

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 6, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, March 6, 2023, in the municipal building located at 42 West 8th Avenue, Shamokin Dam beginning at 7:00 P.M. President Musser presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dave Sauers, Mark Benner, Shawn Bingaman, Karen Roberts, Maria Brandt, and Donald Musser were present.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, Mayor Joseph McGranaghan, Manager Edward Hovenstine, Solicitor Robert Slivinski, David Bobb, Angela Derr, Deb Benner, June Stark, Anna Fausey, Elaine Herbert, Diana Bickhart, Paige Visneski, and John Shirk were present.

The meeting was opened with the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Benner to approve the Council minutes of February 3, 2023, and the Workshop minutes of February 16, 2023, as presented, seconded by Councilman Bingaman, and approved by all.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Appointment for Council Vacancy, Resolution 2023-3 – Borough residents that expressed interest in the vacancy on Council, Paige Visneski, Anna Fausey, David Bobb, and Russell Fellman (Kristi Steinbacher and Robert Herbert were not present) introduced themselves to Council and thanked Council for their consideration. Councilwoman Roberts stated that Paige Visneski attended previous meetings and workshops this year. A motion was made by Councilwoman Roberts to nominate Paige Visneski to the vacancy on Council, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all with a show of hands. 6-Yes 0-No.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Oath of Office – Mayor Joseph McGranaghan administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Councilwoman Paige Visneski.

Shred Event – The Community Shred Event will be held on Friday, May 5, 2023, between the hours of 9:00-11:00 AM.

Annual Cleanup – The Annual Cleanup will begin on Monday, May 1, 2023. Manager Hovenstine mentioned that the cost increased from last year.

Spring Newsletter – The Spring newsletter was presented and will be distributed in March.

PA Safe Digging Month, Resolution 2023-4 – A motion was made by Vice President Sauers to adopt Resolution 2023-4, proclaim April 2023 as Pennsylvania Safe Digging Month and

encourage all Pennsylvanians to visit the Pennsylvania 811 website at www.pa1call.org for information about digging safely, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approved by all.

Borough Audit – Auditors – The auditors from Herring Roll & Solomon, PC will be at the Borough Office on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, gathering audit information.

MAYORS REPORT:

Property Maintenance Update – Mayor McGranaghan reviewed the report from Central Keystone COG on the property maintenance: The new owner, Benjamin Wert, of 3718 N Old Trail and 3720 N Old Trail has begun the process of gutting the interior of the structure and will decide whether the property will be renovated or demolished with building a new structure. Mr. Wert is aware of the permitting process, zoning, and flood requirements. The new owner, Steve Anderson, of 3507 N Old Trail has begun property renovation, Jim Emery and Manager Hovenstine are in contact with the new owners, Susquehanna Trail LLC, of 2943 N Susquehanna Trail regarding the demolition of the buildings, and the new owner, Carl Carr, Jr. of 3517 N Old Trail has been making progress with the repairs.

Encina – A company, Encina, that will take plastic and recycle it into chemicals to make new plastic items. The site for the plant is along Route 11 in Point Township along the Susquehanna River. The plant will generate an estimated one hundred jobs, one hundred trucks daily onto the site, and rail cars leaving with chemicals that may be highly flammable. Encina will have an open house in May to answer any questions. Mayor McGranaghan wanted to make Council aware of this company.

Police Report – Mayor McGranaghan reviewed the February police report.

- Patrolman Shipman attended a five-day training for criminal investigation.
- The police department participated in Random Acts of Kindness day with Eagles Wind Coffee Shop, which the officers paid for patrons' coffee on this day. The police department will continue with more outreaches such as this in the future.
- Aggressive Driving Grant will run from March 20th to April 23rd.
- Officers will continue to monitor traffic violations such as stop sign on Eighth Avenue.
- All full-time officers have been sized for bullet proof vests and will be ordered. The Police Chief secured a grant that will pay for half of the cost associated for each officer.
- Officers continue to work with the Attorney General with drug investigations.

Mayor McGranaghan mentioned that the radar bill will be introduced again to the State Senate.

