

Renovo Borough Council
128 5th Street, Renovo, PA 17764
March 10, 2021

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; Kristy Serafini-Brooks, William Fornwalt III, David Knauff, Patricia Rauch, John Simon and Mayor Thomas Tarantella Jr. Also in attendance were Secretary/Treasurer Marsha Davis and Grants Advisor, Kari Kepler (Zoom). Absent: R. Balchun

An Executive session was held via Zoom with the Eckert Seamans law firm and Solicitor Stuart Hall on March 4, 2021 at 5:00 pm concerning the upcoming arbitration with the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made by P. Rauch and seconded by K. Serafini-Brooks to accept the minutes as written for the February 10, 2021 regular meeting. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

BILLS

Administration-\$10,640.57/Building-\$759.89/Fire-\$0/Parks-\$140.72/Police-\$2220.54/
Streets-\$5351.17.

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

GALLERY-Empty

CORRESPONDENCE

Robert Getz, Adult and Community Education Supervisor at Keystone Central School District, informed Council that the district plans on bringing back the Summer Recreation Program for area youth this summer. It will run from Monday through Friday for eight (8) weeks from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm at the 16th Street Park. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Solicitor Stuart Hall notified Council that due to an administrative error the 14th Street appeal to the Commonwealth Court was not signed and filed until February 19, 2021. Solicitor Hall will contact Council when he hears from the Commonwealth Court concerning the briefing schedule.

The Clinton Tax Collection Committee secretary, Jeri Goodbrod, informed Council that Renovo Borough needs to appoint one voting delegate and one or more alternate delegates to the Committee. A 2021 Tax Collection Committee budget was also provided to Council.

Berkshire Hathaway Energy Company presented Council with an annual downstream notification for Leidy Station's Eastern Gas Transmission and Storage. Berkshire also sent Council notice that its acquisition of Dominion Energy is complete and they will begin changing asset identifier markers and company signage.

Kelly Woodling, Project Manager for PennDOT Engineering District 2-0 provided the minutes from the February 1, 2021 meeting concerning the Bridge Preservation Project for the west end bridge in the Spring of 2022.

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation informed Council that the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund payment in the amount of \$42,475.71 will be paid on March 1, 2021. This amount includes the Renovo Borough's share of the Act 655-Liquid Fuels and Act 44 Allocations.

Lynn Gray, secretary of the Clinton County Borough's Association notified Council that the April 2021 meeting and dinner has been cancelled.

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The Renovo Borough Water Authority sent the minutes from the January 19, 2021 meeting.

The Western Clinton County Municipal Authority sent the minutes from the February 3 and February 17, 2021 meetings.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Tarantella informed Council that he swore in Chief Richard Simpson on March 1, 2021 and that Chief Simpson's wife was present for the ceremony. After the Oath of Office was taken the Mayor and Chief Simpson held a lengthy discussion concerning police matters.

The Mayor stated that himself, the Police Committee and Solicitor Stuart Hall held a Zoom meeting with the Eckert Seamans lawyers on March 4, 2021 concerning the upcoming arbitration with the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mayor Tarantella informed Council that National Fuel Gas is currently constructing a station at Leidy Township that will take a few months to complete. There may be a lot of construction traffic in the municipality due to this project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration Committee- Council read over the current balance in the borough's accounts as of March 10, 2021:

General Fund Checking- **\$92,213.77** (after payment of the bills)
General Fund Street Maintenance Saving- **\$6056.49** (.14 int)
Highway Aid Checking- **\$8915.34** (+\$42,475.71 state aid, -\$30,000 to savings, -bills)
Highway Aid Savings- **\$74,853.68** (\$1.04 int plus \$30,000 from checking)
Retirement Fund- **\$15.23** (\$-254 returned to state)
PennDOT Projects Account-**\$50.37**
DCNR Peer Grant-**\$2548.77** (\$.06 int)
February Earned Income Tax-\$3836.95

Police/Fire Committee-Council was presented with a reimbursement request for a new door knob for the police office, ink and uniform shirts, pants and boots from Chief Simpson. Council agreed to reimburse Chief Simpson for everything but the boots. Council also wants Corporal Jeffries to reimburse the Renovo Borough for the door knob since it was his personal dog that damaged it.

Building Committee/Health & Sanitation-W. Fornwalt has received complaints about the condition of a home on Ontario Avenue. The secretary will inform the Building Code Official about these concerns.

Streets/Park Committee- Council discussed putting a sign up at the boat launch to discourage residents from using it as a parking lot. The sign will read "Parking Allowed for Recreational Purposes Only".

Ordinance Committee-Nothing to report.

Grants Committee-K. Kepler reported that there will be money in the new American Rescue Plan for municipalities. She will let Council know more details when they become available.

K. Kepler also notified Council that several grants are now available or opening soon including the Rental Assistance grant, PPL grant, DCNR grant and the COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program (CHIRP). The CHIRP is provided to the County Commissioners and administered by SEDA-COG to provide qualifying businesses a grant to assist in covering the business' lost revenue and associated operating expenses. She also informed Council that the SBA loans are now open.

K. Kepler suggested Council consider trying to get HOME grants for the Renovo Borough. She will look into it.

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K. Kepler reported that the DCED Multimodal Grant meeting to announce grant awards has been postponed. It was originally set for March 23, 2021.

WATER AUTHORITY BUSINESS

K. Kepler reported that the RBWA opened grant bids for water line replacements on 4th and 9th streets. All bids were over the amount awarded from CDBG. RBWA tabled the bids to re-bid for better prices.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by W. Fornwalt III and seconded by P. Rauch to appoint Kristy Serafini-Brooks to the Clinton Tax Collection Committee. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by W. Fornwalt III and seconded by P. Rauch to approve a credit card addition for Chief of Police Richard Simpson for \$250. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Council went into Executive Session at 7:15 pm for personnel issues.

Executive Session ended at 9:17 pm.

Councilman D. Knauff left the meeting at this time. (9:18)

A motion was made by K. Serafini-Brooks and seconded by J. Simon to purchase a toner printer for the police office for a cost up to \$170 and the toner to go with it. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by K Serafini-Brooks and seconded by W. Fornwalt III to accept the proposal from Murgas LLC to install the two new laptops and printers including mounts to the Dodge Charger and Ford Interceptor for a total cost of \$950. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by J. Simon and seconded by W. Fornwalt III to accept the proposal from Murgas LLC to add a camera to the alley, install an on/off switch to the police office camera and add a monitor and mouse to the police office for a total cost of \$900. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Councilman D. Knauff returned to the meeting at this time (9:26).

Council discussed other requests from Chief Simpson including installing GPS on the police vehicles, an additional phone line and an outlet cover in the police office. Council is holding off on the GPS for now, will have V. Tarantella install the outlet cover and will have the secretary look into an additional phone line.

Chief Simpson also asked if Council would consider making him salary at \$600 a week versus \$30 at 20 hours a week.

A motion was made by J. Simon and seconded by D. Knauff to make Chief Richard Simpson a salaried employee at \$600 a week. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by P. Rauch and seconded by K. Serafini-Brooks to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 pm. A voice vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Marsha Davis, Secretary/Treasurer
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