

CITY COUNCIL  
Sunbury PA 17801  
August 22, 2016  
6:15 pm

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

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:

Kevin E. Troup, City Treasurer  
Brianna Apfelbaum Kula, City Solicitor  
Michael Rhoads, Zoning Officer  
Terry Specht, City Clerk

There were twenty-three (23) visitors present.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Debra Betz told Councilman Eister that she got volunteers to help clean up Wolverton St.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES INVOICE PHASE 2 CHESTNUT ST UTILITIES**

Councilman Eister moved to pay invoice #160247 for engineering fees for Phase 2 of the Chestnut St. project. Second – Henry. Unanimous vote.

**PA SMALL WATER RESOLUTION**

Councilman Eister moved to pass a Resolution (see attached) to move forward with completing and submitting the application for a \$500,000 grant for Phase 2 of the Chestnut St. project. Second – Henry. Unanimous vote.

**REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Ms. Apfelbaum Kula explained there is 1 property to be declared a public nuisance by city council acting as the Board of Health. Councilman Reichner moved to pass the Resolution (see attached) to declare 616 S. Front St. as a public nuisance. Second – Kremer. Unanimous vote.

**STREET PAVING BIDS**

Bids were opened for the 2016 street paving:

Meckley's Limestone	\$127,698.30
New Enterprise	\$119,188.20
J. Fulkroad & Sons	\$168,672.32
HRI	\$140,591.40

Councilman Henry moved to award the bid to the apparent low bidder, New Enterprise, after review by the city solicitor and authorize the mayor to sign all documents. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

**2017 POLICE PENSION FUND MUNICIPAL MINIMUM OBLIGATION**

Vice-mayor Kremer announced the MMO for the police pension in 2017 will be \$204,097.

**APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES**

Councilwoman Kremer moved to pay the invoices reported on the voucher's payable report in the amount of \$129,635.07 from the General Fund and \$1,885.42 from the Liquid Fuels fund. Second – Eister. Unanimous vote.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENT**

Vice-mayor Kremer asked audience members to stand and announce their name prior to speaking.

Ms. Laurie Johnson: Representing SRI. *Rio* is the last movie for the season and it will be shown Tuesday at the riverfront. A Merchant Mixer is also scheduled for Tuesday at the SRI office between 4 pm-6 pm. Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> is the Renaissance Faire and Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> is the Wine and Brew Festival. The River Festival was a hit over the past weekend. Councilman Eister also thanked Ms. Johnson and the rest of the River Festival Committee for planning such a successful event.

Ms. Regina Russell, Community Activist: Thanked the city and SRI and volunteers for the River Festival. What makes the Front St. property a nuisance? Councilman Reichner said it has been vacant for 3 years, the son was supposed to take care of the property and he has not done anything to bring it to code. Unauthorized people are living there. When are bids opened? Vice-mayor Kremer said they were just opened prior to the meeting. She also thanked Mark Lawrence for a successful River Festival. Ms. Russell also said there were no police officers at National Night Out. Isn't the purpose of NNO so the community can bond with officers? Also, officers get to know the people in the community. Why is an officer at a council meeting wasting his time and not giving a police report? Cpl. Hare said the police monthly report is submitted with other reports at the first meeting of the month to city council. On Monday before NNO there were several officers called out to investigate an incident and they did not have turn-around time for officers to come out to NNO. Cpl. Hare also said they are doing what they can to make sure the streets are covered. There will not be any time when the shifts are not covered and the citizens are safe. Ms. Debra Betz said at times there is only 1 police officer on duty and she does not feel they should be out being sitting ducks. Vice-mayor Kremer said Chief Miller was at NNO. Ms. Russell asked what citizens can do to keep their vehicles from being broken into. Cpl. Hare said keep the doors locked and keep lights on at night. If you see something suspicious it should be reported. Ms. Jan Dockey commended the police for what they've been through and what they've achieved.

Ms. Debra Betz: A light was just installed in the alley between 11<sup>th</sup> St and 12<sup>th</sup> St. was it put there because of crime? Councilman Reichner said it is 1 of 4 lights installed at a resident's request.

Ms. Ruth Riehl: The big black spotlights on Front St. are not being used. Can they be changed around so they shine on the river? Councilman Eister will look into that.

Mr. Jim Snyder: Does the city get the name of someone complaining about weeds? Councilman Reichner said complaints can be anonymous. Mr. Snyder said the East End Hose Co. received a call about the weeds around the house they just purchased. Mr. Snyder said it was a courtesy call but they only have owned it for about 1 week. Several weeks ago there was discussion about putting signs on the chain link fence at the end of the Veteran's Memorial Bridge. Councilman Reichner explained it is the Federal Highway Beautification Act and Penn DOT controls that. Mr. Snyder asked why SRI had their sign on the fence. Councilman Reichner said that is Penn DOT. The fence at the Catholic Church is private property. Mr. Snyder said he thought an ordinance was passed that only advertising for the property the sign is on is allowed. Councilman Reichner said if there is an accident the church would have to assume liability if they allow a sign on their property and there is an accident.

Mr. Justin Strawser, The Daily Item: Are there any updates on the taser report? Vice-mayor Kremer said not at this time. He also asked if the MMO is higher than last year and Mr. Troup answered it is \$8,000 less than last year.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Music in the Park – 8-23 Timothy's Burden 8-30 Randal Ginley Band

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Terry Specht, City Clerk