

## **Slippery Rock Borough Council**

Slippery Rock Borough Office, 306 East Water Street. Slippery Rock, PA 16057-1170  
Council Meeting Minutes for Tuesday September 8, 2020 from 7:00 pm to 8:40 pm

**President Russ Karl called the meeting to order at 7pm.**

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

**Shawn Pugh performed the roll call. Those present:** Russ Karl, Ron Steele, Gene Allison, Jeff Campbell, Lauren Christmann, Royce Lorentz, Denton Zeronas, Mayor Jondavid Longo, Solicitor Rebecca Black, Borough Manager Shawn Pugh and Secretary /Treasurer Angel Walker.

### **Outside Entity Reports:**

**-Slippery Rock University:** None

**-SRU Student Government Association:** None

**-Slippery Rock Community Library:** Karen Pierce stated that the Library is open to the public with a maximum occupancy of 10 patrons in the building at one time. The library has extended hours as of 9/8/2020. The hours are as follows: Monday & Thursday 10am-6:30pm. Tuesday & Wednesday 10am- 5pm and Saturday 10am to 2pm. Karen also stated that due to the school district limiting the books that are able to be checked out, the library is offering the ability to check out 25 books at a time. Library liaison, Royce Lorentz added that SRU students utilize the library for their course work as well.

**-Slippery Rock Municipal Authority:** Ron Steele spoke to Shaun Brown from the Municipal Authority. Shaun reports that the water line replacement project is continuing. They are completing about 6 sections a day. The project should continue onto South Main next week. The Municipal Authority and Slippery Rock Borough are working together to install a catch basin in front of Tinker's Dam.

**-Slippery Rock Parks and Recreation:** Mary Messer reported that the outside restroom is open 7 days a week from 8am to 8pm. She thanked Shawn Pugh for including the Parks in the CARES Grant whereas they will receive \$1,115.52 to help with costs associated with COVID-19. Mary states that pre-school starts tomorrow. The children are required to wear masks. Due to COVID\_19, there is a decrease in enrollment and volunteers.

**-Slippery Rock Volunteer Fire Company & Rescue Team:** Doreen Taggart stated that due to COVID-19, they have had to cancel two of their big fundraisers. The 12 days of December Sportman Fun Raffle is running from December 14<sup>th</sup> until December 25<sup>th</sup> with a \$10,000 prize giveaway on Christmas Day. Please purchase tickets to win prizes and to support the Fire Company & Rescue Team. She states that during COVID they have had the opportunity to receive 128 hours of training. She thanked the Borough for the 24-hour police coverage stating that it is nice to know that they are there if needed. Lastly, they are hoping to have the annual Halloween Parade this year despite COVID-19. The Mayor expressed the need for the parade for the community and Ron Steele and Russ Karl thanked the SR Volunteer fire Company and Rescue Team for all they do for the community.

**Mayor's Comments:**

- Mayor Longo wanted to remind everyone that the Butler County Republican Committee opened an office in Slippery Rock.

**Police Report:** Please see attached

**Citizen Input for Agenda Items Only:**

-**Bill Sonntag** from Slippery Rock Development stated that they have met with two companies that sell waterfalls and one company that sells pumps. They do not have a proposal or exact estimate yet but believe they have an idea that will eliminate the current problem areas and will be within their budget. The plan is to build a solo pool in the middle and add new light fixtures. Slippery Rock Development is asking the Council to give them until Spring to find someone to do the work and to raise the money. They are hoping to have it done by Spring.

**Borough Updates:**

-**CARES Grant:** Shawn Pugh states that the Slippery Rock Borough has been approved for \$151,670.88. That includes \$1,115.52 for Parks & Recreation, \$1,170.57 for personal protective equipment, \$656.00 for legal cost, \$130,878.15 for police salary and benefits and \$17,850.64 in technology. Shawn is hoping to apply for a second round of the CARES Grant if it offered.

-**Fountain:** Slippery Rock Development continues to look for a solution to revitalize and rebuild the fountain.

President Karl stated that there were concerns at the September 1, 2020 meeting regarding the hiring of personnel. Russ had the meeting minutes pulled showing the date two hiring decisions were voted on. He wanted it to be transparent that all hiring decisions were made collectively and that all were present when it was voted on and passed.

**Solicitor's Report:** None

**Discussion Items:**

There was a discussion regarding the decision to allow businesses to utilize alley ways in order to provide more seating for patrons. The Council agreed that it is important to support the businesses and try to help whenever possible. The decision was made to allow businesses to submit a proposal requesting to close alleyways during certain times and days to allow for ample seating following the governor's mandate of 50% capacity in restaurants.

**New Business:**

-A motion was made by Royce Lorentz to approve the 8-11-2020 meeting minutes. Lauren Christmann provided the second. It passed unanimously.

-A motion was made by Gene Allison to approve of the 9-1-2020 meeting minutes. Royce Lorentz provided the second. It passed unanimously.

-A motion was made by Ron Steele to approve the paving of completed projects in Poplar Forest. Jeff Campbell provided the second. It passed unanimously.

-A motion was made by Royce Lorentz to release and advertise the RFP for Lab Alley and Library Drive. Denton Zeronas provided the second. It passed unanimously.

-A motion was made by Gene Allison to accept the Christmas Tree from Dr. Ross. Royce Lorentz provided the second. It passed with Ron Steele and Lauren Christmann having the dissenting votes.

-A motion was made by Royce Lorentz to approve Resolution 445, allowing the Borough Manager to apply for the Infrastructure Grant. Jeff Campbell provided the second. It passed unanimously.

-A motion was made by Denton Zeronas for the approval of Oktoberfest to be held at the Slippery Rock Parks and Recreation property. Jeff Campbell provided the second. It passed with Gene Allison having the only dissenting vote.

### **Citizen Input:**

**Allan Maust**, along with **Mike Pavelek** and **Howard Meyer** stated that there is a home being built that has a poured foundation instead of brick or stone. They were under the impression that it was not allowed. They also stated that there is a home on Willow Drive that has large rocks lining the street on the owner's property. Allan believes this to be a safety hazard and would like the Borough to have the owner move the rocks. He states that also on Willow Drive there is a home where young adults play basketball until late hours of the night and disturb the neighbors. He is wondering if there is an ordinance prohibiting this. Lastly, he is concerned that there is talk of paving a bike path near his property and he wanted to make it known that he does not want that. Solicitor Black stated that she will investigate it, but that the Borough has no authority to enforce homeowner's association guidelines. She also stated that if the Borough would enforce something for a resident, every resident in the Borough would have to comply to the same guideline. President Karl stated that there have been no discussions regarding a paved bike path. The three residents of Poplar Forest were asked if any of them had approached the neighbor to ask him to move the stones back. All three stated that they had not.

### **Council Person's Remarks:**

**Royce Lorentz** stated that he would like a copy of the police policies to be made available to Council. He would like to see them reviewed and discussed especially in the current climate. Solicitor Black stated that for safety reasons there are some items that are not public record.

**Gene Allison** would like to remind everyone that the census is coming to a close and asked that anyone that has not been counted to please do so.

### **Adjournment:**

With nothing else on the agenda, President Karl asked for a motion to adjourn. Jeff Campbell made the motion with Royce Lorentz providing the second. The motion passed unanimously.