

Renovo Borough Council
128 5th Street, Renovo, PA 17764
June 12, 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 Kristy Serafini-Brooks, David Knauff, and John Simon. Also in attendance was Secretary/Treasurer Ashley Sporny
Absent:, Patricia Rauch, William Fornwalt III, and Mayor Bruno.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made by K. Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to accept the minutes as written for the May 8, 2024 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 May 29, 2024 special meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

BILLS

Administration-\$9,368.95/Buildings-\$577.59/Fire-\$0/Parks-\$646.28/Police-\$2,165.23/Streets-\$11,828.32

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

GALLERY

Director of Planning/County Engineer Steve Gibson updated council on a possible offer to reallocate ATV project funds from the Brewery Hollow ATV project to the Memorial Park Trailhead in Renovo Borough. He explained that this request moved very quickly and his office did not have time to present options to Borough Council at the May meeting. The timeframe they were given to come up with a project that met DCNR's requirements was 3 days. So, with the help of PennCore Consulting and Kari Kepler the Boroughs Grant Advisor they submitted a modified version of the Memorial Park Plan that was previously denied funding through the DCNR C2P2's grant program.

Kari Kepler stated the \$1,223,900 that was previously approved for the Brewery Hollow ATV project has been sitting for approximately 4 years and they are asking DCNR to reallocate \$865,800, which is a fraction of that to the Memorial Park ATV Plan.

Donnie Stevenson from PennCore Consulting went over the draft site plan for the Memorial Park ATV Trailhead Proposal. The plan is to have 8 camping sites with full hook ups, a renovated bathhouse, pavilion for picnicking and walk in tent camping sites. They would also utilize the playground equipment that is currently there. He told Council the park would be geared more towards ATV users with a drive thru ATV drop off loop and expanded parking. He also stated that the park would stay a memorial for veterans that served in WW2. Donnie asked Council if they had any questions or concerns on what was presented. Council agreed that the proposed plan would be a great benefit to the area.

Commissioner Snyder explained to Council that once the reallocation request was submitted to DCNR they very quickly came back with a list of questions pertaining to the Memorial Park ATV Proposal for Borough Council.

Steve Gibson went over questions presented by DCNR; one concern was how the campsites would be managed. Councilwomen Serafini-Brooks said in the past she had researched neighboring municipalities that have their own campgrounds that they generate revenue from. Council President Ann Tarantella said the Borough Website could be set up to accept payments from campers. Mr. Gibson said they ran some numbers and if the Borough was to charge \$100 per site from Memorial Day to Labor day the Borough could generate roughly \$100,000 per operating season.

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Commissioner Snyder stated the main take away of this ATV pilot program is to bring cash flow into this part of the county through tourism and recreation and the Memorial Park Trailhead will help do so.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by K.Serafini-Brooks to move forward with the DCNR Reallocation request for Memorial Park ATV Trailhead. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Calvin Funk, a Renovo Borough resident, spoke about Memorial Park and what it has meant to him and this community. He wanted Council to understand the importance of Memorial park and how it became a living war memorial and how it should continue to do so even if renovated. Kari Kepler assured him that research would be done by the Greater Renovo Heritage Park Committee to preserve the memorial and that once the renovations were done there would be a rededication ceremony. Mr. Funk explained that the park was dedicated to veterans that received purple hearts during WW2 that were from Renovo. He also stated that he was part of the Memorial Park Coming To Life Committee, and they were responsible for the mural that was hand painted on the bathhouse currently there. He also said since he is the last living committee member he would like to take and donate the remaining funds from their account towards a permanent dedication to the park. Council thanked him for coming and telling his story and asked that he bring any documents he feels he has of importance from his committee days to the Borough Secretary at his earliest convenience.

Kari Kepler, grant advisor for Renovo Borough came to update Council on a feasibility study Chapman Township hired Donnie Stevenson from PennCore Consulting to do. The study will focus on the Heritage Walking Trail which will run from Paddy's Run, down behind Memorial Park, towards Sportsman's and end in North Bend. The trail will be a non-motorized trail and will add to the outdoor tourism stops for our area. Chapman township had funds sat aside for this study, Clinton County gave \$20,000, Dominion \$10,000 and for the last 2 years the township had put away \$10,000 each year. Kari is asking Council to also pitch in the remaining balance from the Borough's Trail Development Fund, previously sat aside for memorial park trail, to this feasibility study.

