

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 6, 2024**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, May 6, 2024, in the municipal building located at 42 West 8th Avenue, Shamokin Dam beginning at 7:00 P.M. President Musser presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mayor Joseph McGranaghan, Secretary LaDawn Litzel, Solicitor Matthew Slivinski, Manager Edward Hovenstine, Scott Shambach, June Stark, Alexander Skotedis, and Nick Jacobson were present.

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

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Roberts to approve the Council minutes of April 1, 2024, seconded by Councilwoman Bailey, and approved by all.

VISITORS:

Shamokin Dam/Skotedis Boundary Agreement – Scott Shambach with Meck Tech reviewed a Shamokin Dam Borough and Skotedis Property common boundary assessment. Mr. Shambach recommended a boundary line agreement between the Borough and Alex Skotedis. Mayor McGranaghan questioned whether the agreement would be necessary, since the Borough has an agreement to turn over a portion of that land to the Skotedis property in return for the elevated rail line property, which serves as a break in water for the old trail residents. Scott Shambach explained that the boundaries of the properties need to be determined prior to a subdivision of the property. A deed will need to be created with zero error of closure and boundary agreement between the Borough and Alex Skotedis. Council agreed to have the Borough Manager work with Meck Tech on the boundary agreement for this property.

Alex Skotedis and Scott Shambach left at this time.

June Stark, Borough resident, questioned whether the Borough would consider upgrading the playground equipment at the Borough parks. Council designated Councilman Bingaman to research facility upgrades.

Nick Jacobson, 23-year-old-Lewisburg Area High School and 2023 Yale graduate, introduced himself to Council and announced that he is running as a Democratic candidate for the 85th Legislative district in the PA House of Representatives.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor McGranaghan received correspondence from the Family Services Association of Northeastern PA, 211 help line, requesting a contribution of \$1,000.00 per year for three years.

The Mayor submitted the correspondence to the Manager for discussion during the 2025 budget process.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Bailey, chair of the Personnel Committee, requested meeting with Councilman Benner, Councilwoman Roberts, and Manager Hovenstine to discuss amendments to the Employee Handbook and forward any recommendations to the June Council meeting. Councilwoman Bailey mentioned that the meeting would be to share information, to formulate a recommendation and to bring to full Council.

OPEN BUSINESS:

Council requested an agenda listing for open business as follows:

Fire Company, Lease – Solicitor Robert Slivinski will report at the June Council meeting.

Flood Mitigation – Councilman Benner received confirmation that PEMA received the loss information.

Recovering Central Keystone COG Fees – Solicitor proposed amending code of ordinances.

MAYORS REPORT:

Police Report – Mayor McGranaghan stated that the Police Chief provided the March and April police report.

Mayor McGranaghan discussed the car camera bids that were submitted to the Manager. The Police Chief recommended using the Axon company for the cameras. The Mayor questioned whether the purchase would be over the bidding process limit. The Manager answered yes. The Mayor stated that the company is located in another state and questioned whether the Borough could use the program from that state, which is similar to the CoStars program or if the cameras would need to bid. Solicitor Matt Slivinski will research the requirements for the bidding process. A motion was made by Vice President Sauers to authorize the purchase of the camera system, subject to proper bidding procedures or requirements, seconded by Councilman Bingaman, and approved by all. Manager Hovenstine stated that SEDA-COG might have to write the specifications for this purchase.

The Mayor reported that the police department has been enforcing the Quality-of-Life Ordinance related to weeds.

MANAGERS REPORT:

Phillips Motel Site – Demolition of the buildings began on April 29, 2024, and will take a few days to complete. A Royal Farms Store will not be built on that site, the site is being offered to other perspective tenants.

Manager Hovenstine reported that the Borough hired Brian Corrigan as the part-time crew position at \$20.00 per hour with 24 hours per week with a start date of April 29, 2024.

The Manager received an updated quote to replace three valves, one for raw water supply valve, two for the filter effluent valves at a cost of \$31,020.00. This cost does not include installation and programming. A motion was made by Councilwoman Roberts to authorize purchase of the water treatment plant valves and installation not to exceed \$37,020.00, seconded by Councilwoman Bailey, and approved by all.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Ordinance 2024-3, Amending Penalties for Violations – A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to adopt Ordinance 2024-3, amending penalties for violations for code enforcement, fine not less than \$500.00 not more than \$1,000.00, reasonable enforcement costs, attorney fees, court costs, term of imprisonment not to exceed thirty days, seconded by Councilman Bingaman, and approved by all.

Solicitor Matt Slivinski stated that the cameras will have to be to be purchased through the bidding process or use the other agency out of state website (out of state procurement site), because they are not considered a proprietary item. The Solicitor will research.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 7:00 PM to discuss the subdivision plan of property located at 111 W 11th Avenue. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the subdivision plan property located at 111 W 11th Avenue, Shamokin Dam.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$12,715.00, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$22,485.60, Fire Protection Tax Fund in the amount of \$1,800.00 and 111 W 11th Avenue Fund bills in the amount of \$7,169.00, were presented for payment. A motion was made by Vice President Sauers to approve payment of the bills as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Roberts, and approved by all.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council adjourned to executive session at 7:55 PM, to discuss personnel issue; reconvened at 8:38 PM. A motion was made by Councilman Bingaman to send engagement letter to McCormick Law Firm, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary