

SLIPPERY ROCK BOROUGH COUNCIL

Slippery Rock Borough Office, 306 E. Water Street, Slippery Rock, PA 16057
Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 7:00 PM-8:46 PM

Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call: Mayor & Borough Manager

Public Officials Present: Russell Karl, Ronald Steele, Gene Allison, Lauren Christmann, Royce Lorentz, Denton Zeronas, Mayor Jondavid Longo, Borough Manager Shawn Pugh, & Solicitor Rebecca Black
Absent: Jeffrey Campbell

Citizen Input for Agenda Items (3 minutes):

- ☐ Robert Presner, a student & resident, spoke in favor of the Mayor's Second Amendment Resolution
- ☐ State Representative Aaron Bernstine thanked Borough Council for its work & spoke in favor of the Second Amendment Resolution
- ☐ President Karl asked if Representative Bernstine would reply to questions. Royce Lorentz commented that the different requirements of states make it difficult for honest citizens to travel across state lines. Representative Bernstine agreed & noted that PA has reciprocity with many states

Reports:

- ☐ Slippery Rock University (SRU): (Robb King reported)
 - SRU spring break begins this week.
 - SRU is in decision mode about action that may be taken based upon Coronavirus. Decisions will be announced & SR Borough will receive information
- ☐ Slippery Rock University Student Government Association: None
- ☐ Slippery Rock Community Library (SRCL): (Bob Crafton reported)
 - SRCL hired Tiffany Frampton to direct children's programming
 - SRCL's various programs were announced & the schedule will appear on the SRCL WEB Site.
- ☐ Slippery Rock Area Parks & Recreation: (Denton Zeronas reported)
 - The proposed pickleball court(s) would be installed in the vicinity of the park amphitheater
 - The outdoor rest room has been installed & will be open soon
 - Baseball fields will soon be prepared for the season
- ☐ Mayor's Comments: Marissa Cozza requested for the SRU Foundation, Inc. to designate March 26, 2020 as "Slippery Rock Giving Day"

Police Report: (Mayor Longo reported)

- ☐ For February 2020, there were 438 calls, 48 criminal offences, 21 DUIs, 5 thefts, & 3 well-being checks.

Borough Updates:

- ☐ Second Amendment Resolution was presented for Council discussion.
 - Solicitor Rebecca Black indicated that she was "fine" with the wording, but questioned the purpose of the Resolution. The Second Amendment is interpreted differently by different people & the adoption of the Resolution may lock us into some future action.
 - Gene asked if the Resolution may be endorsed without official adoption. The solicitor said that a resolution is the proper vehicle to use if council wants to approve it.
 - Ron said that the Resolution is intended to indicate community support of the Second amendment.
 - Russ commented that many communities are trying to limit the features of the second Amendment; therefore, the Resolution is our way of demonstrating support of the amendment.
 - Rebecca commented that adoption would mean our community would challenge infringement legislation passed on the state or the federal level.
 - Lauren agreed with the Resolution. Royce followed that "the Resolution is a preemptive statement."

- Denton commented & indicated his support for the Resolution.
 - The solicitor offered that a regional incident that swayed public opinion might put the Borough at odds with other groups.
 - Royce reminded the Council that Jeffrey Campbell (absent Council member) had voiced support for the Second Amendment Resolution.
 - The Mayor thanked the solicitor for her perspectives offered to protect the Borough's future. He asserted that we have a local-level obligation to indicate support for the Second Amendment to both state & federal governments.
 - Gene indicated his disappointment at receiving no feedback from the community.
- ☐ President Karl called for a vote to accept the Second Amendment Resolution. Unanimously approved.

Solicitor's Report: None

New Business Motions:

- ☐ Ron moved & Denton seconded the motion to hire Darlene Covert to clean the Borough Building once per week for payment of \$200 per month (\$2400 per year). Unanimously approved.
- ☐ Denton moved & Royce seconded the motion to permit the Slippery Rock Baseball Association to upgrade the restrooms in the baseball concession stand at the Association's expense with no cost to the Borough. Unanimously approved.
- ☐ Denton moved & Royce seconded the motion to purchase the E-32 R-Series Bobcat Compact Excavator from COSTARS at a price of \$44,340.04 Unanimously approved.
- ☐ Ron moved & Royce seconded the motion to increase the work hours for Laurie Karl from "up-to-20" to "up-to-30" hours, as needed, during the transition. (Russ abstained) Unanimously approved.
- ☐ Royce moved & Denton seconded the motion to advertise for a full-time Borough Secretary/Treasurer. Unanimously approved.

Citizen Input for Any Items (3 minutes): None

Council Member's Remarks:

- Ron asked about the status of the web site. Russ said that we are moving forward.
- Ron asked about the green street light replacements. Russ said that we are moving forward.
- Royce asked about modifying the contract for carpet runners. Shawn said he would investigate.
- Royce asked about part-time police officers. Russ said it would be on the April 2020 agenda.
- Royce mentioned that SRU-VP Scott Albert would check into the ownership/paving at the Catholic Parish Center (Newman Center) & indicate the possible parameters of cooperation. Russ asked if Royce could work toward a cost for cooperative paving of the three-party ownership lot.
- Royce asked whether Council would be interested in a lower dollar amount loan from the BCIB for Poplar Forest, for rebuilding Boller Drive (SR Park at N. Main) (if allowed by BCIB), or other projects.
- Ron asked about the Gateway plans to reconstruct the North Main Street SR Park entrance (Boller Drive). Russ suggested that the SR Township would be able to do it for less money. Gene remarked that the Gateway estimate was quite expensive. Royce said that he had an extensive description.
- Mayor reported that Pamela Flynn of Aspen Court said that sidewalks are in a state of disrepair.
- Mayor reported that Borough Manager Shawn Pugh has made changes, in his first week of employment, to various contracts that are projected to save \$8,610.16 over one year.
- Mayor commented that the Borough advanced the "cause of liberty" by adopting the Second Amendment Resolution.

Adjournment:

- ☐ Gene moved & Royce seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting and recess into executive session for personnel matters with no business to follow the executive session. Unanimously approved.