

Renovo Borough Council
128 5th Street, Renovo, PA 17764
September 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, David Knauff, Kristy Serafini-Brooks, and John Simon. Also, in attendance was Mayor Gene Bruno, Chief Greg Drollinger and Secretary/Treasurer Ashley Sporny 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 10, 2024 regular meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

BILLS

Administration-\$281.13/Building-\$439.96/Fire-\$0/Parks-\$608.21/Police-\$3565.10/
Streets-\$3972.38

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

Renovo resident, Daniel Kurts voiced his concerns to Council about an ongoing problem with local teenagers loitering in the evening at the Goodwill parking lot on third street. Kurtz who lives on 3rd street stated certain teenagers who have diesel vehicles like to sit and rev their engines and then do burnouts up and down the parking lot and down Erie Ave. Mr. Kurtz also shared with Council photos of the streets he mentioned with burnout marks all up and down them.

Another individual that lives on 3rd street was present, Bernard West, to corroborate these accounts. Mr. West said as soon as nightfall hits the area youth flock to the Goodwill parking lot.

Chief Drollinger addressed the ongoing issue and assured Mr. Kurtz and Mr. West that the problem was being dealt with and the individuals in question had been identified and were being dealt with.

Mr.Kurtz asked Chief Drollinger if Renovo Borough had a noise ordinance that could be cited in this instance. Chief Drollinger explained that Renovo Borough does not have a noise ordinance unfortunately, but if the youth are driving recklessly and disregarding public safety that charges could be brought upon them for any number of Traffic Violations.

Chief Drollinger also explained that the Goodwill parking lot is private property therefore Renovo Police Department cannot ask the teenagers in question to leave without written permission from the business asking them to do so. He explained the Police Department ran into the same problem at the Family Dollar parking lot where most of the area's youth liked to loiter. In that case the business owner had to write a letter giving permission for the police department to remove any individuals loitering in the parking lot.

Lastly, Mayor Bruno assured Mr. Kurtz and West that he would try to reach out to someone at Goodwill and see if they could put him in touch with someone who would be able to assist with drafting a letter of permission put together for our police department to deal with this loitering issue.

Station 29, EMS Paramedic, Corey Aungst, wanted to share a brief update.

He stated the Fire station is up for its triannual inspection. He also shared that within the next 30 days the Ambulance will receive a 3D ultrasound machine for in the field use. The cost of this machine is around \$8,000. Corey said it's very exciting to receive this machine because there aren't many stations in Pennsylvania to have one on board. He also wanted to ease the council's mind about the shaky relationship between Station 29 and Bucktail Medical Center/Station 23. As of lately they have been working very well together and he hopes this momentum continues moving forward.

MONTHLY CORRESPONDENCE

The Senior Class of Bucktail High School notified Council that they are sponsoring a bonfire and parade on September 11, 2024. The parade begins at 6:30 pm and will begin on Route 120 from 3rd Street to the 16th Street Park. PennDot has been notified.

The Clinton County Conservation District informed Council that the Dirt and Gravel Roads Program applications can now be submitted. Application deadline is October 1st, 2024.

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The Clinton County Planning Department invites Council to partner with them in becoming a Broadband ready community. A sample Resolution was provided that needs to be adopted by December 31, 2024 to officially participate in this opportunity.

The Clinton Tax Collection Committee provided the Special Meeting Minutes from August 6, 2024.

The Clinton Tax Collection Committee provided Council the September 4, 2024 meeting Agenda. The purpose of this meeting was 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. An updated contract for Act 32 collection was submitted with the meeting Agenda and forwarded to Council via email.

South Renovo Borough will be hosting the October 8, 2024 Clinton County Borough's Association dinner meeting to be held at the Citizen's Hose Company in South Renovo at 6:30 pm. RSVPs are due by October 1, 2024.

Council received a memo from President Tarantella for the 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO). The MMO for the Uniform Pension Plan is \$0 due to overfunding and the MMO for the Non-Uniform Plan is \$11,200.

The Renovo Borough Water Authority sent Council the minutes from the August 7, 2024 special meeting.

The WCCMA sent Council the minutes from the August 7 and August 21, 2024 meetings.

MAYORS REPORT

The mayor gave a quick update on Yesterday's building, he had spoken to the prior owner. The owner stated he has been in litigation over the property for the last year. He is very hopeful that the prospective buyers will close on the property within the next 2-4 weeks. The property is currently up for sale for \$600,000 and has a current offer in for \$300,000. This prospective buyer would like to open the bar first and then hopefully soon after the restaurant.

Mayor Bruno asked for permission from Flaming Foliage Chairman Patricia Rauch to contact Governor Shapiros office to extend an invitation to him for the 75th Flaming Foliage Festival in October. He mentioned that he received a return email from his scheduling office and will add it to his tracker for his consideration.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration- R.Balchun read a quick report on account balances. She also stated the Admin Committee will be meeting in October to start budgeting.

General Fund Checking- **\$49,317.54** (after payment of bills)
General Fund Street Maintenance Saving- **\$25,397.94** (\$60.37 int)
Highway Aid Checking- **\$4,218.36** (after payment of bills)
Highway Aid Savings- **\$85,693.37** (\$203.69 int)
Retirement Fund- **\$15.13**
PennDOT Projects Account-**\$52.95** (.12 int)
ARPA Covid Relief Grant-**\$129,860.17** (\$179.91 int)
Trail Development Grant-**\$12,629.33** (17.50int)
Hazard Mitigation Grant- **\$10.00**

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

AUGUST Earned Income Tax-**\$14,050.22** (1ST Payment \$3,403.05 on 08-06 & 2ND Payment on 08-30 \$10,647.17)

AUGUST LST Tax-**\$0**

AUGUST Delinquent RE Tax-**\$167.80** (refund from 2020 Judicial sale)

Police/Fire Committee- Mayor Bruno thanked the Police Committee for sitting down with him and Chief Drollinger to discuss new opportunities that may be available for Renovo Police Department.

Building Committee/Health & Sanitation- Borough Secretary provided Council with the Upset Sale scheduled for September 20, 2024. On this list, 215 Champlain Avenue, a very blighted property that's in desperate need of demolition.

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Streets/Park Committee- President Tarantella let Council know she spoke with Streets Supervisor Vinnie Tarantella about the state of the town currently and how everything needs to be cleaned up before the upcoming Flaming Foliage Festival. She asked that the crew edge all sidewalks, mow at all parks and around town, paint curbs and crosswalks.

Councilman Dave Knauff said for the next week or so the crew will be working on the Emergency Access Route, filling in potholes so that in the event of an emergency during Flaming Foliage the route will be more accessible.

Ordinance Committee- New Quality of Life tickets have been ordered by the Borough Secretary; Joe Lyons from Codes Assessment Professionals assisted the Secretary in creating new tickets for printing. Chief Drollinger briefly touched base on the proposed amendments to the Firearm ordinance. With the proposed amendments the restrictions put on shooting within the Borough will be very limited. There will be very strict guidelines that will now need to be followed to discharge a firearm within Borough limits.

Grants Committee- Borough Secretary explained to Council that an email was received from Steve Gibson from the Clinton County Planning Department announcing the grant filed for CDBG funding for the 12th street paving project was approved. Once the water department replaces the waterlines on 12th street, the Borough will be able to come right behind that project and pave. The anticipated start date for that street will be Spring/Summer 2025.

WATER AUTHORITY BUSINESS

A.Tarantella explained to Council that the water filters were starting to fail due to the sand levels in the filters being lower than optimal operating requirements. The Authorities Engineer stated that as of now the filters are non-compliant with DEP due to the sand in all three filters being critically low. The water authority board has had funds set aside for this project in a savings account, so the Authority advertised for bids on sand and the lowest bid received was \$117,000 from Brown Hill Sands, the Authority accepted this bid. For the next month the sand will be delivered on a weekly basis until all three filters are up to DEP requirements.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council received a copy of the amendments to the firearm ordinance from Solicitor Stuart Hall.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by K.Serafini-Brooks to advertise to amend to the firearm ordinance. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

At the last Council meeting, August 14, 2024, Council advertised seeking letters of interest for the vacancy on Borough Council created by the passing of William Fornwalt III.

