



Slippery Rock Borough Council Meeting

Slippery Rock Borough building 306 E Water Street Slippery Rock, PA 16057
Tuesday October 11, 2022 from 7:00 pm to

Jeff Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Mayor Longo led 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, Solicitor Rebecca Black, Mayor Jondavid Longo, Borough Manager Shawn Pugh. Council member Alex Tuten was not in attendance.

Guest:

Ben Levenger: (See Attached) Ben Levenger from Downtown Redevelopment Services was in attendance. He addressed Council showcasing the services he offers and what grants are currently available. Approval of Hiring Ben Levenger will be placed on next week's agenda for vote.

Outside Entity Reports:

Slippery Rock University: (See Attached) Justin Zackal gave an update for the University for the month of September as well as upcoming events.

Slippery Rock Community Library: The library will host a spaghetti dinner on November 5, 2022 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Slippery Rock Township building.

Slippery Rock Municipal Authority: None

Slippery Rock Volunteer Fire Company & Rescue Team: (See Attached) Kurt Reasner gave an update for the month of September.

Mayor's Comments: The mayor gave an update on public safety and economic development.

Citizen Input for Agenda Items Only:

Patricia Redshaw (See Attached) Patricia addressed Council in favor of keeping the passive park a natural space. She stated many living in area have flooding issues. She believes this is due to the land being stripped and developed. She spoke in support of the recommendation of the Audubon Society to allow it to remain a natural area.

Gizella Goya (See Attached) Gizella presented Council with a report from the Audubon Society highlighting native and invasive plants and the benefits of keeping the passive park a natural area.

Larry Neidig addressed Council in favor of maintaining the passive park by way of brush hogging, mowing, and planting select trees.

Rebecca Lubold (See Attached) addressed Council in favor of keeping the Passive Park a natural area. She asked that Council find a middle ground and allow for the co-existence of many approaches while making decisions regarding the property.

Mike Pavelek addressed Council in favor of maintaining the passive park. He stated that he purchased his home with the understanding that it was a premier housing development. He would like the lot to be maintained and aesthetically pleasing.

Allan Maust spoke in favor of cleaning up and maintaining the passive park. He stated that volunteers had removed dead trees and marked trees that have dead elements.

Police Report: (See Attached)

Committee Updates:

Personnel: Shawn Pugh reported that the contracts have been reviewed by the Borough Solicitor and the Council president. The contracts will now be given to the personnel committee for review.

Finance/Budget: Jeff Campbell requested a financial report to prepare for the 2023 budget.

Streets: Ron Steele reported streets have been paved. He stated that storm water problems are occurring more and more and due to that, infrastructure will be a high priority for the Borough.

Facilities/Properties: Jeff Campbell reported that Council is looking into options for roofing materials for the Borough building.

Public Safety: Jondavid Longo reported that on Thursday November 6, 2022, he swore in a 4th part time officer. Shawn Pugh stated that the PCCED grant for body cameras, dash cameras and license plate readers for the police department has been submitted.

Economic Development: Jondavid Longo reported that the deposit for the Grand Ole Flag project will be submitted soon thanks to generous donors. He reported that a \$1200 profit was made by the park from the Oktoberfest celebration. Lastly, he stated that the Business and Economic Development department at SRU has requested that the Junior Academy of Science move their state competition to SRU. This event could bring over 3,000 students, faculty and parents to Slippery Rock and could economically impact the Borough positively.

Intergovernmental Relations: None

Park: Denton Zeronas reported a \$46,000 increase in program revenue due to the success of the park's children's programs. The yearend budget is finalized. The park is looking at replacing signs with electronic signs. Finally, he reported that the park is considering adding a beginner's level disc golf course. It would be the only one of its kind in the area.

Zoning: None

Planning: None

Civil Service : None

Comprehensive Plan : None

Borough Updates:

PCCD Grant: Christian Laskey reported that the PCCD grant was submitted on 10-6-2022.

410 Elm Street Storm Water Erosion Control: Christian Laskey reported that Gateway Engineers have been out to inspect the issue. They advised that the Borough extend existing infrastructure and redirect flow to eliminate the erosion issue. Peoples Natural Gas will be working jointly to back fill around the new pipe and the existing exposed gas line. Work should start next week.

Leaf Pickup: (See Attached) The Borough will be collecting leaves November 1, 2022 through November 18, 2022.

Light Poles: Christian Laskey reported that on 10-7-2022 Gateway Engineers and SR Borough employees inspected every light pole in town. Although the official report has not been received, it is estimated that 4-5 poles need to be removed.

Solicitor's Report: None

Discussion Items:

Poplar Forest Passive Park: There was a discussion regarding the passive park. Solicitor Black completed the hold harmless agreements. Volunteers who have signed the agreement are not to perform any activity on the passive park lot without direction from the Borough. Council organized a committee to decide what needs to be done with the passive park. Royce Lorentz and Ron Steele will form the committee and will look at the land this week. They will bring their recommendation to Council. Residents of the Borough were encouraged to participate. The committee's recommendation is moved to next week's agenda for vote.

New Business:

*Denton Zeronas made the motion to approve the September 6, 2022 meeting minutes. Ron Steele provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Denton Zeronas made the motion to approve the September 13, 2022 meeting minutes. Lauren Christmann provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Ron Steele made the motion to appoint Alex Tuten to the Park and Recreation Board Through 2023. Royce Lorentz provided the second. The motion passed following a roll call vote with Denton Zeronas being the only abstaining vote.

*John Hicks made the motion for the Approval of the 2023 Park and Recreation Budget. Lauren Christmann provided the second. The motion passed following a roll call vote with Denton Zeronas being the only abstaining vote.

Citizen Input:

Gizella Goya invited anyone who is interested to go to the passive park with her to see where the American Elm and Ash trees are located.

Councilperson's Remarks:

Ron Steele asked about the Borough Manager interviews. The second round will occur Wednesday October 12, 2022. If the hiring committee chooses a candidate, his name will be presented to Council and a vote to hire that candidate will occur at the next meeting on Tuesday October 18, 2022.

Adjournment:

With nothing further on the agenda to discuss, Jeff Campbell asked for a motion to adjourn. Denton Zeronas made the motion and Royce Lorentz provided the second. The motion passed unanimously at 8:42 pm.