

## **Slippery Rock Borough Council**

Slippery Rock Borough Office, 306 E Water Street, Slippery Rock, PA 16057-1170  
Council Workshop Meeting for **Tuesday, May 4, 2021** from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**President Karl called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.**

**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, Lauren Christmann, Royce Lorentz, Mayor Jondavid Longo, Borough Manager Shawn Pugh.

**Citizen Input for Agenda Items Only:** None

### **Reports:**

**Mayor Jondavid Longo** reports that Councilman Denton Zeronas is an official Slippery Rock University graduate. He wished him well and congratulated him on that achievement.

**Gene Allison reports that** Amir Mohammadi , Senior Vice President for Administration and Economic Development at Slippery Rock University, is looking to obtain a grant that will provide a new building that will house the University Police and ROTC program. The University is requesting a letter of support from the Borough. Russ Karl asked for further information so that Council can review it and discuss it at the next meeting. Gene also reported that there is a lack of signage in the Borough regarding the 48 -hour parking restriction. The street department will look to see if additional signage can be added.

**Royce Lorentz** reports that the street light feature, that allows the lights to remain red during an emergency to allow emergency vehicles to pass, may not be in working order. Ron Steele believes that it may be a frequency issue. Royce also reports that due to increase vandalism to signs in the Borough, Council may need to look at a new way to anchor the signs to prevent them from being pulled out and destroyed.

**Ron Steele** reports that he has a list from the Borough Street Department of five streets that need paved. The list consists of Pigtail Alley, Midway Alley, School Street, Old Forge Road and Maple Street. Shawn Brown from the Municipal Authority stated that if Council chose Pigtail Alley and School Street to pave first, the MA may be able to combine efforts and help with cost and labor. Before moving forward, Penn Dot will need to prepare a bid package.

### **Special Guest:**

**Jerry Heller**, who submitted his resignation from the Planning Commission effective April 30, 2021, was presented a certificate in recognition for his devotion and work for the Slippery Rock Borough.

### **Borough Updates:**

**Comprehensive Plan:** Christian Laskey has been coordinating with the Municipal Authority to compile a list of issues in town that may need addressed. He is also coordinating with Butler County's Planning Director, Joel McCay to integrate Slippery Rock Borough's Comprehensive plan with the County's Plan.

**Marathon Lot:** Shawn Pugh gave an update regarding the Marathon Lot. There were gas tanks that were buried in the lot that leaked and contaminated the soil. Letterle & Associates, LLC sank three wells to run testing on the soil. The Borough will move forward with the appraisal of the vacant lot once the testing is done and the soil is clean.

**Electricity in Memorial Park:** The Borough received a grant to upgrade the electricity in Memorial Park and bring it up to code. The Borough will obtain 3 quotes for the project and award it to the lowest bidder. According to the grant, the Borough will be responsible for 25% of the total cost of the job.

**Park Insurance:** Shawn Pugh and Mary Messer met to discuss Slippery Rock Parks and Recreation paying their portion of the insurance. It was agreed that it will be paid in 2 installments of \$1384.50. The first installment has already been paid.

#### **Discussion Items:**

**Property Maintenance Ticketing:** (See Attached) Christian Laskey would like to submit a proposal to the Planning Commission that would give the Code Enforcement Officer the ability to give warnings, and if necessary, citations for property maintenance violations. It will be placed on next week's agenda for vote.

**July 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Closing:** Mayor Longo is requesting that Main Street be closed on Saturday July 3, 2021 from 3:00 pm to 10:15 pm for the 245<sup>th</sup> Independence Day celebration. It will be placed on next week's agenda for vote.

**Garbage Contract:** There was a discussion on whether the Borough should remain with the same contract with Tri-County for the next two years or if the Borough should open the contract for bid. Royce Lorentz would like to hear from Council on their opinion of the matter. Russ Karl stated that it is going well and running smoothly. He wants to keep with the contract the Boro has currently with Tri-County. Ron Steele agrees that the service the Boro has now is ideal and going well. He stated that the Boro may or may not save money by opening it up for bid, but that it should be explored. Gene Allison gave his opinion that it should be opened for bid to see if they can save money for Boro residents. Lauren Christmann stated that the Boro should remain with Tri-County with the 2- year extension. The contract being opened for bid will be placed on next week's agenda for vote.

**Police and Street Department vehicles:** (See Attached) Shawn Pugh provided information on the issues surrounding the Police Taurus and Charger. As stated at last month's meeting, The Charger and the Taurus will not pass inspection in their current condition. He also included trade in values and costs of 2 new vehicles for the Police department. The Borough has enough funds in the PLGIT account to cover the cost. It is estimated to cost \$90,600 to obtain 2 new fully equipped police vehicles. Shawn also included information on a new 2019 completely outfitted dump truck for the Borough Street department. The estimated cost is \$82,000. The dump truck that the Borough currently has needs constant repair and is no longer a reliable option. The purchase of two new police vehicles and a dump truck for the street department will be placed on next week's agenda for vote.

**Street Saw:** The Slippery Rock Borough Street Department at times need a street saw to complete projects. The Municipal Authority allows the Borough Street department to use theirs. The Borough does not want to continue to put wear on the borrowed saw. The Borough needs to purchase its own. Shawn Pugh has found one to purchase for approximately \$2100.00. It will be placed on next week's agenda for vote.

**Street Crack Sealer:** There are roads in the Borough that need to be paved. Due to finances, not all roads will be paved this year. The Borough will have two options to obtain crack sealer. The first option is the Council of Government (COG) rents a machine for a weekly cost and the sealer is purchased from Seal Master. The second option is the Borough could go through Seal Master directly and purchase the sealer and Seal Master will rent the machine to the Boro for free. The decision will be placed on next week's agenda for vote.

**Village Fest:** Tom McPherson and Regina Greenwald from Slippery Rock Development are requesting that Main Street is shut down and requesting the use of the parking lot and the vacant lot on Saturday September 18, 2021 from 6:30 am to 6:30 pm. Approval will be moved to next week's agenda for vote.

**Citizen Input:**

**Scott & Leann Zandi** (See Attached) presented to Council their wish for the Borough to address the water issue on their property. President Russ Karl stated that he would look at the property tomorrow.

**Councilperson's Remarks:**

**Royce Lorentz** would like to have a discussion regarding Community Policing. He stated that updating standard operating procedures and building good relationships with the community is a good idea. Mayor Longo stated that the Slippery Rock Borough has a good relationship and work hard to be a positive presence in the community. Royce stated that he was not suggesting the opposite is true.

**Gene Allison** let the public know that there are vacancies on the Zoning Board and the Planning Commission.

**Adjournment:**

With nothing more to discuss, Russ Karl asked for a motion to adjourn. Royce Lorentz made the motion and Ron Steele provided the second. The motion passed unanimously at 8:15 pm.