

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 4, 2024**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, November 4, 2024, in the municipal building located at 42 West 8th Avenue, Shamokin Dam beginning at 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Manager Edward Hovenstine, Solicitor Robert Slivinski, Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, Mayor Donald Musser, Police Chief Timothy Bremigen, Joshua Herb, Brooklynn Herb, Diana Bickhart and David Bobb were present.

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

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Bingaman to approve the Council minutes of October 7, 2024, and Workshop minutes of October 17, 2024, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approved by all.

MEMORANDUM OF DECORUM:

President Benner requested that the memorandum of decorum be added to the agenda and all future agendas to conduct meetings in a civil and respectful manner.

Councilwoman Roberts arrived at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS:

PENNDOT requested a workshop meeting with Council to discuss the CSV Traffic Signal & PENNDOT Green Light Co Grant/Former Phillips Motel site. A tentative workshop meeting will be held on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 7:00 PM to discuss PENNDOT request.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Proposed 2025 Meeting Nights – Mayor Musser discussed that one Council meeting night in September would be held on Tuesday, due to holiday, instead of the first Monday of the month. Council approved to advertise the proposed meeting nights of 2025 as presented.

2024 Christmas Party – Council agreed to hold the Borough Christmas party on Thursday, December 12, 2024, at the Shamokin Dam Fire Company.

2025 Budget – Tentative Adoption – Proposed 2025 Budget –The 2025 General Fund Budget and the Water/Sewer Fund Budget were presented for tentative adoption and advertising. The 2025 General Fund budget is proposed at \$1,327,815.00. The 2025 Water/Sewer Fund Budget is

proposed at \$1,107,945.00 with an approximate 7% increase to the water rates in 2025. Police Chief Bremigen mentioned that the Budget statement states that the new patrolman and chief contracts were settled in 2024, however the Police Chief has not signed an updated contract yet. Mayor Musser requested a meeting with the negotiation committee, Maria Brandt and Dave Sauers, to discuss Police Chief Bremigen's contract. The Police Chief discussed a situation involving homeless individuals. Council recommended tabling the discussion to the Public Safety committee. A motion was made by Councilman Moyer to tentatively adopt and advertise the proposed 2025 Budgets as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Bailey, and approved by all. The Manager will advertise the 2025 Budgets for adoption on Monday, December 2, 2024.

Spooks In The Park Update – Councilman Bingaman presented an update on the Spooks in the Park event that was held on Saturday, October 26, 2024, between the hours of 6:00PM – 9:00PM and requested a reimbursement of \$181.00 that were expenses paid out of pocket. Council approved. A motion was made by Councilwoman Brandt to hold the events on Friday, October 31, 2025, Trick or Treat Night between the hours of 6:00-8:00 PM and the Spooks in the Park between the hours of 6:00-9:00 PM, seconded by Councilwoman Roberts, and approved by all.

OPEN BUSINESS:

Fire Company, Lease – Solicitor Slivinski reported that the lease was sent a second time, because Dr. Michael Dunigan did not receive original email. The Solicitor stated that the lease would need returned by the December Council meeting for approval. Councilman Moyer recommended that if the fire company had issues with the lease to discuss at the November workshop. The Solicitor will reach out to Dr. Dunigan.

Flood Mitigation – President Benner stated that the Borough received correspondence from DEP regarding the preliminary evaluation of the flooding in the Borough from the Susquehanna River. Six property owners took advantage of FEMA assistance over the several flooding events dating back to the 1980's with the most recent occurring in year 2018. This was determined to be an inaccurate representation of flood damage in the borough and was ultimately not considered in the preliminary evaluation for a potential flood protection project. The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map was used to determine flooding frequency and number of structures affected by the 100-year flood event. It was determined that the estimated cost of constructing the proposed flood project would be approximately \$7.4 million. A flood protection project located in the Borough is considered not feasible.

Council Member and Mayor Compensation/Salary – Councilman Moyer questioned whether the topic was to be removed from open business and brought up if the Council wanted to discuss another time. Councilwoman Brandt stated that the vote should be cast soon and will try for the Council December meeting to vote on Council Member and Mayor compensation/salary.

