



Slippery Rock Borough Council Meeting

306 East Water Street Slippery Rock, PA 16057

July 12, 2022 from 7:03 pm to 8:23 pm.

Borough Council President, Jeff Campbell 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: Jeff Campbell, Denton Zeronas, Lauren Christmann, John Hicks, Royce Lorentz, Ron Steele, Alex Tuten,

Outside Entity Reports:

Slippery Rock University: (See Attached) Justin Zackal provided a report on Slippery Rock University including the renovation of the University Union and move in dates for the students in the fall of 2022.

Slippery Rock Community Library: (see attached) Tiffany Frampton, who has had to take a leave of absence, provided Council with updates via email for the library for the month of June.

Slippery Rock Municipal Authority: None

Slippery Rock Volunteer Fire Company & Rescue Team: (See Attached) Kurt Reasner provided Council with updates for the month of June.

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor Longo reported that the fundraiser for the flag project has reached the \$37,000.00 mark. Bringing them to just below 50% of the marker needed.

Citizen Input for Agenda Items Only: None

Police Report: (See Attached)

Chief Fedokovitz gave an update for the month of June.

Committee Updates:

Personnel: Denton Zeronas reported that he and Alex Tuten met with Borough Manager, Shawn Pugh and reviewed current job descriptions. He reported their next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 20, 2022.

Finance/Budget: Shawn Pugh distributed a budget analysis for Council review.

Streets: Ron Steele reported that Shields Paving will be starting to pave the streets in the Borough in August. He is hoping that the paving is done before school starts.

Facilities/Properties: None

Public Safety: None

Economic Development: Jondavid Longo and Denton Zeronas met with officials from Western Pennsylvania Southwest Six who have expressed interest in giving a formal presentation on money that may be available to encourage new businesses and support businesses in Slippery Rock. He also reported that Rooster Coffee shop and the newly renovated McDonald's will be open by the end of summer for business.

Intergovernmental Relations: None

Park: None

Zoning: None

Planning: Alex Tuten reported that there will be a meeting on Thursday at 7 pm at Boro building.

Civil Service: None

Comprehensive Plan: Shawn Pugh provided the demographics from the Comprehensive plan and distributed them to Council to show what they have been working on. This past Thursday he met with people's natural gas. He indicated that they would continue to work towards its completion.

Borough Updates: None

Solicitor's Report: (See Attached) Solicitor Black read a statement regarding freedom of speech concerns in response to the July 2, 2022 protest and events that followed.

Discussion Items: None

New Business:

*Denton Zeronas made the motion to approve the June 7, 2022 meeting minutes. Alex Tuten provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Royce Lorentz made the motion to approve the June 14, 2022 meeting minutes. John Hicks provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Alex Tuten made the motion to appoint Jonathan Foust to the Zoning Hearing Board for a period of 5 years. Denton Zeronas provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Royce Lorentz made the motion to approve Resolution #457 prohibiting nicotine use in Borough Parks. Lauren Christmann provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Denton Zeronas made the motion to adopt Ordinance #718 outlining the procedures of solicitation within the Borough. John Hicks provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*John Hicks made the motion to change School Street to two-way from one way from Cooper Street to Maltby Street. Royce Lorentz provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Royce Lorentz made the motion to permit the Closing of Main Street from Cooper Street to Franklin Street from 6:30 am to 6:30 pm on September 24, 2022 for VillageFest, with no parking on Maple and Elm Streets as well. Alex Tuten provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Denton Zeronas made the motion to tar-and-chip Boller Drive in collaboration with Slippery Rock Township, Slippery Rock Area School District, Slippery Rock Park and Recreation, Slippery Rock Baseball, Football and Softball Associations at a cost to the Borough of \$1,250.00. Royce Lorentz provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

Citizen Input:

Jonathan, a resident of Slippery Rock for 3 years, addressed Council stating that he participated in the peaceful protest on Sunday in the Borough where he and his fellow protesters were screamed at and taunted by anti- protesters from across the street. He urged the public to show all protesters regardless of their affiliation the same respect as they showed the community that day.

Layla Joseph addressed Solicitor Black asking for clarification on what is permitted and what is not regarding protesting with Chalk in the Borough. Solicitor Black responded with clarification.

Morgen Megas a resident of Parker, PA, addressed Council stating that as the chair of the libertarian party, he was greeted personally and felt welcomed by the mayor at the Independence Day celebration but has since discovered that others at the event were not treated the same. Morgen questioned whether as a public official it was unconstitutional that the mayor removed the chalk from the sidewalk. The mayor responded that he removed the chalk as a resident and not as the mayor.

Kristen Vargo addressed Council on behalf of the mayor stating that any who oppose the mayor and believe he or she could do better could run for mayor and step up to serve this community. She urged protesters to let the past be the past and to move forward.

Councilperson's Remarks:

Denton Zeronas asked that people remember that at the time the assumption, without hindsight, was that the chalk needed to be removed. Looking back now, he said, it may have gone differently.

Alex Tuten reported that she heard positive things about Sunday's protest. She is happy that they continue to protest and hope they continue to do so peacefully.

Jeff Campbell reported that he was present on Sunday for a time and what he witnessed was calm and appropriate.

Adjournment:

With nothing further on the agenda to discuss, President Campbell asked for a motion to adjourn. Ron Steele made the motion and Denton Zeronas provided the second. The motion passed unanimously at 8:23 pm.