

The Borough Council of Shiremanstown, Pennsylvania held its regular monthly meeting September 11, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. at Borough Hall, One Park Lane, Shiremanstown, Pennsylvania.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

John Getz, President
Lucy Getz
David Lagerholm
Carol Mullen-O'Leary
W. Grant Tankersly

BOROUGH OFFICIALS PRESENT

Tammie G. Dailey, Mayor
Andrew Sheely, Esq., Solicitor
George W. Lane, CPA, Treasurer
Janna Colechio, Secretary

Mr. Homer was absent due to family obligations.

Mr. Getz called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was called to honor the 2,983 men women, and children who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, in the attacks at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and aboard Flight 93 in Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

MINUTES

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On a motion by Mrs. Getz and seconded by Dr. Mullen-O'Leary, the minutes of the August 14, 2023, Council meeting were approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2023 previously had been distributed to Council. Mr. Lane had no comments to add to the written report. Dr. Mullen-O'Leary made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for August 2023 and file it for audit. With a second from Mr. Lagerholm the motion passed unanimously.

The 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Shiremanstown Borough Police Pension Plan (21-072-3 P) had been prepared and previously distributed to Council. Mr. Lane explained that the Plan is currently over-funded and no additional funding is required for 2024.

CITIZENS REPORT

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CITIZENS PRESENT

Karen Cochran
Mark Rosnick
Joan Runkle

ADDRESS

Simpson Public Library
203 East Main Street
4 Walnut Street

Ms. Cochran thank Council for their continued support of the library and invited them to tour the new facility recently purchased by the Simpson Library on Monday, October 9, 2023, at 6:00 PM. She agreed there would be ample time for those attending to return to the Borough for the October Council meeting.

Mr. Rosnick announced that leaf collection will begin on October 4, 2023. He stressed that grass clippings are not acceptable and will not be picked up as leaves for recycling.

The fall street sweeping of the streets will be conducted on Monday, March 2, and Tuesday, March 3, 2023, prior to the start of leaf collection. Signs will be posted prior to the sweeping to allow citizens time to move their vehicles from the streets.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The informative session with representatives from Tri-County Regional Planning Commission and the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) will begin promptly at 8:00 PM following the Council meeting.

The committee overseeing the new garage project will be meeting on Thursday, September 14, 2023. Updates from that meeting will be provided at the October meeting of Council.

Mrs. Harris announced that the BBQ, Bingo, and Beer event scheduled for September 23, 2023, had been cancelled due to a lack of interest. Only a total of 26 tickets had been purchased, while at least 50 participants were necessary to ensure any success of the event as a fundraiser. Ms. Pate is currently working on plans for a spaghetti dinner. Members of the committee were unable to locate the time capsule from the Borough's Centennial celebration. Speculation of its exact location continues. Mrs. Harris explained that despite the fundraising setback, the committee has had some success and questioned when the request for the remaining funds guaranteed by the Borough for the celebration should be requested. She explained that there are several larger payments that will come due early in the new year. Mr. Lane explained that any funds not given by the end of 2023 will roll over for the committee's use in 2024.

The council determined the date for the annual Trick-or-Treat night should follow the date established by Lower Allen Township due to the common borders on the south side of the Borough. The secretary was instructed to reach out to Lower Allen to confirm a rain date if necessary.

MAINTENANCE AND BOROUGH GROUNDS

Mr. Getz and the maintenance crew met with representatives from Stephenson's Equipment regarding the purchase of a new leaf collection system for the Borough. The system discussed costs \$220,000 (two hundred twenty thousand dollars). However, with grants that are available, the cost to the Borough would be \$22,000 (twenty-two thousand dollars). Stephenson's will reach out to the Secretary to start the process for a potential grant.

The crew continues to work on painting curbs and crosswalks throughout the Borough. It was recommended that diagonal lines be painted in the crosswalks as well to draw more attention to the area. Lime green signs included under the current yellow crosswalk signs reminding drivers that it is a state law to stop for pedestrians within the crosswalk were discussed. The council authorized Mr. Rosnick to purchase and install these signs.

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mr. Getz reported that the Local Emergency Coordinator meetings will resume in September.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

There was no report.

MECHANICSBURG SCHOOL BOARD

Dr. Mullen-O'Leary plans to visit the schools personally regarding the banner contest.

SOLID WASTE

There was no report. Mr. Getz reported that one of his trash bags had been left behind.

CODES ENFORCEMENT/ZONING OFFICER

The Zoning Officer's Report for the month of August 2023 had previously been distributed to the Council. Four (4) building permits and three (3) zoning permits had been issued for a total of \$1,373.00 (one thousand three hundred seventy-three dollars) collected in fees.

Mrs. Alloway reported that the screen on her laptop appears to be broken. She assured the council that information from the laptop had been saved to an external hard drive. Officer Montgomery had called the tech representative for the Borough who recommended hooking the laptop to a second monitor to determine if it is a hardware issue. Mrs. Alloway had a monitor at home; however, the power cord did not match the laptop ports. Mr. Lagerholm offered to supply a cord as he owns multiple ones. The council discussed various options and determined that the best option would be to purchase a new laptop not to exceed eight hundred dollars (\$800.00). When the new laptop is set up, it will be determined if the Zoning Officer has the use of Microsoft One Drive as does the Police Department and the Secretary, or if a new external drive should also be considered.

West Shore Christian Academy and Bible Baptist Church had either replaced or enlarged the sign on West Main Street without a permit.

The demolition at 201 East Main Street is in its first phase.

There are four foreclosures threatened in the Borough for November and December.

STREETS AND PAVEMENTS

A patch performed by UGI at 13 East Main Street continues sink.

