

**Renovo Borough Council**  
**128 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Renovo, PA 17764**  
**August 14, 2024**

The monthly meeting of the Renovo Borough Council was held on this date starting at 6:16 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 followed by a moment of silence for the late Councilman William Fornwalt III. The following Council Members were present; David Knauff, Kristy Serafini-Brooks, Patricia Rauch and John Simon. Also, in attendance was Mayor Gene Bruno, and Secretary/Treasurer Ashley Sporny Absent: Rhonda Balchun

**PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**A motion was made by D. Knauff and seconded by J.Simon to accept the minutes as written for the July 10, 2024 regular meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**BILLS**

Administration-\$2806.05/Building-\$572.78/Fire-\$0/Parks-\$582.28/Police-\$2802.02/  
Streets-\$4689.78

**A motion was made by J.Simon and seconded by P.Rauch to pay the bills presented if the money is available. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**GALLERY**

Area resident, Corey Button urged Council to consider amending Chapter 6 Part 3. Discharge of Firearms in Renovo Borough's Ordinance. Currently under the Ordinance there are exceptions to discharging a weapon in the Borough, one of those "exceptions" is any member of any organization engaged in target shooting upon the grounds or property belonging to or under the control of such organization. Corey explained to council that he resides up Brewery Hollow Lane and a neighbor who lives near him was firing erratically towards the mountainside down from his home and his worry was that a stray bullet could come hit someone due to the improper set up for "target" shooting. He made council aware that he had called the Renovo Police Department and when they investigated the complaint the accused stated their property was considered an "LLC" and therefore they are allowed to engage in target shooting per Borough Ordinance. He also stressed that under this current Ordinance anyone within Renovo Borough could set up an LLC and be safe to discharge a weapon within Borough limits if they are target shooting. He urged Council to consider amending this Ordinance and setting limits for target shooting like the Pennsylvania Game Commission does for hunting.

Councilwomen Serafini-Brooks asked the Borough Secretary to research firearm ordinances from neighboring municipalities with similar demographics.

The secretary stated she would research the ordinances and forward them to Chief Drollinger and the Ordinance Committee for their input on how the Ordinance should read.

Council agreed to look into this matter and revisit at the next scheduled Borough Meeting.

Justine Cummings, East Renovo Resident, aired her grievance with a neighbor on Delaware Avenue who continuously in the winter snow blows any fallen snow from his property onto her property. She urged Council to create an Ordinance to deal with such matters since there is not one currently.

Mayor Bruno said he spoke to Ms.Cummings on this matter last year and told her that this matter falls onto the police department.

President Tarantella urged Ms.Cummings to call the Renovo Police Department the next time this issue arises.

**MONTHLY CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clinton Tax Collection Committee will be holding two special meetings, one on August 6 and one on September 4, 2024. The purpose of these meetings is to compare the current earned income tax collection process and costs by the Keystone Central School District with proposals from other Act 32 earned income tax collectors.

The Greater Renovo Area Heritage Park will be holding their annual meeting and banquet at the Good Neighbor Craft House in Hyner, PA at 6:00 pm. A cash bar will be held at 5:30 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. The cost is \$30 per person and RSVPs are due by August 5, 2024.

The PA State Flaming Foliage Festival, Inc. thanked Council for sponsoring the 2023 Program Book. They are asking for sponsorship of the 2024 Program Book. Deadline for ads is September 25, 2024.

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The Clinton County Planning Commission re-reviewed the 2016 proposed Zoning Ordinance. The Commission provided comments to Council on revisions and additions that they suggest be addressed.

Jami Dolan, In-School Youth Workforce Specialist thanked Council for hosting internships for the summer. Council's involvement will leave a lasting impact on the participants.

JR'S Tree Service LLC provided Council a quote to remove three hazardous trees at Memorial Park at a cost of \$1000.

The Renovo Borough Water Authority sent Council the minutes from the June 17 and July 16, 2024 meetings.

The WCCMA sent Council the minutes from the July 3 and July 17, 2024 meetings.

**MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor Bruno spoke to Council about a possible opportunity he would like permission to proceed with. He explained that currently the Renovo Police Department receives \$26,000 for Police Services from Chapman Township and the past 6 months they have received approximately half of our magisterial fees and about 25% of our Police Coverage based on call logs provided by Chief Drollinger. He referenced a township near Muncy, Brady Township that pays Muncy Borough to patrol their Township for \$140,000 per year. He explained Brady Township is far smaller than Chapman Township, and they pay triple the cost to Muncy for police services. Chapman Township is approximately 101 miles and Renovo Borough provides police services to them for \$26,000. Mayor Bruno stated this is not enough. Bruno pleaded with Council to consider asking Chapman Township for \$65,000 for the 2025 contract year. He also stressed that this added income could pay for another Full Time Officer, which the Borough currently cannot afford. Currently the Borough budgets approximately \$180,000 a year for the Police Department to operate efficiently, there must be more money brought in from Chapman to employ a new officer.

President Tarantella explained to Mayor Bruno asking Chapman for more money may cause them to pull out of their service agreement entirely.

Councilwomen Serafini-Brooks asked the Mayor how the Borough could ask for more money to hire a new police officer if they do not have an applicant ready to hire for the upcoming year. The Borough has advertised in the past and had no applicants, finding Officer Knarr took over a year. She stated I cannot in good judgement ask for money for something that we cannot control.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Administration-K.Serafini-Brooks read a quick report of account balances.

General Fund Checking- **\$ 76,653.90**

General Fund Street Maintenance Saving- **\$25,337.57** (\$60.22 int)

Highway Aid Checking- **\$6,343.02**

Highway Aid Savings- **\$85,489.68** (\$203.20 int)

Retirement Fund- **\$15.13**

PennDOT Projects Account-**\$52.83** (.13 int)

ARPA Covid Relief Grant-**\$129,680.26** (\$179.67 int)

Trail Development Grant-**\$12,611.83** (\$17.47 int)

Hazard Mitigation- **\$10.00**

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July Real Estate Tax-\$13,894.63

July Earned Income Tax-\$1815.97

July LST Tax-\$1282.57

Police/Fire Committee- Borough Secretary will work on a Police Committee meeting before the next regular scheduled Borough meeting.

Building Committee/Health & Sanitation- Borough Secretary updated Council on Codes Assessment Pro's progress since taking over from Roger Hoy. Ms.Sporny assured Council that Mr.Lyons will attend any Borough meetings as needed and he also is available anytime for questions or concerns Council may have. Mr.Lyons has

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been to the Borough multiple times since agreeing to work for Renovo Borough and he is actively compiling cases to file with the District Justice.

Streets/Park Committee- Borough Secretary updated Council on the Laurel Street paving project. Charles Construction completed the project and it came in under budget. Also, Daren Stover was on site to make sure the work was completed and up to PennDot standards. He reviewed all payrolls and certificates for stone and asphalt to make sure all supplies equaled what was being billed to the Borough. After Mr. Stover verified these, the invoice from Charles Construction was sent to the Clinton County Planning Department for review of payment.

Ordinance Committee- Ordinance Officer Dave Walker asked Council for an Ordinance Committee meeting sometime soon to address how Quality Of Life Tickets are issued. Also, he stated the wording in some of the ordinances are contradictory and need to be revised. Borough Secretary will arrange an Ordinance Committee meeting within the next month or two

Grants Committee- Borough Secretary updated Council on the 12<sup>th</sup> street paving project application submitted for CDBG grant funds on August 9, 2024. Brian Schultz, Engineer from PennCore Consulting presented the project to the Planning Department at the Public Hearing in July. Correspondence received from Mr. Schultz to the Borough Secretary stated the presentation went very well to the County, Brian also noted that there were a lot of worthy projects submitted for this year's grant.

**WATER AUTHORITY BUSINESS**

Still awaiting merger with South Renovo.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by D. Knauff to place a full-page ad in the 2024 PA STATE FLAMING FOLIAGE program book at a cost of \$100. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously. Councilwomen Patricia Rauch abstained from voting due to conflict of interest.**

**A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by J.Simon to advertise seeking letters of interest for the vacancy on Borough Council. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by J.Simon to approve payment to Charles Construction for \$83,466.10 to be paid with CDBG funds. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by D.Knauff to have the Borough Secretary contact PennCore Consulting to address the comments given by the Planning Department for the Draft Zoning Ordinance. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by P.Rauch for the Borough Secretary to purchase a laptop for the Ordinance officer, not to exceed \$500. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.**

ATTEST: Ashley Sporny, Secretary/Treasurer  
Renovo Borough Council