

**Renovo Borough Council**  
**128 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Renovo, PA 17764**  
**August 12, 2020**

The monthly meeting of the Renovo Borough Council was held on this date starting at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers, 128 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Renovo, PA. The meeting was called to order by Council President Ann Tarantella with the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag. The following Council Members were present; Rhonda Balchun, William Fornwalt III, David Knauff, Kristy Serafini-Brooks, John Simon and Mayor Thomas Tarantella Jr.

Also in attendance were Secretary/Treasurer Marsha Davis and Solicitor Stuart Hall.

Absent; Patricia Rauch

## **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by K. Serafini-Brooks to accept the minutes as written for the July 8, 2020 regular meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

## **BILLS**

Administration-\$4889.11/Building-\$499.57/Fire-\$0/Parks-\$180.39/Police-\$2036.05/  
Streets-\$4116.77.

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

## **GALLERY**

Roy Darrin, a borough homeowner, spoke to Council about a drainage situation on Ontario Avenue. He stated that since the new sidewalks were put in there has been an issue with the downspouts going under the sidewalks and under the edge of the curbing thus going under the new roadway. Some residents have also complained about water going into their basements since the restoration. Mr. Darrin had been told the borough could fix it easily by connecting the spouts together and letting the water flow to the catch basins in the alleys.

Council questioned if it was too late to get Nastase Construction to come back and fix the situation. Council also questioned if this was an engineer or contractor oversight. After discussion it was the consensus of Council to go back to the grant administrator at Seda-Cog to see which direction Council should go.

Brian Pagnotto, a borough resident, complained to Council about lack of privacy near his home that is next to the 5<sup>th</sup> Street boat launch. He stated that the bushes, that are currently planted there, are not providing a privacy screen as pictured in the architectural drawings of the boat launch. He also complained that there is no signage stating that the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Launch park closes after dark. He stated there are children and adults at the park all hours of the day and night and trash strewn everywhere. He would also like to see a fence put in to keep people from coming onto his leased property next to the boat launch. He did erect a small decorative fence and "No Trespassing" signage but would like the borough to take additional steps to make his property more private.

Council discussed putting different bushes in that would be more effective for privacy. They will also order signage that states the parks are closed from 9:00 pm to sunrise per the borough Ordinance. R. Balchun would like the police to patrol the area more often. The Mayor suggested temporary fencing until the bushes are full grown.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Renovo Area Public Library thanked Council for their recent contribution.

Solicitor Stuart Hall informed Council that the 14<sup>th</sup> Street appeal has been scheduled for October 6, 2020 at 1:30 pm.

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Girard presented Council with a copy of their quarterly invoice of \$2338.84. This amount is paid out of plan assets.

PennDOT provided Council with a copy of the minutes from the Bridge Preservation Project meeting held via skype at 10:00 am on July 24, 2020. Repairs to the west end bridge had been scheduled for April of 2021. Clinton County Planner, Katie de Silva talked about several major projects going on in 2021 that will entail major truck traffic. To avoid some of these traffic impacts the west end bridge preservation has been delayed until 2022.

Geralee Zeigler, Program Analyst with Seda-Cog, informed Renovo Borough that the CRS program has been delayed. They are currently in discussions with PEMA and FEMA in responding to the CRS applications and Renovo's interest in joining the CRS program.

The Wayne Township Landfill provided Council with a progress update for the Clinton County Municipal Waste Management Plan Update and a copy of the draft Plan. The next meeting will be held on August 18, 2020 at the Authority's office in Wayne Township. There is also a call-in option for this meeting.

The Clinton County Association of Township Officials notified Council that the 108<sup>th</sup> county convention has been postponed until March 27, 2021.

The Renovo Borough Water Authority sent Council the minutes from the June 11, 2020 meeting.

The Western Clinton County Municipal Authority sent the minutes from the July 1 and July 15, 2020 meetings.

#### **MAYORS REPORT**

The Mayor met with Corporal Jeffries concerning the sale of Officer K9 Jordan to him if he ever decides to leave the Renovo Police Department. He was on board with Council's proposal on prorating time left on K9 Jordan's useful service life.

Mayor Tarantella and the police department met and finalized the Collective Bargaining Agreement and are ready to negotiate with the Renovo Police Department employees. He would like to meet on a weekly basis to finish negotiations by the 110-day timeframe of September 22, 2020.

The Mayor stated the officers have approached him about gun cleaning kits and a body camera for Officer Foley. A grant has been submitted for a Watchguard system that would include car and body cameras for the new police vehicle and for the 2014 Dodge Charger. The Mayor would like to see Officer Foley get a body camera as soon as possible as well as finalize a body camera policy.

Mayor Tarantella called for an Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

R. Balchun read the account balances as of August 12, 2020 and the taxes received in July.

General Fund Checking- **\$69,801.57** (after payment of the bills)

General Fund Street Maintenance Saving- **\$5055.42** (.20 int.)