PUBLIC SAFETY/FIRE DEPARTMENT LIAISON

Reports were provided for August 2023 for both the Shiremanstown Fire Department and the Shiremanstown Firemen's Relief Association. Fire Chief McCutcheon reported that the Fire Department had participated and placed in a fire parade in Summerdale celebrating the 100th anniversary of continued service from the Summerdale Chemical Company & Summerdale Fire Company.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Fall in the Park will be held on October 21 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. There will be treats, face painting, hayrides, a bonfire and a Halloween costume contest.

Susquehanna Valley Tree Service will be trimming trees in Memorial Park.

Mrs. deCoen will be meeting with the Recreation Board to discuss improvements possible through a grant.

MAIN STREET

Mrs. Getz had nothing new to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

August

Complaints Rec'd	42	Traffic	24
Criminal	0	Non-Traffic	0
Assist. Other Depts.	8	Verbal Warn	1
PD Revenue	\$ 562.45	Parking Tkts	0
		Written Warn	4

Officer	Hours	Traffic Tickets/Arrests
Stoner	198.0	1
Montgomery	207.0	7
Shaughnessy	31.0	0
Yeager	33.0	0
Hall	22.0	1
Moyer	0.0	0
Gelnett	65.0	15

Traffic citations for the month included eight (8) for speeding, six (6) for STOP sign violation, 3 (three) for expired registration, 2 (two) for expired inspection, 1 (one) for careless driving, 1 (one) for failure to obey traffic controls, and 3 (three) summary offenses.

The Mayor would like to have the Borough host a Meet the Candidates night such as Upper Allen Township has had in the past where citizens may come to ask questions of the candidates and receive a biography of their qualifications and stands on issues within the Borough. The council discussed the idea, and the date of Thursday, October 19, 2023, at 6:30 in the Borough Hall. Mr. Lagerholm made a motion to approve the plan as discussed and authorize the Secretary to advertise the event. With a second from Dr. Mullen-O'Leary, the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Dailey now has contact information for the Mechanicsburg Police Department who oversees

the crossing guard program. She will be reaching out to them.

It was noted that the police have changed their schedules to be on patrol at 7:00 AM for school bus protection; however, whenever the Chief or Officer Montgomery are unavailable or using paid time prior to the end of the calendar year, the part-time patrol officers often have other obligations making it difficult to be on duty at 7:00 AM.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sheely reported that the thresholds for bidding purchases and contracts is: below \$12,200 (twelve thousand two hundred dollars) no formal bidding or written/telephonic quotations are needed, purchases and contracts between \$12, 200 (twelve thousand two hundred dollars) and \$22,500 (twenty-two thousand five hundred dollars) require three written/telephonic quotations, and purchases and contracts above \$22, 500 (twenty-two thousand five hundred dollars) require formal bidding.

The Solicitor ensured that all council members had received a copy of the most recent Firemen's Relief Association audit conducted by the Auditor General. He recommended that in view of the results a meeting of public safety members from the council meet with representatives of the Shiremanstown Firemen's Relief Association. He laid responsibility for planning this meeting on Chief McCutcheon.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

The Secretary reported there had been Facebook inquiries regarding the gas farm at the western border of the Borough. It had been rumored that it was being shut down. Fire Chief McCutcheon reported that only the Amoco tanks, which are over 30 (thirty) years old were being taken out of commission under direction of the EPA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Lane announced that former council president, Bob Miller had passed away on September 7, 2023 at the age of 97. When Mr. Miller vacated the position of council president, Diane Lane, Mr. Lane's wife, became the council president and under her term, Kevin Shaughnessy was hired as a patrol officer and remains on the force currently.

Dr. Mullen-O'Leary made a motion to accept the receipts and pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mr. Tankersly and passed unanimously.

Mr. Getz called a brief recess until 8:00 PM when a joint presentation by representatives of the Tri-County Planning Commission and Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) would begin.

Patrick Wright, Traffic Engineer for Pennoni, an engineering consulting firm that works with LTAP informed the

council that Main Street is a state route, and any changes would need to be approved by them. However, the stance of PennDOT has changed from the past and now the bigger priority is safety. He questioned the council on their concerns which focused on lowering the speed limit, noise considerations, and safety at the intersections and wide areas of Main Street. Mr. Wright stated that one way of lowering speed could potentially be the installation of mini roundabouts such as were installed on Second Street in Harrisburg. These are possible where there is a 50' (fifty-foot width), and aesthetically pleasing. Other methods could include the use of rumble strips, separated bike lanes, wig wag or stutter lights, or even possibly redesigning the road and making use of diagonal parking and or raised pedestrian crossings. Steven Deck, Executive Director of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission echoed these recommendations, adding that people will drive to whatever speed they feel comfortable. One suggestion for pedestrian safety could be the use of pedestrian refuges, a raised median island that provides a location for pedestrians to wait safely for a gap in the traffic, so they can finish crossing the road safely. Another would be the use of continental crosswalks which provide higher visibility using thick vertical stripes rather than the standard crosswalk with only two parallel lines. Both Mr. Wright and Mr. Deck stressed that the Borough needs a good feasibility plan and a vision of what the council expects or would like Main Street to look like while reducing speed, increasing aesthetic appeal, and reducing impervious areas. A good active transportation plan that would include a loading zone for school buses and measures that extend outside the Borough to Lower Allen Township and Mechanicsburg Borough to have consistency along the Simpson Ferry Road/Main Street corridor were recommended as improving funding possibilities through state and federal programs. Mr. Wright and Mr. Beck have alerted PennDOT to their intentions to work with the Borough to achieve some of these improvements. Mr. Getz thanked both Mr. Wright and Mr. Beck for their time, interest, and assistance in moving forward.

Mr. Tankersly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 P.M. With a second from Mrs. Getz, the motion passed unanimously.

SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL,

Janna E. Colechio
Borough Secretary