

SELINGSGROVE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, May 4, 2020 – 7:00PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: President Marvin Rudnitsky, V/P Richard Mease, C/P Sara Lauver, C/P Bobbie Owens, C/P Christopher Kalcich, C/P Grant Neff, C/P Erik Viker

OTHERS PRESENT: Borough Treasurer Sheri Badman; Solicitor Bob Cravitz; Mayor Jeff Reed; Roll was taken for Call-In Participants: Borough Manager/Secretary, Lauren Martz; Deputy Zoning Officer/Recycling Coordinator, Lindsey Brouse; DH&L Fire, Jason Kaufman; Selingsgrove Chamber of Commerce, Helen Walter

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Pres. Rudnitsky called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Treasurer Badman called roll and acknowledged a quorum followed by President Rudnitsky leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM March 2, 2020:

C/P Neff made a motion to accept the minutes as written. C/P Mease seconded.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FROM March 25, 2020:

C/P Neff made a motion to accept the minutes as written. C/P Mease seconded.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

GOVERNMENT / NON-GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO BE HEARD:

DH&L Fire Company: Asst. Fire Chief, Jason Kauffman, spoke via phone providing the March and April fire service reporting. Calls in the Borough have come down drastically with the Stay-At-Home Order due to COVID-19. Fundraising events scheduled for 2020 have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Jason will drop the monthly reports in the Borough drop box for Sheri to have for her records.

DH&L Ambulance League: Report provided

Selingsgrove Projects, Inc.: No report

Selingsgrove Chamber of Commerce: Helen Walter called in for the meeting. The Chamber did not meet in March or April due to the pandemic. The Chamber is hoping to have their meeting the fourth Tuesday in May to honor their scholarship winner.

SARI (Pool): C/P Mease stated the Board has not met due to the pandemic. Boyer Pools will be uncovering the pool and setting up the apparatuses in preparation of the 2020 season. The pool will open when the Governor gives the ok to do so. SARI hopes to be able to keep the pool open through Labor Day as many patrons have asked for in the past several years. The reason it has closed earlier is due to the lack of lifeguards after school starts in August. The next meeting is Monday, May 11, 2020 at the pool grounds.

Selingsgrove Flood Task Force: The letter was sent to the Commissioners regarding the county's mitigation plan submitted to PEMA. President Rudnitsky did have a call with Commissioner Kantz. The

county did submit their plan but the person who reviews it was out of the country and was unable to review it.

OTHER PERSONS TO BE HEARD – Public Comment Period:

Helen Walter, Selingsgrove Chamber of Commerce, discussed the July 12, 2020 Antiques on the Avenue annual event. Susquehanna University is unable to provide tables and use of their property for the event due to the concerns with Coronavirus. Ms. Walter has been in contact with the Selingsgrove Area School Superintendent, Chad Cohrs, in order to potentially hold the event in the middle school parking lot. She stated there is more room to social distance. She has asked for the Council to look at the approval request to still hold the event on University Avenue since it is a Borough right-of-way. She did state that all of this is dependent on the Governor's reopening guidelines.

COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS:

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Sara Lauver, Chairman: No report

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE – Bobbie Owens, Chairman

- 1) **Payment and Ratification of Bill:** C/P Owens presented the bills for review and motioned for the bills to be paid. Seconded by C/P Neff.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
- 2) **Update on Gelnett Trust:** The Finance Committee met with Fulton Advisers and Bob Laudenslauger, the Gelnett Trustees, in March. The trust showed a loss in early to mid-April due to the changing market with the pandemic. By the end of April, there were gains recovering some of the loss. The Fulton Advisers have been providing weekly updates and feel that by the end of 2020 the trust will end at a market value where it was at the end of 2019.
- 3) **Approval of 2020 Insurance Renewal Costs:** The insurance renewal for 2020 is less than 2% which is covered by the 2020 budget 2% increase in order to cover any changes in rates. C/P Owens made a motion to approve the payment of the 2020 insurance renewal at the cost of \$155,195. Seconded by C/P Neff.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
- 4) C/P Owens made a motion to make an application to the county for aid to reimburse the street program an allocated request in the amount of \$4,390. Seconded by C/P Kalcich.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
- 5) C/P Owens made a motion to postpone penalty for water/sewer/recycling bills from March 19, 2020 through September 30, 2020. While billing accordingly, bills will be due but there will be no late fees, penalties, or shut off through September 30, 2020. Seconded by C/P Mease.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
- 6) C/P Neff made a motion to adopt a resolution to extend the due date on the face value of real estate taxes through September 30, 2020. This motion is conditional on the County adopting the same resolution. Seconded by C/P Viker.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
- 7) C/P Viker made a motion to approve up to \$20,000 of Gelnett funds to make improvements to the Moose Playground. Seconded by C/P Lauver.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
- 8) C/P Viker made a motion to approve up to \$10,000 of Gelnett funds to make improvements around town to include the boat launch and kayak launch at Little Norway to include seating, picnic tables, bike racks, and an additional portable restroom. Seconded by C/P Owens.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE – Grant Neff, Chairman: No report

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATION / PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE – Christopher Kalcich, Chairman: No report

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Richard Mease, Chairman:

Two temporary road closure requests. Both were already pre-approved at the January, 2020 meeting.

