

CITY COUNCIL
Sunbury PA 17801
December 22, 2008
6:15 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 K. Shipman, Director of Accounts and Finance
Mark W. Walberg, 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:

Lisa Persing, City Controller
Stephen Mazzeo, Chief of Police
Michael Rhoads, Property Maintenance Officer
Terry Specht, City Clerk

There were eight (8) visitors present.

NON-UNIFORM PERSONNEL POLICY/COMPENSATORY TIME

Councilman Eister asked whether 2 or 4 hours should be selected to use compensatory time. Personal and vacation time have a limit of 4 hours. Councilman Troup said it would be better to lose an employee for 2 hours and not 4, if an employee has to have off for a short time, they would have to take ½ day off. Councilman Shipman moved to accept the compensatory time as stated with no less than 2 hours of compensatory time being used and 24 hours advance notice is required. Second Woodring. Unanimous vote.

2ND READING 2009 BUDGET ORDINANCE #1260

Councilman Shipman moved to pass on the 2nd reading the Budget for 2009 (see attached). Total Revenues and Expenditures are \$4,155,120. Second Eister. Vote: No-Troup. Yes-Eister, Woodring, Shipman, Walberg. Motion carried.

2ND READING 2009 TAX LEVY ORDINANCE #1261

Councilman Shipman moved to pass on the 2nd reading, the 2009 Tax Levy Ordinance with the following rates set for taxes:

General Revenue 23 mills
Recreation 2 mills
Library 1/4 of 1 mill
Debt Reduction 2 mills

Second Eister. Vote Yes- Eister, Woodring, Shipman, Walberg. No-Troup. Motion carried.

2ND READING ARTICLE 106 LICENSED BUSINESS

Councilman Shipman moved to pass on the 2nd reading, Article 106 (see attached) which increases the licensing fees on businesses that operate within the City but have no place of business here. The license fee will be \$100 and proof of payment must be given upon request of City Treasurer or other authorized agent. Second Troup. Vote: Yes-Shipman, Troup, Eister Woodring. No-Walberg. Motion carried.

HOURLY RATE FOR SHRED ALL TO NORTH'D AND POINT TOWNSHIP

Mr. Dale Henry, Recycling Coordinator for Northumberland County, explained that the City paid ½ of the 10% match for the shred all, Northumberland and Point Township both paid ¼ of the match amount. The rate to charge the two municipalities should be lower than others that will use it since they have contributed to the match. After general discussion, this subject was tabled until the next meeting.

JANITORIAL SERVICES

One bid was received from Sun Com Industries/CIES Program for the janitorial services at city hall and the police station:

City hall \$93.15
DJ Office \$30.11
Police Station \$70.28

Councilman Eister moved to accept the only bid received for janitorial services. Second Troup. Unanimous vote.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE POLICY

Michael Rhoads created an Emergency Response Policy (see attached). It is consistent with other municipality's policy. Councilman Walberg moved to adopt the Emergency Response Policy as written. Second Woodring. Unanimous vote.

HIRE PART-TIME EMPLOYEE AT ICE RINK

Councilman Eister moved to hire Harold Fazzini as a part-time employee at the ice rink at \$8.00 per hour. Second Woodring. Unanimous vote.

2009 FIREWORKS CONTRACT

Councilman Eister moved to authorize Mayor Woodring to sign the 2009 fireworks contract, to be held on July 11, 2009 as part of Sunbury Celebration. Second Troup. Unanimous vote.

DECEMBER EXPENDITURES

Councilman Shipman moved to pay the bills in the amount of \$146,387.84. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

CDBG PROJECTS

Councilman Shipman moved to award the design services contract to Stahl-Sheaffer Engineering with final cost to be negotiated at a fee of less than \$57,605 for design services at Cameron Park. Second Eister. Unanimous vote.

Councilman Shipman moved to redefine the Stroh Alley project, focusing on lighting and pavement improvements only, to be undertaken co-operatively with the adjacent property owners and the City Public Works Dept (to perform the work). Second Troup. Unanimous vote. The owners of the Market House would also like to participate with this project.

Councilman Shipman moved to instruct SEDA-COG to develop and advertise for proposals for funding a feasibility study and funding applications for the Riverfront Project to be funded by CDBG planning money. Second Eister. Unanimous vote. A meeting will be held with the Municipal Authority regarding this topic.

AUDIENCE COMMENT

Mr. Ralph Young asked about parking ticket rates for street sweeping being raised. He suggested street cleaning every other week instead of every week to save money. He also commented that the mayor and council's salaries be cut in half. Mayor Woodring explained that he and the council members are not paid by the meeting and they are on city business for many hours a week and many meetings a week.

Mr. Dale Henry asked whether storage rental units are included in the new licensing fees. Councilman Eister answered that the Solicitor is checking into that. When the ordinance was created there weren't many storage units available but now there are.

Step 3 of the grievance regarding the corporal promotion was given to mayor and council.

Mr. Ralph Young also asked why the Municipal Authority and the government of the City are not the same. Mayor Woodring explained that city council appoints the Municipal Authority Board members but otherwise has nothing to say about their operations. The 2 entities do work in cooperation with each other. Councilman Shipman explained that the Authority has powers to do things, such as to borrow money and perform certain functions that are broader than the City has.

Mr. Dale Henry asked whether council thought about changing the Municipal Authority board members from time to time instead of reappointing the same people. Council has discussed this issue and does try to find new people to serve on boards. There are no term limits on the board.

Mr. Henry also stated that the verbal altercation between Councilman Walberg and Councilman Eister earlier in the meeting was embarrassing to him as an audience member. Councilman Walberg explained that everyone has their own opinion and can express it as such. Mayor Woodring stated that he thinks it is healthy for council members to state their opinion, especially when it differs from the others. The council members respect one another and listen to each other's opinion.

Councilman Eister asked council members to consider naming the alley behind Market St. as "Brown Street" in honor of retired District Magistrate Wade Brown.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Specht
City Clerk