Renovo Borough Council
128 5th Street, Renovo, PA 17764
April 10, 2024

The monthly meeting of the Renovo Borough Council was held on this date starting at 6:34 pm in Council Chambers, 128 5th Street, Renovo, PA. The meeting was called to order by Council Vice President Patricia Rauch with the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag. The following Council Members were present; Rhonda Balchun, Kristy Serafini-Brooks and John Simon. Also in attendance was Mayor Gene Bruno, Secretary/Treasurer Ashley Sporny, Chief Greg Drollinger and Solicitor Stuart Hall.
Absent: William Fornwalt III, David Knauff and Ann Tarantella

PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by K.Serafini-Brooks to accept the minutes as written for the March 13 regular meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

BILLS

Administration-$4,447.55/Building-$1,445.25/Fire-$0/Parks-$723.25/Police-$1,237.07/ Streets-$8,225.00.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by K.Serafini-Brooks to pay the bills presented if the money is available. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

GALLERY

Local businessman Steve Murgas asked Council to consider a customer only parking spot for his business on fifth street. He explained that parking is very limited on fifth street and he is worried when his business is up and running there will be no spots open for customers to park. Chief Drollinger explained on a public street you cannot limit parking to customers only. Council asked Mr. Murgas if they could have their Solicitor look into what would be acceptable for this area/business and get back to him.

Renovo resident Brian Pagnotto spoke to Council on the matter of his sidewalk in front of his house. He stated that the Borough received restitution for damages that were caused by a prior owner of his home to the sidewalk. He would like to know when the Borough plans to fix the damage. The Borough Secretary explained to Mr.Pagnotto that we received a quote from a local contractor to fix the damage late last summer. The contractor contacted the Borough and stated they did not have time to get to the project before the weather turned too cold and said they would complete the work in the spring of 2024. The Borough Secretary told Mr.Pagnotto she would contact the contractor and get a start date for the project and get back to him as soon as possible with the information. He also asked if there was anything that could be done with the foundation that was left behind when the houses were demolished for the fifth street boat launch. He explained that the foundation of one of the homes was left and that over time it has deteriorated and is now letting water run through it and into his basement on his property. He also stated he spoke with Borough Code Enforcement Officer Roger Hoy on this matter but did not feel it was resolved. The Borough Secretary offered to contact Penncore , the Borough's Engineer and see if they could come to the property and see what could be done to properly fix the matter. Mr.Pagnotto agreed to the offer. Lastly, he asked Council if they would be inclined to accept his family's property on Fourteenth Street. He explained that the taxes have not been paid on the property in some years and that no one in the family wants the responsibility of maintaining it any longer. Council advised him that all parties must agree to sign off the property before any agreement can be made.

Theresa Casper, owner of 207 Champlain Avenue, asked for an update on the home that sits adjacent to her property, 215 Champlain Ave. Mayor Bruno reassured her that he has asked three contractors for quotes on demolishing the property. He received two quotes and is waiting on a third. The Mayor has stressed the urgency of this matter to the property owner at 215. Mayor Bruno stated he will keep Ms. Casper up to date with any information he receives going forward.

Tim Reeves gave a brief description on a new business he would like to open in Renovo. He is looking at a property currently located at 730 Erie Avenue. He would like to open a Home Health Care Business. Currently the property is zoned residential and he must apply for a variance to have it rezoned as commercial. The property will serve as an office only, there will be an office manager along with aides in and out throughout the day. He estimates the aides will be able to work approximately 35 hours a week providing in home care to

residents. Councilwoman Serafini-Brooks asked the affect this business would have on our local hospital. Mr. Reeves explained that historically an area without home health that implements a home health program tends to support the hospital because you have that aftercare available. He also said historically it has been difficult to get home health care in this area on a consistent basis. Councilwoman Balchun asked where these nurses would come from, would they be hired locally or brought from Lock Haven or elsewhere. Mr. Reeves explained he would be looking to hire local nurses and local nurse's aides. He also stated that this program would enable the hospital to take some patients they normally would not take because aftercare would now be available. Councilwoman Balchun asked if this program would be affiliated with Bayada. Mr. Reeves said their financial backing would come from Pheonix Rural Health and another company would handle the insurance contracts, claims, admission paperwork and software for charting medical records. Councilwoman Rauch asked about their payment process, would they have the same problem the hospital encountered with Medicare and Medicaid. He explained the hospital used supplemental programs that reimburse the hospital for costs that were not covered in the original payment. The hospital qualifies for these services because of the high percentage of Medicare & Medicaid patients. A home health care program operates more like a doctor's office he stated. They would not be eligible for those programs so the billing would be much faster. Councilwoman Balchun asked for an estimated time frame on when he expected to be up and running. Mr. Reeves stated he hoped to be opened in 90 days. Mayor Bruno explained this would benefit the town tremendously. Councilwomen Balchun agreed that there is need for this type of care in our community especially with our aging population .

