent information.

Landlord meeting to discuss the proposed ordinance "Grounds for Renewal, Suspension, Revocation of Rental Permits" is scheduled on July 10, 2018 at 6:00 pm in council chambers

AUDIENCE COMMENT

Alan Bubb: The Horn Railroad went through the wetlands area years ago. The embankment that is there is the only remaining right-of-way of the old Horn Railroad. There is also a piece near the Beck School that has been paved over and is now a walking path. There should be a historic designation for that area. He thought it might be nice to put a kiosk up with information about the railroad at the wetlands area during its upgrade. Mayor Karlovich said that information is also being incorporated into the history of the wetland. Mr. Bubb also said Clarence Weaver's movie of the oar train has a shot from the old gashouse tower looking down on the property with the train going through. It is called the Horn Railroad because the area it travelled looked like a French horn. Mr. Bubb also said Bimbo is parking their trucks in the old Jeld Wen property. There is a gate there and they could come out on Packer St. At this time they are travelling Edison Ave. and unless it's a local delivery, that type of truck should not be using Edison Ave. He would like that looked into.

Tim Lagerman: Is there any information about N. 4th St. and UGI replacing the natural gas line. He was wondering if a trench would be dug. Councilman Reis answered yes, they are redoing the line and repaving N. 4th St. to Shikellamy Ave. That will be spring of 2019. That is a state highway and

the city has no control over. Mr. Lagerman said the S. 4th St. project improved that area and he would like to see that done on N. 4th St. as well.

Julie Brosius: Asked what will be done about the “keep off the grass” signs on N. Front St. Councilman Reis said that will be changed to “trucks keep off the grass” as soon as they have the time to do that project. Ms. Brosius also asked about the trucks from Bimbo that she brought up 2 weeks ago, as Mr. Bubb did tonight. Councilman Reis said it is hard to tell them how to run their business.

The next city council meeting will be held on July 9, 2018 at 6:15 pm.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Specht, City Clerk