MANAGERS REPORT:

CSVT Water Break Issue – Manager Hovenstine reported that the contractor hit concrete that was attached to a water line, which caused the Borough to lose close to 75,000 to 100,000 gallons of water. The PUC will determine fault and issue a penalty/fine. The issue caused Borough residents to be without water and a water boil advisory on Rome Court. President Musser mentioned that a pump is running nonstop and pumping water into Fiss Run. Councilman Benner expressed concern over the water runoff that will go through Fiss Run with the CSVT. Mayor McGranaghan will discuss this concern at the next transportation meeting.

Lead & Copper Rules, What It Means to the Borough – Manager Hovenstine reviewed a law implanted by EPA, adopted by DEP, which includes a survey of every water service that enters a building, whether the building is residential or commercial. The report must be completed by October 2024. Along with that there is a back flow cross connection rules for public, which needs to be recertified every two years.

Senator's Office – Manager Hovenstine reported that the Senate office would like to lease additional office space, however the Borough office does not have any space available. The renovation of the office building has been on hold until the Senate office clearly states what office space is needed.

Insurance Claim Updates – Manager Hovenstine reviewed insurance claim updates: one claim was the traffic signal and an overhead light, located at the intersection of Route 11 and Route 15, was damaged by a truck in November 2022. PENNDOT will reimburse the Borough for the traffic signal and the insurance company will reimburse for the overhead light; second claim was the Orchard Hills sign that was destroyed in January by a motorist, the rebuild has an estimated cost of \$10,075.00 from Herrold and Son.

Chapter 94 Submission – DEP Reports – The calendar year 2022 Chapter 94 Report, wastewater, was submitted and accepted to Gannett Fleming for ESCRA, which reviews the flows and loads of the Borough sewer system.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Ambulance Service question on the Ballot, Resolution 2023-5 – Solicitor Slivinski reported that the election office will put a question on the Spring ballot, however a Resolution needs to be adopted by Borough Council and requested on Borough letterhead, which specifically states the question to be placed on the ballot. Councilwoman Roberts stated that the election office would need these documents by Thursday, March 16, 2023, to have on the primary ballot. The Solicitor explained that the resolution does not have the specific question to be on the ballot, just the concept, and suggested that the question on the ballot require a yes or no answer. Council discussed possibilities for the question on the ballot and determined that the primary ballot was not a feasible timeframe. President Musser stated that Shamokin Dam Borough has a primary ambulance service established for year 2023 and challenged Council to establish a workable plan by the end of the year. Discussion was tabled.

Service Electric Cablevision Franchise Agreement – The Borough and Service Electric Cablevision have a franchise agreement that began in year 2013 with a term of ten years, which expires on April 4, 2023. Solicitor Slivinski mentioned that the Landlord/Tenant section 13 was added for this agreement: No landlord shall demand payment from cable company for permitting cable on the property, no landlord shall interfere with the installation of cable company, no landlord shall discriminate in rental charges or otherwise, between tenants who have and those who do not, and no landlord shall demand or accept payment from any tenant for permitting cable on the property. The agreement states that Service Electric Cablevision shall pay the Borough a fee equal to 3% of gross revenues collected by Service Electric Cablevision from charges for Cable Television Services. Payment of fees shall be made annually no later than March 31st of the year following the calendar year in which the fees accrue. The Solicitor

mentioned that the Service Electric Cablevision will provide service upon written request by the Borough for one standard installation and one outlet of basic cable television service to one building owned and occupied by the Borough. There will need to be a new ordinance passed by Borough Council and a new agreement executed with Service Electric Cablevision and each will need to be approved by Council. The Franchise agreement was tabled until Council meeting on April 3, 2023.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission meeting will not be held in March.

WORKSHOP:

A workshop meeting was held on Thursday, February 16, 2023, to discuss fire company lease. The lease was sent to the fire company.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$18,421.20, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$109,634.69, and 111 W 11th Avenue Fund in the amount of \$991.34 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Vice President Sauers to approve payment of the bills as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary