

Slippery Rock Borough Council

Slippery Rock Borough Office, 306 E. Water Street, Slippery Rock, PA 16057-1170
Borough Council Meeting for **Tuesday November 16, 2021**, from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

President Russ 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, Denton Zeronas, Mayor Jondavid Longo, Borough Manager Shawn Pugh. Council member Jeff Campbell was not in attendance.

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor Longo reminded the public that "Light the Rock" night is this Saturday November 20, 2021.

Citizen Input for Agenda Items Only: None

Borough Updates: None

Discussion Items:

2022 Budget: There was a discussion regarding the proposed balanced budget for 2022.

Ron Steele requested that Council consider changing the Millage designated for the Slippery Rock Fire Department from 1.25 to 1.50. He stated that surrounding Municipalities have been approached and have looked at adding a fire tax at 1.5 Millage. Russ Karl and Gene Allison responded with their opinion that the Borough needs to continue to be financially conservative while the future of COVID and it's affects are still unclear. Ron also asked if the increase in the Police Department wages is dictated by the Municipal Bargaining Unit. Shawn Pugh replied that it is.

Gene Allison asked for clarification on several account numbers. For the Residential Building Permits, Gene asked why the budget is set for \$5,000 for 2022 when the Borough collected \$10,466.05 in 2021. Russ Karl stated that the amount received was potentially a spike that could not have been predicted. The last three years show that this is not a trend and therefore cannot be depended on to budget for in 2022. For Police Services with Slippery Rock Township, he asked why, if we did not collect anything in 2021 for Police assists with the SR Township, are we budgeting \$10,000 for 2022. Russ Karl responded that the Borough now has a working contract with the Township and that we are expecting to collect more revenue in the coming year because the SRU students are back in town. For the Unclassified Revenues account, Gene asked for clarification that the amount received was accurate. Shawn Pugh stated that the number is much higher than expected due to receiving CARES grant money and American Recovery Act money. Due to those being a one-time revenue, the proposed budget is \$5,000. For the police ammo and training account, he asked why only \$60 of the proposed \$4,000 was used. Shawn Pugh stated that due to COVID and the short supply of ammo, the ammo had been ordered but we have not received it. The Borough will not be charged for the ammo until we receive it. For the Slippery Rock Library tax account, he would like to know what the library tax is for. Shawn

Pugh stated that the Borough voted last year to pay .25 milage rate to the library instead of a donation.

Royce Lorentz asked for clarification on several account numbers. For the Case Sabatini/Bonus Accounting account, Royce asked if the proposed amount was correct. Shawn Pugh stated that the Borough is switching from Case Sabatini to Kenny Bonus for our auditing. The price for 2022 through Kenny Bonus will be \$3,800.00. For the Bench Law Limited account, Royce questioned what that was. Shawn Pugh stated that Bench Law Limited is the Zoning Hearing Board solicitor. The solicitor was approved at the last Zoning Board's meeting. For the Gateway Engineers account, Royce asked if the proposed amount for Gateway Engineers was set for a particular project. Russ Karl stated that the proposed amount was in line with what had been set in the past. There are no set projects for 2022. Royce suggested that the salary of the Police Chief be separated from the police salaries since he is not part of the Collective Bargaining Unit. Shawn Pugh stated that he would do that. For the Maintenance Wages account, Royce requested clarification on what the maintenance wages were. Shawn Pugh stated that it is Ryan Jackson's wages and that the increase is per contract.

New Business:

*Royce Lorentz made the motion to advertise the proposed 2022 budget. Gene Allison provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Input: None

Council Person's Remarks: None

Adjournment:

With nothing more on the agenda to discuss, Russ Karl asked for a motion to adjourn. Royce Lorentz made the motion to adjourn, and Gene Allison provided the second. The motion passed unanimously at 8:00 pm.