

Renovo Borough Council
128 5th Street, Renovo, PA 17764
June 10, 2020

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 Vice-President Patricia Rauch 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. (President Tarantella arrived at 6:25 and Vice-President Patricia Rauch then turned the meeting over to her). Also in attendance was Secretary/Treasurer Marsha Davis.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by K. Serafini-Brooks to accept the minutes as written for the May 13, 2020 regular meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by K. Serafini-Brooks to accept the minutes as written for the June 1, 2020 special meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

BILLS

Administration-\$4090.89/Building-\$759.77/Fire-\$0/Parks-\$277.16/Police-\$2483.71/
Streets-\$2861.25.

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

GALLERY

Joe Waltz, a candidate for the 76th District State House seat introduced himself to Council. He stated that he was just there to listen to the meeting. Mr. Waltz wants to know what the issues are in the communities and he is open to discussions concerning these issues.

Tom Emero, Director of Innovative Power Solutions, LLC spoke to Council via teleconference. He reported to Council that the Renovo Energy Center continues to move forward. They are working on schedules to finish up the last pieces of development. He stated that there is no closing date set yet and Council will be the first to know when a date is set. He responded to questions from the Mayor and Council about the cell tower and investors. Mr. Emero stated that there is currently nothing happening with the cell tower situation. He informed Council that he doesn't have the answers to the questions about investors since that is not his role in the project. If everything goes well and there are no unforeseen delays, he is hoping for construction to begin in the first quarter of 2021.

CORRESPONDENCE

Renovo Borough Water Authority sent a letter of request for the Renovo Borough's approval to install a water filling station on Fifteen Street on the borough's right-of-way and for the borough to decide what side of the street they would like the station located.

The Western Clinton County Municipal Authority sent Council notice of the Department of Environmental Protection's review of the Authority's 2017, 2018, 2019 Annual Wasteload Management Reports. The reports were acceptable, however, the Department strongly recommends the Authority gets more aggressive in the infiltration and inflow investigation and repair.

Experience Works is requesting that Renovo Borough partner with them to become a training site for the Senior Community Service Employment Program. They are anticipating funding to be awarded in our area effective July 1, 2020.

The Renovo Borough Water Authority sent Council the minutes from their April 21, 2020 meeting.

The Western Clinton County Municipal Authority sent the minutes from the February 19, March 6, March 18 and April 1, 2020 meetings.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Tarantella reported that he has met with the Police Committee to review the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The committee made suggestions and changes to the Agreement and presented it to Solicitor Stuart Hall for review. The committee will be meeting again in the near future to go over recommendations made by Solicitor Hall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration Committee- R. Balchun reviewed the current balances in the Renovo Borough bank accounts as of June 10, 2020 and taxes received in May 2020:

General Fund Checking- **\$68,242.36** (after payment of the bills)
General Fund Street Maintenance Saving- **\$4805.02** (.20 int.)
Highway Aid Checking- **\$1030.06**
Highway Aid Savings- **\$70,831.33** (\$4.20 int.)
Retirement Fund- **\$14.57**
PennDOT Projects Account-**\$50.34** (\$.02 int.)
DCNR Peer Grant-**\$9147.12** (\$.39 int.)
TC Police Car Grant-**\$10,000**

May Real Estate Tax- \$27,292.83
May Earned Income Tax- \$2713.28

Police/Fire Committee-K. Serafini-Brooks reported that the committee will meet soon to go over some changes to the police Collective Bargaining Agreement and then bring it to Council for review.

Building Committee/Health & Sanitation-W. Fornwalt has been seeing a lot of garbage and debris on porches and sidewalks. Complaints should be given to the secretary or directly to Officer Foley to handle.

Streets/Park Committee- D. Knauff reported that the streets department have been doing some patching and sealing on the borough road ways. He will also make sure to direct the streets department to make sure the grass is cut for the weekends.

Ordinance Committee-Officer Foley would like to see some changes to the Fire Ordinance concerning the size of the wood and to make sure the fire is attended until extinguished.

