

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

The monthly meeting of the Renovo Borough Council was held on this date starting at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers, 128 5th 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, David Knauff, and John Simon. Also, in attendance were, Secretary/Treasurer Ashley Sporny
Absent: Kristy Serafini-Brooks, William Fornwalt III, Patricia Rauch, Mayor Gene Bruno

PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made D. Knauff and seconded by R. Balchun to accept the minutes as written for the June 12, 2024 regular meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

BILLS

Administration-\$1,901.32/Building-\$712.44/Fire-\$0/Parks-\$2,310.73/Police-\$2,137.88/ Streets-\$4,471.09.

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

GALLERY

Representing CTA, Mary George Rhone, presented to Council the opportunity to have new welcome signs installed at both ends of town. Students in the CTE program from Bucktail and Central Mountain will help with making the signs and materials will be covered by CTA. Council all agreed this would be a great idea, and they would like to be kept up to date on the progress.

Concerned citizen, Heather Litz, who resides on 5th street spoke about the ongoing problems on this block and the lack of policing to take care of them. Her family was the victim of a hit and run as well as an assault from items being thrown out a moving vehicle. These two incidents she said could have been avoided had there been police on duty. Miss Litz also spoke about an incident with 911 and the state police barracks she was transferred too. She explained she was treated horribly by the State Police Dispatch and they deemed her emergency a nonemergency. Borough Secretary explained to Miss Litz that her idea of an emergency could be completely different from their view on an emergency, unfortunately.

R.Balchun explained that she agrees there should have been more done, but the reason for the lack of coverage is the lack of revenue within the Borough to pay for more police officers. She also told Miss Litz that a letter from her to Harrisburg about the way she was treated by the State Police should be sent out. They should be held accountable for the chain of events that happened and it may have been avoided if they would have come out and answered her call.

Another concerned citizen, Sheldon Knepp complained about the lack of policing within the Borough. Borough Secretary explained to him that lack of revenue again comes into play. Currently the Borough's tax base is dwindling and that money is what is used to pay for the police officers' salaries.

Chris Hotchkiss, a Renovo resident, voiced his concern about individuals driving at high rates of speed while intoxicated has been an ongoing problem within the Borough. He stated that people in the Borough know the cop's schedules and they wait for them to go off duty.

R.Balchun recommended DUI Check points and rotating shifts for the officers, especially at night after midnight when coverage is needed most.

Mark Gavlock, East Renovo Resident, mentioned donating pipe for drainage issues on laurel street. President Tarantella assured him that with the paving that is set to be completed by the end of July it should take care of most of the drainage issues on that street.

Corey Aungst, from Renovo EMS gave the June 2024 EMS Report; 46 calls, 17 of those calls were Renovo Residents. The Medic Unit got hit by a drunk driver and is currently awaiting repair.

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MONTHLY CORRESPONDENCE

Tax Collector Deborah Pedokus provided Council with a monthly report for May and June, 2024.

Roger Hoy of Hoy Inspection Service LLC provided Council with a letter of Resignation as the Boroughs Building and Zoning Officer dated July 1, 2024. Renovo Borough Council terminated Roger Hoy's employment as of July 12, 2024.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Auditor General sent the audit report for The Renovo Fireman's Association dated June 24, 2024. The Respondents are ordered to show cause if they have any, why the 2024 allocation of Foreign Fire Insurance Premium Tax, and all future allocation, should not be withheld.

Clinton County Commissioners announced that the 2024 CDBG grant is opened and applications will be due by August 9, 2024. The first public hearing will be held July 25th at 9:30 AM at the Piper Building.

Council received a letter of resignation from Ellen Anderson, she would like to be removed from the Zoning Hearing Board effective June 16, 2024.

Central Mountain ATV Association sent a letter of Thanks along with a monetary donation of \$200 to Renovo Police Department. They would like to thank the police department for their support at this year's Cruise for a Cure.

Chief Drollinger had Keystone Mobile Shredding come to the Borough Office on July 2, 2024 to dispose of 20 boxes of files, ranging from 1960-2010, comprised of non-arrest files(daily logs, citations, complaint and incident reports, accident reports, and old books of parking tickets).

Area resident Bernard West sent Council a letter of thanks for donating two garbage cans and cement barriers to the 3rd street Block party on July 21st, 2024.

The Renovo Borough Water Authority sent Council the minutes from the May 22, 2024 meeting.

The WCCMA sent Council the minutes from the June 15, 2024 meeting.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Bruno was absent for this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration-R. Balchun read a quick report of account balances.

General Fund Checking- \$ **74,563.17**

General Fund Street Maintenance Saving- \$**25,277.35** (\$58.15 int)

Highway Aid Checking- \$**8,651.34**

Highway Aid Savings- \$**85,286.48** (\$196.20 int)

Retirement Fund- \$**15.13**

PennDOT Projects Account-\$**52.70** (.12 int)

ARPA Covid Relief Grant-\$**129,500.59** (\$122.81 int)

Trail Development Grant-\$**12,594.36** (\$16.89 int)

June Real Estate Tax-\$**0**

June Earned Income Tax-\$**9,723.02**

June LST Tax-\$**0.00**

Police/Fire Committee- Chief Drollinger gave Council the Internal Investigation report for Officer Jim Knarr's crash that occurred on July 1, 2024. Chief Drollinger stated that after a review of video, statements, on scene investigation and blood test results, it is determined that Officer Knarr was not at fault for this crash.

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Building Committee/Health & Sanitation- President Tarantella stated a local business owner voiced their concerns with the amount of litter that was accumulating in the old Family Dollar Parking Lot. This lot is currently being used by new business owners at Probst Clinic. A.Tarantella recommended putting a garbage can at the lot to hopefully help with the ongoing problem.

Streets/Park Committee- Secretary, Ashley Sporny reported that Laurel Street Paving is set to be started by the end of July. Charles Construction updated her about a mechanical issue with one of their milling machines that pushed the start date back a couple weeks. Anticipated completion date is July 31, 2024.

Ordinance Committee-

Grants Committee- CDBG is now open. R.Balchun asked the Secretary to contact Solicitor Stuart Hall about grant funds to be used for the demolition of a property that is not currently owned by the Borough. The property in question is located at 215 Champlain Avenue and has been deemed uninhabitable for quite some time. Also, if the taxes are not paid up to date it will be put up for repository sale this year. Borough Secretary will contact Solicitor Hall on this matter.

WATER AUTHORITY BUSINESS

The Authority is still waiting on the Merger with South Renovo. Currently there are deeds in question at the Reservoir in Halls Run.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by J. Simon to pass Resolution 11-2024 to apply to the Commonwealth Financing Authority for a Multimodal Transportation grant in the amount of \$640,597 for drainage and street repair of Delaware Avenue. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by J.Simon to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with Codes Assessment Professionals and Renovo Borough. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by J.Simon to apply for the CDBG grant to pave and mill 12th street in Renovo Borough. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Council asked Borough Secretary to contact Penncore Consulting to present the 12th street project at the first CDBG public hearing on July 25, 2024. The secretary will contact Donnie Stevenson and ask that he attend the meeting.

A motion was made by J.Simon and seconded by D.Knauff to accept the resignation of Ellen Anderson from the Zoning Hearing Board. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by D.Knauff and seconded by J.Simon to advertise seeking letters of interest for the Zoning Hearing Board. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Council spoke about preparing a flood insurance assessment for Credit under the Community Rating System of the National Flood Insurance Program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council went into Executive at 8:00 pm for legal issues.
Council came out of Executive at 8:50 pm

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by D.Knauff to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

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ATTEST: Ashley Sporny, Secretary/Treasurer
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