- 1) C/P Viker made a motion to grant the temporary road closure request for Antiques on the Avenue under the approval and/or guidelines from the CDC, Governor, and Susquehanna University. Seconded by C/P Neff.

AYES: SIX (6) NAYS: ONE (1) C/P Lauver MOTION CARRIED

- 2) C/P Mease made a motion to approve the temporary closure of Union Alley on Saturdays, May 16 – December 5, 2020 for the Farmers’ Market. Seconded by C/P Viker.

AYES: FIVE (5) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
ABSTAIN: C/P Lauver and C/P Kalcich

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Erik Viker, Chairman: No report

PLANNING COMMISSION – Janet Powers, Chairman: No report

Council acknowledged the time extension granted by Lauren Martz, Borough Manager, for the Shaffer Tract Reconfiguration.

ZONING HEARING BOARD – Cyril Runkle, Chairman: No report

CIVIL SERVICE – Dalton Savidge, Chairman: No report

SHADE TREE COMMISSION – Joan Fasold: No report

PARKS & RECREATION – Vacant: No report

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR – Jeff Reed: Presentation of the Police Reports from February, March, and April 2020. Police calls are down but the Officers have increased their presence checking on businesses which are not open. They are checking to be sure businesses are locked and undisturbed for security purposes.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR – Robert Cravitz, Esq.:

- 1) C/P Viker made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 844 – Change Rotary Field to Open Space. Seconded by C/P Owens.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

- 2) C/P Viker made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 847 – Amending Act 120 Training. Seconded by C/P Kalcich.

AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

Solicitor Cravitz requested an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss an assessment appeal for the Wood-Metal Building and a written response from ESCRA.

BOROUGH ENGINEERS:

- 1) Coukart & Associates, Inc. – Treasurer Badman stated the bid request is going out for the Street Program. That should be awarded in June.
- 2) Larson Design Group – No updates

BOROUGH TREASURER – Sharon Badman:

- 1) Review Treasurer’s Report for the month of March, 2020.
C/P Viker made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. C/P Neff seconded.
AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
- 2) Review Treasurer’s Report for the month of April, 2020.
C/P Viker made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. C/P Neff seconded.
AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
- 3) C/P Neff made a motion to approve the 2019 Consumer Confidence Report. Seconded by C/P Mease.
AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

BOROUGH MANAGER / SECRETARY – Lauren Martz

- 1) Manager Martz provided her monthly report.
- 2) C/P Mease made a motion to authorize Lauren Martz as the authorized agent on the DAP-1 for the COVID-19 Virus. Seconded by C/P Lauver.
AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED
- 3) C/P Neff made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-05, the Snyder County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Seconded by C/P Owens.
AYES: SEVEN (7) NAYS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

ZONING – Lindsey Brouse: No Zoning Hearing Board Meeting in April.

EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY REGIONAL AUTHORITY – Dan Kiesinger & Shane Hendricks, Delegates: Deferred until after Executive Session

NORTH-EASTERN SNYDER COUNTY JOINT AUTHORITY – Dianne Mengel: No report

SELINGSGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Tim Charles, Chairman: No report

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNCIL MEMBER – C/P Mease presented a concern from Don Rowe requesting someone look into the house at 218 W. University Avenue formerly owned by Bill Faylor. The property is abandoned and the back yard fills up with water and ends up in Mr. Rowe’s back yard. C/P Owens stated approximately a year ago CK COG posted the property needing remediation. She is unsure if all of the remediation was addressed on the inside but the outside has not been addressed completely. Council President Rudnitsky stated Mr. Rowe should be notified letting him know this is a code enforcement issue that will be looked into.

Treasurer Badman stated the bike auction will be postponed due to the current pandemic.

MAYOR – No comments

OTHERS – Helen Walter had a question for the Mayor. She was wondering if the Mayor can override the Governor’s decision to keep businesses closed. Solicitor Cravitz stated the only way the Mayor can give authority is during an emergency such as a flood.

RECESS TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION – 8:14 PM

RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION – 8:26 PM

No action was taken in Executive Session. There was a positive agreement to the Wood-Metal appeal reassessing tax responsibility to \$750,000. 100 E. Sherman Street which is owned by Management Acquisition LLC and is the location of Wood Metal which is on two tax map parcels: 15-04-001 and 15-04-00. Selinsgrove Borough, Snyder County, and Selinsgrove Area School District joined together on the reassessment.

C/P Viker made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by C/P Neff.

AYES: SEVEN (7)

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted by:
Carrie A. Briggs
Recording Secretary