

City Council Meeting Minutes - August 23, 2021

City Council Chambers, City Building, 16 West Scribner Avenue, DuBois, Pennsylvania on Monday, August 23, 2021 @ 7 p.m.; Council convened at their regular City Council Meeting with Mayor Walsh in the Chair. Other Council Members present were: Diane Bernardo, James Aughenbaugh (by telephone), Shane Dietz, and Shannon Gabriel. Also present were: City Manager, John "Herm" Suplizio; City Solicitor, Toni Cherry; City Engineer/Public Works Director, Chris Nasuti; Redevelopment Authority Director/Assistant Public Works Superintendent, Joe Mitchell; Police Chief, Blaine Clark and City Secretary, Bobbie Shaffer.

Absent: City Controller, David Volpe

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Walsh.

Approval of Minutes

City Council Meeting Minutes of August 9, 2021

The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of August 9, 2021 as presented by the City Secretary. Roll call vote was as follows: Dietz, yea; Bernardo yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Work Session Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2021

The motion was made by Dietz and seconded by Gabriel that Council approve the Work Session Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2021 as presented by the City Secretary. Courier Express reporter, Nick Hoffman, pointed out that Dietz had been absent at the Thursday Work Session and therefore could not make the motion to approve. The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Bernardo that Council approve the Work Session Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2021 as presented by the City Secretary. Roll call vote was as follows: Dietz, abstain (due to absence); Bernardo yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Registry of Invoices

The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council approve the Purchase Order Listing by Vendor Name dated August 29, 2021 in the amount of \$224,498.17 and the Check Register by Check ID dated August 19, 2021 in the amount of \$1,652.78 as presented by the Finance Officer. Roll call vote was as follows: Dietz, yea; Bernardo yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comments: No Public Comments

Jason Gray - Consolidation Study

City Manager Suplizio called Mr. Gray and his wife distinguished guests; Mr. Gray didn't believe he would go that far. Mr. Gray thanked everyone for their initiative on the Consolidation Study. He went to say that he had read the study in full and found it to be extremely comprehensive and well done. He feels, that due to COVID restrictions we had a very low turnout for the two previous meetings. Mr. Gray finds that bothersome. So when the township Supervisor's decided they didn't want to move forward, it changed the proposed process. That being said, Mr. Gray contacted the PA Economy League and requested one more question and answer session before the item goes to vote. The citizen petition was effective and consolidation will on the November ballot. He stated that the Gray Foundation would pay to have the PA Economy League come back to answer questions. He feels they can answer questions concerning the change of status from Home Rule to Third Class City. Mr. Gray is asking City Council and Sandy Township Supervisors to promote the next meeting to the community. The more educated we are on the subject the better.

Request 2nd Public Hearing for CDBG 2021 Application - Monday, September 27, 2021 @ 6:50 p.m.

The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council approve the request for a second Public Hearing concerning the 2021 CDBG Application on Monday, September 27, 2021 @ 6:50 p.m. Roll call vote was as follows: Dietz, yea; Bernardo yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Recommendation: Maple Avenue Turnback

City Engineer Nasuti said we had a successful bid opening and he recommends awarding the contract to Glenn O. Hawbaker in the amount of \$3,225,000. He went on to say that Roman Excavating was hired to replace the main water line and the laterals; we're beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel on that project. Hopefully he will finish up in the next two to three weeks and we can get Hawbaker's working. Terri Hess from the audience asked about the sidewalk corners; Nasuti

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Recommendation: Maple Avenue Turnback (Cont'd.)

stated that the sidewalks are scheduled to be finished by the end of October. The motion was made by Bernardo and seconded by Gabriel that Council accept the recommendation of the City Engineer and award the contract to Glenn O. Hawbaker in the amount of \$3,225,000. Roll call vote was as follows: Dietz, yea; Bernardo yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Request from Falls Creek Borough for one EDU for Dollar General Store

The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council approve the request from Falls Creek Borough for one EDU sewer tap for the Dollar General Store. Roll call vote was as follows: Dietz, yea; Bernardo yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Chief of Police - Blaine Clark

The power outage could not have come at a worse time today; right at school dismissal. Our officers stepped up and helped with traffic. He went on to say he heard the outage had to do with the Shawville line.

It was mentioned that the light on West Long Avenue is still blinking.

Redevelopment Authority Director/Assistant Public Works Superintendent, Joe Mitchell

Mayor Walsh asked if Mitchell had anything, he said "apparently I have a stop light to fix on my way home".

Councilwoman Diane Bernardo

Shout Out to Councilwoman Gabriel for using her expertise to help the police department deal with individuals with mental health problems and setting up the program to help officers find resources concerning police officer suicides.

Councilman Shane Dietz

Good job officers moving the traffic during the power outage.

Councilwoman Shannon Gabriel

Thanked Jason and Libby Gray for coming and expressed her and Council's appreciation for their investment in the community.

Mayor Walsh asked Mitchell to tell Council and the audience about the training he and James Tokarcik went to on Friday, August 20, 2021

Mitchell stated that they were asked to act as terrorist that infiltrated a school building. It was a good exercise and Mitchell and Tokarcik gave them a run for their money. Mitchell went on to say that it was a real eye opener as to how many officers it would take to really secure a school.

City Solicitor - Toni Cherry

- Stated that she had the Mayor and City Manager sign a Deed agreement that was entered into in April 2021, in which the City sold 1.70 acres to Angry Goat Restaurant for additional parking.
- We have received a Right to Know from Kristen Vida asking for our current and prior contracts with Advanced Disposal.

City Manager - John "Herm" Suplizio

Thank you Jason and Libby we appreciate all your hard work and generosity. The more people that are educated, the better off the Community will be.

Mayor Edward L. Walsh

Expressed his appreciation for all the Gray's do for the Community.

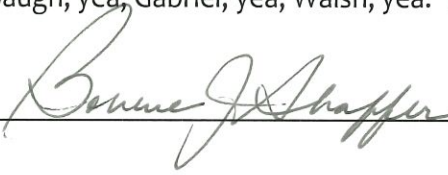
Councilman Jim Aughenbaugh

- Thank you the Gray's - wish he was here personally to thank them.
- Thanked Shannon Gabriel for her work with the Police Department and expressed his appreciation for the balanced Council; everyone brings something different to the table.

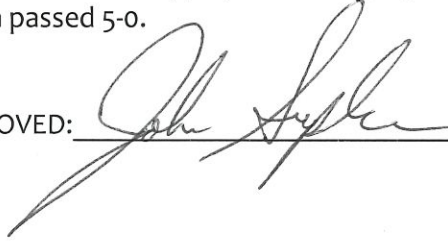
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There being no further business to transact; the motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Bernardo that Council adjourn. Roll call vote was as follows: Dietz, yea; Bernardo yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bonnie J. Schaffer", written over a horizontal line.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John H. Hylton", written over a horizontal line.