MONTHLY CORRESPONDENCE

Deb Pedokus provided Council with the March a copy of the Tax Collector's report for March 2024.

Hoy Inspection Services LLC sent council the monthly report for March 2024.

Keystone Central CTC is hosting a work experience banquet on May 6, 2024 at 6:00pm, they are asking for RSVPs by May 1, 2024.

Sandy Run Property Owners Association will be hosting their annual meeting on May 4, 2024 at 11:30am at The Sportsman's Restaurant for anyone who would like to attend.

Foster & Foster sent the 2024 annual Administrative Fee invoice, this includes the preparation of annual actuarial valuation reports and act 205 forms for the Renovo borough Non-Uniform Employees' Pension Plan.

Renovo Borough Water Authority sent Council the approved minutes from their February 7th , February 20th and March 6th ,2024 meetings.

Western Clinton County Municipal Authority sent Council the approved minutes from their March 6th and March 20th, 2024 meetings.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Bruno feels our police department should not be micromanaged when it comes to spending money on such things as IT support. Steve Murgas spoke at this time; he provides IT support for Renovo Borough. He would like to present the Borough with contract for his services going forward. He stated our budget for IT support at this time has not reached ¼ of what was budgeted and we are already into the second quarter. Chief Drollinger also spoke at this time, he informed council he reached out to another IT support company that will provide the same services for around the same amount we have budgeted. He also let Council know he would feel comfortable working with either company going forward. Councilwomen Balchun let Mr. Murgas know that the budget for IT support has already been set so it cannot be changed at this time, but going forward if he would like to present a contract for 2025 that would be okay. Steve made council aware that going forward he will not be billing hourly. Council agreed to pay the bill presented by Steve for the month of March and then at the next monthly meeting have a contract presented to Council to reflect the rest of the years IT support budget. Chief Drollinger asked that the contract be sent to him for his review along with a copy sent to our Solicitor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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Administration-R. Balchun went over the account balances with Council.

General Fund Checking- **$65,548.80** (after payment of bills)
General Fund Street Maintenance Saving- $**25,101.38** ($59.67 int)
Highway Aid Checking- $**3418.49** (after payment of bills)
Highway Aid Savings- $**64,659.80** ($153.70 int)
Retirement Fund- $**15.13**
PennDOT Projects Account-$**52.33** (.12 int)
ARPA Covid Relief Grant**-$129,049.57** ($178.79 int)
Trail Development Grant-$**12,543.21**(17.38 int)

March Real Estate Tax-$**33,193.81**
March Earned Income Tax-$**11,059.96**
March LST Tax-$**0**

Police/Fire Committee- None to report.

Building Committee/Health & Sanitation-K.Serafini-Brooks asked if the owner of 154 9th street could be contacted about the stray cats living in the foundation of the home. The street has become overrun with stray cats and the whole in the foundation of the property is the perfect home for all these strays. Mayor Bruno stated he would find the owners phone number and try to contact them asap.

Streets/Park Committee- None to report.

Ordinance Committee- The committee will be meeting soon to work on a landlord/tenant ordinance.

Grants Committee- None to report.

WATER AUTHORITY BUSINESS
None to report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to approve the Little League Parade on April 13, 2024 at 11:00 am. A voice vote was taken, motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by J.Simon to donate $500 to the Friends of the Renovo Library. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to accept a bid of $6,500 from Smith Excavating & Construction, LLC for the Brewery Run Streambank Stabilization Project. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made was by J.Simon and seconded by R.Balchun to accept two summer workers through the Diversified Occupations Program. A voice vote was taken, motion was passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council went into Executive Session for personnel issues at 8:15pm and returned at 9:14pm
Discussed personnel issues, council consulted with solicitor, Stuart Hall.

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Ashley Sporny, Secretary/Treasurer
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