

Slippery Rock Borough Council

Slippery Rock Borough office, 306 East Water Street Slippery Rock, PA 16057-1170
Council Meeting Minutes for **August 11, 2020** from 7pm-8:30pm

President Russ Karl called the meeting to order a few minutes after 7pm.

Mayor Longo led the Council members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Shawn Pugh performed the roll call. Those present: Russell Karl, Ronald Steele, Gene Allison, Jeffrey Campbell, Lauren Christmann, Royce Lorentz, Denton Zeronas, Mayor Johndavid Longo, Solicitor Black and Borough Manager Shawn Pugh.

Outside Entity Reports:

- **Robert King (SRU)-** Robb stated that this is move- in week for the on-campus residential students. There is a reduction in the residential population due to COVID-19. He estimates that there will be 800-825 residential students for the fall semester. It is expected that 80% will attend online with 20% attending in person.
- **SRU Student Government Association:** none
- **Karen Pierce (Slippery Rock Community Library):** Karen stated that they reopened on July 6, 2020 . The library has provided service for 750 people in the month of July. There were 108 computer users who were also able to utilize the wireless printer. The kid's summer reading program will wrap up in August. Over 50 kids were involved in the program this summer. The library will be working with the University's students in the Mathematics and Statistics department as well as with the Volunteers from the Mormon Missionaries. Karen states that the library is also working with Jessica Pierce, a Service Forester, to make the distinction between the native plants and the invasive plants. The Invasive will be pulled prior to seeding.
- **Shaun Brown (Slippery Rock Municipal Authority):** Shaun addressed the Council stating that the Water Line Replacement Project on North and South Main Street will begin on August 17th. He is requesting a letter for PennDOT from the Borough granting permission to detour traffic from Main Street onto Borough side streets. The project will be done in phases and will shut down sections block by block. Shaun is estimating that the project will take 8 weeks to complete. Residents and Business Owners can expect an interruption in their water service for a short time during the line replacement. Shaun states that they will not be without water for more than half a day. The Mayor asked if it is possible to have the work completed in the evening. The Mayor is concerned about business interruptions. Shaun estimates that having the work done in the evening would take longer and would cost approximately \$800,000 more. Russ Karl asked when the letter would need to be submitted. Shaun would appreciate a decision to be made by end of meeting tonight. Royce Lorentz suggested that the parking lanes on North and South Main be used to move traffic. Shaun stated that PennDOT is requiring that traffic be able to move in both directions which would not be possible due to the way the parking lanes curb outward in parts. Gene Allison asked why they cannot use one lane with flaggers at each end. Shaun stated that he will ask, but was told that PennDOT did not want to do that. Jeff Campbell stated that PennDOT uses 1 lane all the time and would like the Municipal Authority to investigate it. The Municipal Authority would have

liked to do this project in the spring of 2020, but COVID-19 had stopped the plan from taking place. South Main Street is to be repaved in December and the Water Line Project must be completed before that.

- **Slippery Rock Parks and Recreation:** Mary Messer provided a report to Denton Zeronas who read the report to Council. Mary states that they will continue to offer programs in the fall. She also states that the Park outdoor Restroom will be opening in the coming weeks.

Mayor's Comments:

- The Mayor reminded the people that the Thai Restaurant is supposed to open in September and asked that everyone support them when they open. He also wanted to welcome back the students to SRU.

Citizen Input for Agenda Items:

- **Bill Sontag** from Slippery Rock Development asked Council for 30 days before voting to fill in the fountain and repurpose it. SRD would like to take over total rehab and maintenance of the fountain. SRD received an anonymous gift and is talking to donors who may be able to help save the fountain. The Council agreed to give the SRD 30 days to see if they can take the project over.

Police Report (Mayor Longo): See attached

Borough Updates:

- **Kiester and Main Signal:** Shawn Pugh stated that work continues, and sidewalk is being replaced. The Borough is waiting on the signal pole. The pole may not arrive until October. The ARLE Grant is good until November. Shawn requested an extension on the grant to avoid problems if the pole doesn't arrive in time.
- **Turning Lane:** Shields Paving is working on the turning lane. They should be finished with the turning lane and have started paving the other side of Main Street by the end of September.
- **CARES Grant:** Shawn stated that the Borough has applied for \$17,450.46 in grant money to recuperate loss by the Borough due to COVID-19.
- **Street Light Grant:** Shawn Pugh is in the process of applying for a grant that would help replace the streetlights that are damaged. The grant will be for approximately \$500,000.

Solicitor's Report: none

Discussion:

During the Slippery Rock Municipal Authority's report, Council was asked by Shaun Brown to approve the writing of a letter stating that PennDOT can divert traffic onto Borough side streets while the replacement line project was being done. The letter is time sensitive and needed to be decided on. After the discussion regarding concerns for businesses and residents of the Borough, the item that was not on the agenda, was voted on. It passed with Jeff Campbell, Denton Zeronas and Lauren Christmann being the dissenting votes.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Ron Steele and seconded by Royce Lorentz to approve the 8-4-2020 minutes. It was voted on and unanimously approved.

- Ron Steele moved and Denton Zeronas seconded the motion to allow SR Development 30 days to come up with a plan for the fountain. It was voted on and passed unanimously.
- Royce Lorentz moved and Gene Allison seconded the motion to close Main Street for the Halloween Parade from 6pm to 6:45pm. It was approved with Ron Steele being the only dissenting vote.
- A motion was made by Royce Lorentz for the approval of 6pm to 8pm being the set time for Trick-or Treat in the Borough. Jeff Campbell seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Royce Lorentz and Jeff Campbell seconded to award the contract for the front porch of the Borough building to ARRIS CONSTRUCTION.

Citizen Input: None

Council Person's Remarks: none

Adjournment:

With nothing more on the agenda, President Karl asked for a motion to adjourn. Ron Steele made the motion with Gene Allison providing the second. The motion passed unanimously.