MAYORS REPORT:

President Musser reported that the 2025 police vehicle is in service.

The Police Chief reviewed the October police report.

- The Axon Camera/LPR system installation is complete. Both vehicles have been upfitted.

- Charges are forthcoming for the incident involving a crash with the 2020 Police vehicle in early September.
- Officer Hassenplug and the Police Chief patrolled the borough and handed out candy on Trick or Treat night.

MANAGERS REPORT:

2017 Police Vehicle Update – Manager Hovenstine recommended advertising the 2017 Explorer on Municibid, a governmental bidding website, and have bids back for the December meeting and agree on a minimum bid and award the bid if that amount is met. Mayor Musser recommended a reserve bid in the amount of \$9,500.00. A motion was made by Councilman Moyer to advertise the 2017 Explorer on Municibid and establish a minimum reserve bid in the amount of \$9,500.00, seconded by Councilman Bingaman, and approved by all.

Healthcare Renewal – Manager Hovenstine recommended renewing the current plan with no changes in coverage with Capital Blue, but with the proposed premium increase of 9.6% with a renewal date of December 1, 2024. A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to renew the current healthcare with Capital Blue, seconded by Councilwoman Roberts, and approved by all.

Investments – Reinvest two CD's, one from general fund and one from water/sewer fund, both in the amount of \$150,000.00. A motion was made by Councilman Bingaman to direct Manager Hovenstine to reinvest the CD's, seconded by Councilman Moyer, and approved by all.

Main Reservoir Compartment #4 Inspection Proposal and Water Treatment Plant Clarifier Inspection Proposal – Utility Services submitted a proposal to inspect compartment #4 with an underwater camera system at an approximate cost of \$1,600.00, which includes a fully detailed report of the findings. Utility Services submitted a proposal to inspect the clarifier at a cost of \$3,500.00, which includes a full detailed report of the findings. The Manager stated that this work would be completed in November. A motion was made by Councilman Moyer to approve the reservoir proposal with an estimated cost of \$1,600.00 and the clarifier inspection proposal with an estimated cost of \$3,500.00, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approved by all.

SOLICITORS REPORT:

Solicitor Slivinski stated that the fire company lease with a \$500.00 monthly payment, automatic yearly renewal, unless there is a sixty-day prior notice was sent to Fire Company President Michael Dunigan for signatures.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 7:00 PM to discuss subdivision of Howard Bowers property located at 47 Jonathan Road.

Joshua Herb and Brooklynn Herb left at this time.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

A Workshop will be held on Thursday, November 21, 2024, to discuss PENNDOT's request and a homeless situation discussed by the Police Chief.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$93,016.49, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$12,830.70, Local Service Fund in the amount of \$25,649.18, Motor Fund in the amount of \$55,000.00, 111 W 11th Avenue Fund in the amount of \$2,269.34, and Fire Protection Fund in the amount of \$3,700.79, were presented for payment. A motion was made by Councilman Bingaman to approve payment of the bills as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Roberts, and approved by all.

The Shamokin Dam Community Christmas tree lighting will be held on Sunday, November 24, 2024, at 5:00 PM at the water tower with a rain date of Sunday, December 1, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

Councilwoman Roberts reviewed upcoming fire company events and recommended that the Borough include fire company events in the Borough newsletter. Secretary Leitzel stated that the fire company events are added when received within the timeframe to add to the newsletter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council adjourned to executive session at 8:20 PM to discuss personnel issues; reconvened at 9:16 PM. Councilwoman Roberts left during the executive session. A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to instruct the Solicitor to send correspondence to the patrolmen within fifteen days stating that the longevity pay for the patrolmen begins after five years of service to be paid at the first pay after a patrolman's anniversary date: Officer Hassenplug would be paid \$1,350.00 for year 2024 and Officer Shipman would be paid \$600.00 for year 2024, however Officer Shipman was paid incorrectly in the amount of \$1,200.00, so therefore an amount of \$600.00 will be deducted from Officer Shipman's payroll, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilman Moyer to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approved by all. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary