

CITY COUNCIL  
Sunbury PA 17801  
February 27, 2017  
6:15 pm

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

David L. Persing, Mayor  
Elizabeth R. Kremer, Director of Accounts and 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:

Brianna Apfelbaum Kula, City Solicitor  
Michael Rhoads, Zoning Officer  
Russ Wertz, Fire Chief  
Ken Long, Assistant Public Works Supervisor  
Terry Specht, City Clerk

There were seventeen (17) visitors present.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor Persing asked for comments on agenda items and there were none.

**CARING AWARD**

Mayor Persing presented the Caring Award to Mr. Randy Shroyer President of the Sunbury Rotary Club. The Award is given to people or organizations that make an impact on the Sunbury community. The Sunbury Rotary Club is celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017. They are involved with the Shikellamy band and choir, Red Cross, Degenstein Library, Salvation Army, Haven Ministry and they sponsor the Citizen of the Year award and sponsor student of the month, among many other community efforts. Mr. Shroyer thanked the mayor and council for the award. He said the Rotary would like to recognize their 100 years by coming up with 100 things to be done in the community or 100 hours of community service in 2 or 3 days this year. They would like the community to be involved as well. Mayor Persing said they would solicit suggestions and let Mr. Shroyer know what they came up with.

**CIVIL SERVICE REGULATION CHANGE**

Mayor Persing moved to change the passing grade for the written and oral exams from 80% to 70% per the Civil Service Board's recommendation. Second – Henry. Unanimous vote.

**RESOLUTION/2017 LAKE AUGUSTA WINE & BREW FESTIVAL**

Councilman Eister moved to pass the Resolution (see attached) for SRI to use the riverfront area for their Wine and Brew Festival and to allow alcohol to be served at riverfront on September 16, 2017. Second – Reichner. Unanimous vote.

**RESOLUTION/WAIVE OPEN CONTAINER ORDINANCE/WINE & BREW FESTIVAL**

Councilman Eister moved to waive the open container ordinance at the riverfront for the Wine and Brew Festival on September 16, 2017. Councilman Reichner asked if the City is additional insured and whether there is a certain amount of insurance required. The answer is yes to both questions. Second – Reichner. Unanimous vote.

## **APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES**

Councilwoman Kremer moved to pay the invoices reported on the voucher's payable report in the amount of \$119,772.63 from the General Fund and \$2,500.00 from the Liquid Fuels fund. Second – Henry. Unanimous vote.

## **DISCUSSION**

Mayor Persing said Chief Miller has completed updating the Standard Operating Procedures and Rules and Regulations for the police department. It will be given to the police union to look at. The chief and mayor looked at various locations to try to relocate a new police department site. The M & T building needs a lot of work including a heat/air system and roof. Ms. Russell asked why the Wire rope buildings could not be used for a new police department and the mayor stated they would like to stay in the downtown area.

Also, Mayor Persing stated an RFP will be going out to have maintenance done on the camera system and get an ongoing maintenance plan for upkeep.

Ms. Apfelbaum Kula mentioned the SRI Veteran's banner project. This year it will include Hometown Heroes as well as Veteran's. Applications are available at the SRI office. Ms. Russell asked if it is living heroes or deceased and Ms. Janet Yonkoski answered it is either. The banners are \$200 for a new one and \$100 to re-hang.

## **AUDIENCE COMMENT**

Fire Chief Russ Wertz: Regarding the Letter to the Editor regarding the Friendship Hose Company building being an eyesore – that is in no way related to the Sunbury Fire Department, it is strictly the Friendship Hose Company. It is in the attorney's hands and will soon be torn down. Ms. Julie Broschious asked if the building is stable and it has been inspected by an engineer and is stable.

Regina Russell, Community Activist: The city received a grant for funding to help residents fix sidewalks because they are in the vicinity of a school. Ms. Russell said Ms. Shrawder said the money was received and it was used for something else. She has senior citizens in her community on a fixed income that cannot afford to have a tree cut down and repair sidewalks. If the code office is going to fine these people, she hopes the city would give them recourse such as a list of people who could help. She also has a warning for landlords in Sunbury – she received a telephone call from people who were tenants in her unit and someone in Sunbury is setting up an account in Ms. Russell's address and the tenant's name. The account is being used to sell gold and ordering a subscription to the USA Today newspaper.

Julie Broschious: Asked if the Bitner building could be a location for a new police department. Mayor Persing said he is waiting to hear from the owner for a tour of the building.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Specht, City Clerk