Borough Secretary, Ashley Sporny provided Council with the two letters of interest received, one from Michael Kelley and a second from Corey Aungst.

President Tarantella asked Council for Nominations.

Councilman Dave Knauff nominated Corey Aungst.

Councilwomen Rhonda Balchun nominated Michael Kelley.

President Tarantella then asked for a voice vote for Corey Aungst nomination.

A voice vote was taken, three no and two yes votes. R.Balchun(No), D.Knauff(Yes), J.Simon(Yes), K.Serafini-Brooks(No), A.Tarantella(No). Majority not met.

President Tarantella then asked for a voice vote for Michael Kelley.

A voice vote was taken, two no and three yes votes. Balchun(Yes), D.Knauff(No), J.Simon(No), K.Serafini-Brooks(Yes), A.Tarantella(Yes). Majority met.

A motion was made K.Serafini Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to pass Resolution 13-2024 to fill vacancy chair, Michael Kelley will fill the vacant seat on the Council until the first Monday in January 2026. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by K.Serafini-Brooks to pass Resolution 14-2024, Authorizing Broadband Ready Communities Program Application and choosing Clinton County to serve as Renovo Borough's Municipal Broadband Champion. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

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A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to approve the MMO of \$11,200 for the non-uniformed pension plan for 2025. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by D.Knauff and seconded by R.Balchun to approve the MMO of \$0 for the uniformed pension plan for 2025. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by K.Serafini-Brooks to approve the Homecoming Parade PennDOT road closing application on September 11, 2024 for the annual KCSD Homecoming Parade. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by J.Simon to approve the FFF PennDOT road closing application for Huron Ave on October 12, 2024 from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm for the annual Flaming Foliage Parade. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by K.Serafini-Brooks to approve two students from the KCSD Diversified Occupation program, Lilian Sporny and Gavin Yachymiak for a 240-hour internship to be paid with CareerLink Funding. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made K.Serafini-Brooks and seconded by J.Simon to send Officer Knarr to a free training in Lock Haven sponsored by Clinton County Emergency Services on October 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

K.Serafini-Brooks nominated Michael Kelley to be on the Building and Health and Ordinance Committees.

J.Simon was nominated by K.Serafini-Brooks to be on the Streets & Parks Committee.

R.Balchun nominated K.Serafini-Brooks to be on the Streets & Parks Committee.

A nomination was made by R.Balchun to appoint Corey Aungst to serve on the Zoning Hearing Board.

A nomination was made by K.Serafini Brooks to appoint John Simon to serve on the Water Authority Board.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by K.Serafini-Brooks to submit an application for Woodland Ave to the 2025 DGLVR, Due October 1, 2024. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

Borough Secretary explained to Council that to be considered for a DGLVR grant the Borough must first invite the Conservation District to assess the proposed project. The Secretary will contact the Conservation District for an appointment to come to East Renovo and look at the proposed project site.

A motion was made by K.Serafini Brooks and seconded by R.Balchun to have Solicitor Stuart Hall look into a property in the upcoming upset sale, 215 Champlain Avenue, for any lien that may be against it or other balances owed. If the amount on the upset sale does not exceed \$600 the Solicitor may bid on the property at the upcoming upset sale on September 20, 2024. A voice vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

Council went into Executive Session for personnel issues at 7:35pm

Council came out of Executive Session at 8:55 pm.

A motion was made by R.Balchun and seconded by J.Simon to decrease Ordinance Officer Dave Walkers hours to 5 hours per week and to include these changes to his job duties: observe properties in need of quality of life tickets and then report those properties to Joe Lyons at Codes Assessment Professional. He will no longer be responsible for issuing quality of life tickets.

ATTEST: Ashley Sporny, Secretary/Treasurer
Renovo Borough Council