Officer Foley talked about permits to store unregistered vehicles on property while being worked on under Section 10-203 and issues with that Ordinance.

Officer Foley discussed the Quality of Life Ordinance, Section 17-109 and changing time limits on the tickets until the next ticket can be issued. The committee would also like to eliminate Section 17-110.

The Ordinance Committee talked about adopting various new Ordinances. Those talked about included pan-handling enforcement, designating an area in the borough for protests and how to enforce violations on abandoned properties.

Council discussed these suggestions but made no decisions at this time.

President Tarantella arrived at this time and Vice-President Rauch turned the meeting over to her.

Grants Committee-K. Kepler stated that there is going to be business relief grants available for approximately thirty-three (33) businesses in the amount of \$5000 each. The first two public meetings are done and she still has to put the application into the state. The grants are based on low to moderate income so she feels a lot of businesses in Renovo will be eligible.

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K. Kepler asked if the Renovo Borough could waive the food truck vendor fees for the Renovo Area Heritage Days to be held from June 20 through July 4, 2020.

K. Kepler who is the Grants Administrator for Clinton County stated that she has been told that Renovo Energy is in the process of hiring a Business Advisor. She has also been told they will be doing a public meeting in the third quarter of this year. She has been in talks with Bechdel Enterprises, as a member of the Water Authority, about moving fire hydrants and water lines at the Industrial Park in preparation for the construction of the energy plant.

STV Engineering is almost ready to submit the Multimodal Grant for the replacement of sidewalks and curbs on designated streets within the borough. This engineering study and grant writing is being covered by the \$40,000 TA Grant that the borough received.

K. Kepler reminded Council that the USDA Home Rehabilitation Grants are still available for up to \$7500 for low income residents based on age limits.

WATER AUTHORITY BUSINESS

K. Kepler reported that the sub recipient agreement to replace the water lines on 4th and 9th Street is complete and they are waiting on the environmental review to be done.

K. Kepler reported that the H-20 grant will pay for fifty percent of the project for the merge of the water authorities. The Water Authority is going to apply for the CDBG Competitive and the PennVest grant for the difference. She is going to add the sewer line on St. Clair with the water line project. She is also adding the paving of St. Clair after the water and sewer lines are replaced.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by K. Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R. Balchun to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Renovo Police Department and Keystone Central School District. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Council discussed approving the Renovo Borough Water Authority's request to install a water filling station on the Fifteenth Street right-of-way. They tabled making any decision until further discussions are held with the Renovo Borough Water Authority.

Mayor Tarantella made a Proclamation encouraging Renovo Borough and surrounding areas to celebrate Renovo Area Heritage Days from June 20 to July 4, 2020. He then presented a copy of the Proclamation to Mary George Rhone, Vice-President of the Greater Renovo Area Heritage Park.

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by P. Rauch to waive any food truck vendor fees for the Renovo Area Heritage Days running from June 20 to July 4, 2020. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by P. Rauch to close the streets from 5th to 7th Street and from Erie Avenue to St. Clair Avenue. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by P. Rauch to rescind the previous motion to close the streets from 5th to 7th and from Erie Avenue to St. Clair Avenue on 6th Street. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

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A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by P. Rauch to close the street from Erie Avenue to St. Clair during the Renovo Area Heritage Days from June 20 to July 4, 2020. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by P. Rauch to purchase a K9 cage and Watchguard camera system for the new 2020 Police Interceptor and to use the TC Energy grant to pay for these items. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Council discussed possibly putting up solar wireless cameras at the playgrounds due to recent vandalism. They will research this further and get some quotes for the cost of these cameras.

A motion was made by R. Balchun and seconded by K. Serafini-Brooks to authorize Council President Ann Tarantella and Council Secretary/Treasurer Marsha Davis to sign loan closing documents for the USDA grant and loan for the 2020 Police Interceptor and municipal building heating and cooling system. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by K. Serafini-Brooks and seconded by D. Knauff to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Marsha Davis, Secretary/Treasurer
Renovo Borough Council