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to use the money in the Trail Development Account towards the Heritage Walking Trail Feasibility Study. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Joe Lyons from Codes Assessment Professionals was asked by Borough Council to attend the meeting and introduce the company he represents and update them on their fee schedule. Mr. Lyons explained to Council they are out of Muncy and they were very pleased to hear from the Borough. He assured council they specialize in smaller municipalities, and what has made them very successful is working with the residents when it comes to property maintenance enforcement. He said he has been very successful working with local organizations to get help for families and elderly individuals that cannot afford landscaping or contracted services. One of the many organizations they have worked with is the prerelease center in Williamsport, and for a very low cost to the homeowners they get help with services they could not otherwise do on their own. The company consists of 11 employees and he also stated his company has all the correct certifications needed to enforce property maintenance, building code inspection/enforcement and flood plain management. Borough council said they may be interested in working with his company but they will have to review the fee schedule he provided and get back to him after the next Council meeting. He thanked council for their time.

Bernard West, new resident to our area asked Council if they would consider allowing him to host a Block Party on third street in the Borough on the 21st of July from 2-6pm. He said that where he grew up there were block parties almost every weekend during the summer months and to help bring some joy to the community him and the other residents of the Masonic Temple where he lives would like to host one. He asked if there would be any problem shutting down half of third street for a couple hours since it is a one-way street. Council agreed that the Borough could provide barricades for the duration

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of the party and that one of the Borough Officers would also be there should there be a need for policing.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by D.Knauff to give permission to Bernard West to host a Block Party on July 21, 2024 from 2-6pm on third street in Renovo Borough, the Block Party shall not cross over onto St.Clair Avenue it should stop at the intersection of Third Street and St Clair Ave. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

MONTHLY CORRESPONDENCE

Tax Collector Deb Pedokus provided council with the May 2024 tax report.

Hoy Inspection Service LLC provided Council the monthly report for May 2024.

The Friends of Renovo Area Public Library sent Council a “Thank you” for their recent donation that will be used for books and programming.

Codes Assessment Professionals, LLC sent Council information about their code enforcement inspection services for residential and commercial buildings, zoning, ordinance enforcement and property maintenance. They also provided Council a copy of their fee schedule.

James Wacker, LLC, a locally owned small business excavation company with over 30 years of experience, asked Council to consider him as a potential subcontractor in the future.

Seda-Cog notified Council that Clinton County has allocated Community Block Coronavirus Discretionary funds in the amount of \$950,000 to the South Renovo Consolidation activity on Pine Street.

The Church of Saint Joseph asked Council for permission to block off Larch Street and borrow the borough’s barricades for the Annual Parish Festival from Monday, July 1 through Sunday, July 7, 2024.

The Renovo Borough Water Authority provided Council with the minutes from their May 1, 2024 special meeting.

The Western Clinton County Municipal Authority provided Council the minutes from their May 1, and May 15, 2024 meetings.

MAYORS REPORT Absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

General Fund Checking- **\$84,047.35** (after payment of bills)

General Fund Street Maintenance Saving- **\$25,219.20** (\$59.95 int)

Highway Aid Checking- **\$10,747.06** (after payment of bills)

Highway Aid Savings- **\$85,090.28** (\$212.22 int)

Retirement Fund- **\$15.13**

PennDOT Projects Account-**\$52.58** (.13 int)

ARPA Covid Relief Grant-**\$79,938.02** (\$159.95 int) – minus Truck Payment for Holding

Trail Development Grant-**\$12,577.47**(17.42 int)

Hazard Mitigation Grant- **\$10.00**

May Real Estate Tax-**\$47,463.21**

May Earned Income Tax-**\$4,382.24**

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May LST Tax-\$0

Police/Fire Committee- None to report.

Building Committee/Health & Sanitation-None to report.

Streets/Park Committee- None to report.

Ordinance Committee- None to report.

Grants Committee- None to report.

WATER AUTHORITY BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to change the cost the food truck annual permit fee to \$100. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by D.Knauff to Adopt Ordinance No.818, Special timed parking space for Murgas LLC. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to apply for the CFA Multimodal Grant for Delaware Avenue. A voice vote was taken, motioned passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by D.Kanuff and seconded by J.Simon to approve Resolution 10-2024, Signing Authority for Council President Ann Tarantella. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by J.Simon for the Church of St Joseph to block off Larch Street from July 1st to July 7th and use the Borough's barricades for their Annual Parish Festival. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by D.Knauff to accept Councilwoman Patricia Rauch's resignation from Building, Streets/Parks and Ordinance Committees dated June 06, 2024. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council went into Executive Session at 7:20 pm for personnel Issues.

Council came out of Executive Session at 8:40pm.

Council went into a lengthy discussion about the current Building Code and Zoning Enforcement Officer, Roger Hoy.

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by J.Simon to terminate Roger Hoy's employment with Renovo Borough based on his lack of compliance to state certifications needed to perform his job. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by J.Simon and seconded by D.Knauff at 8:45 to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Ashley Sporny, Secretary/Treasurer
Renovo Borough Council