Highway Aid Checking- **\$1990.53**

Highway Aid Savings- **\$60,838.87** (\$3.68 int)

Retirement Fund- **\$14.57**

PennDOT Projects Account-**\$50.36**

DCNR Peer Grant-**\$9147.88** (\$.38 int.)

TC Police Car Grant-**\$10,000**

Family Dollar Building Sale-**\$74,329.37**

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July Real Estate Tax-	\$	0.00
July Earned Income Tax-	\$	3302.51
July Delinquent Tax		\$14,220.52

R. Balchun stated that the Administration Committee will start meeting in September to start working on next year's budget. She asked if anyone has anything for the 2021 budget to submit to the committee as soon as possible.

Police/Fire Committee-K. Serafini-Brooks asked Council to review the Collective Bargaining Agreement that they received. She stated negotiations will begin soon.

Building Committee/Health & Sanitation-W. Fornwalt has complaints with items on the sidewalks in the borough. There have also been complaints about the garage doors on 14<sup>th</sup> Street being left opened. These garages contain appliances and other recycling items causing a public safety issue.

Streets/Park Committee- Nothing to report.

Ordinance Committee-Officer Foley and Solicitor Stuart Hall reviewed drafts of Ordinance amendments to the Quality of Life, Open Fire and Junked Vehicles Ordinances. A Panhandling and Solicitation Ordinance was also presented for consideration of adoption. These drafts were prepared by Solicitor Stuart Hall for adoption at the September 9, 2020 meeting.

Grants Committee- K. Kepler reported that the secretary submitted a CDBG grant to the county for the paving of 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

K. Kepler informed Council that the Covid-19 County Relief Grant is now open and encouraged the borough to make application before August 27, 2020. The borough can apply for any expense that is in response to Covid-19. Any money received from this grant is not considered grant money to the municipalities so could be used as match towards another grant.

K. Kepler reviewed other grants that are now open including the Pennsylvania Small Business grant that just opened phase two (2) of their Covid-19 related funding.

K. Kepler stated there is rental assistance through the Housing Coalition for anyone who has experienced a 30% loss of income due to Covid-19. They will pay \$750 a month for up to six (6) months for eligible applicants.

K. Kepler also informed Council a new BRIC Hazard Mitigation grant will be coming out soon. She will be getting more information on this grant in the coming month.

### **WATER AUTHORITY BUSINESS**

The Water Authority is continuing to pursue the H2O grant for the merge of Renovo, South Renovo and Chapman Township Water Authorities.

The paperwork is now complete for the \$50,000 funding from Senator Scarnati. This money along with a USDA grant will fund the turbidity project.

The Weir Dam cleaning project is now complete.

The engineer for the Renovo Borough Water Authority asked Council to move the potential water filling station from the east side of 15<sup>th</sup> Street to the west side of 15<sup>th</sup> Street.

The Renovo Borough will need to bond 14<sup>th</sup> Street, a portion of Erie Avenue and 15<sup>th</sup> Street once the water filling station is in place. Williams submitted bonding paperwork to the Renovo Borough. The borough will also consider making 14<sup>th</sup> Street one way when this project is underway.

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**A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by K. Serafini-Brooks to move the anticipated water filling station from the east side of 15<sup>th</sup> Street to the west side of 15<sup>th</sup> Street in proximity of the current fire hydrant. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A motion was made by K. Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R. Balchun to advertise for the adoption of a Panhandling and Solicitation Ordinance as presented at the September 9, 2020 meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made by K. Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R. Balchun to advertise amendments to the Open Fire Ordinance for adoption at the September 9, 2020 meeting. The amendments will establish that open fires may be set by individuals fourteen (14) or older and shall be attended at all times until extinguished. This amendment will also define a firepit to include a height of at least six (6) inches. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made by K. Serafini-Brooks and seconded by D. Knauff to advertise to make amendments to the Quality of Life Ordinance for adoption at the September 9, 2020 meeting. The amendments will shorten the time between tickets and citations and will shorten the time for hearings and appeals. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made by W. Fornwalt III and seconded by K. Serafini-Brooks to advertise amendments to the Junked Vehicle Ordinance for adoption at the September 9, 2020 meeting. The amendments regulate the storage of motor vehicle nuisances. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**Council went into Executive Session at 7:41 pm for personnel issues.**

**Executive Session ended at 8:48.**

Council reviewed the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement for the Renovo Police Association that the Mayor and the Police Committee had completed. Solicitor Stuart Hall made some recommendations to Council for changes to the Agreement. After these changes are made the Police Committee would like to begin negotiations on a weekly basis with the officers.

**A motion was made by K. Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R. Balchun to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 pm. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

ATTEST: Marsha Davis, Secretary/Treasurer  
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