

Slippery Rock Borough Council Meeting

306 E Water Street Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Tuesday May 16, 2023, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

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

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

Christian Laskey Performed the Roll Call. Those Present: Jeff Campbell, Denton Zeronas, Lauren Christmann, John Hicks, Royce Lorentz, Ron Steele, Alex Tuten, Solicitor Rebecca Black, Mayor Jondavid Longo, Borough Manager Christian Laskey

Public Recording Announcement:

*Borough resident Mike Pavelek announced that he was recording the meeting.

*Slippery Rock University student, Layla Joseph announced that she was recording the meeting.

Outside Entity Reports:

Slippery Rock University: (See Attached) Justin Zackal gave an update for the University.

Slippery Rock Community Library: None

Slippery Rock Municipal Authority: Christian Laskey gave an update for the Municipal Authority. The MA repaired a water leak on South Main Street this week. The board for the MA is seeking to build a maintenance garage of their own. They currently rent the Borough's maintenance garage.

Slippery Rock Volunteer Fire Company & Rescue Team: Ron Steele reported that the firehall purchased a pickup truck from Butler Township to be used as a secondary vehicle.

Slippery Rock Student Government Association: None

Mayor's Comments: Mayor Longo reported that the Veteran's Banners are being hung this week. He stated that a Memorial Day service will be held on May 29, 2023, at 10:00 am at the Slippery Rock Cemetery for all that are interested in attending. He reported fielding many questions regarding bulk pick up day in the Borough and reminded residents that bulk pick up day is every Tuesday in the month of May. Lastly, he reported that many dead or blighted trees were taken down in the park. John and Janet Stalneckner have offered to donate maple trees to replace those that had to be removed.

Citizen Input for Agenda Items Only: None

Police Report: (See Attached) Mayor Longo gave a report for the police department for the month of April.

Committee Updates:

Personnel: None

Finance/Budget: None

Streets: Ron Steele reported that the Borough Street Department are crack sealing designated streets in need of repair in the Borough.

Facilities/Properties: None

Public Safety: Mayor Longo voiced his support for the lowering of the speed limit to 25 miles per hour on West Water Street. He added that he and the Chief of Police are discussing placing a speed reader on PA108.

Economic Development: Mayor Longo reported that letters were written and submitted by Borough business owners in support of the Open Container Amendment.

Intergovernmental Relations: Mayor Longo announced that the Slippery Rock Wolf Creek COG meeting will be held on Wednesday May 17, 2023.

Park: Denton Zeronas reported that the park is expecting an estimate for the repair of the Baseball Concession Stand roof. He also stated that Council will vote on Resolution 467, the DCED grant that will aid in repairing the entrance to Boller Drive and the park parking lot.

Zoning: None

Planning: None

Civil Service: None

Comprehensive Plan: None

Borough Updates: None

Solicitor's Report: None

Discussion Items:

Closure of School Drive: There was a discussion regarding the closure of School Drive during the First Friday Night's Markets. Council agreed with the closure baring proper signage.

Height restrictions in the Overlay District: There was a discussion regarding the height restrictions in the Overlay District. All but Ron Steele were in favor of the amendment, raising the height restrictions from 3 stories to not exceeding 80 feet.

New Business:

*John Hicks made the motion to approve the April 4, 2023, meeting minutes. Ron Steele provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Royce Lorentz made the motion to approve the April 18, 2023, meeting minutes. John Hicks provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Denton Zeronas made the motion to approve the closure of School Drive during the First Friday Night's Market events. John Hicks provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Denton Zeronas made the motion to approve the Independence Day Celebration Gateway Parking Lot closure from 11:00 pm on Friday June 30, 2023, to 12:00 pm on Sunday July 2, 2023. Royce Lorentz provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Alex Tuten made the motion to approve the Vacant Lot Line Revision. The revision is for the former FNB lot located at the intersection of South Main and New Castle Streets. John Hicks provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Royce Lorentz made the motion to move forward with the sale of the Vacant Lot and to authorize the Borough Manager to obtain an updated appraisal of the property. Denton Zeronas provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Alex Tuten made the motion to approve the Veterans Banner expansion in the Borough. Lauren Christmann provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*John Hicks made the motion to advertise the Amendment to Chapter 98, Alcoholic Beverages. Denton Zeronas provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Alex Tuten made the motion to advertise the Amendment to Chapter 375-63, Site Regulations. This amendment states that building heights in the Overlay District are not to exceed 80 feet. Royce Lorentz provided the second. The motion passed following a roll call vote with Ron Steele being the only dissenting vote.

*Ron Steele made the motion to approve the 2023 Tar and Chipping bid award to Youngblood Paving for \$65,215.05. John Hicks provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Ron Steele made the motion to approve the 2023 Paving bid award to Sonntag Excavating & Paving for \$32,065.00. Royce Lorentz provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

*Ron Steele made the motion to adopt Resolution 467 for the DCED Grant. Alex Tuten provided the second. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

Citizen Input:

Mike Pavelek: (See Attached) Mr. Pavelek distributed a handout citing remaining hazards that remain on the Passive Park property.

Layla Joseph: Ms. Joseph addressed Council urging them to bridge the gap between the Borough and The University. She asked that Council be more patient and respectful when dealing with their constituents.

Chris Abbott: Mr. Abbott addressed the height restrictions in the Overlay District and stated that the old Marathon lot across from the vacant lot might be a better place to build a multistory building. He added that building out through the Township would be something Council should consider as well.

Councilperson's Remarks:

Royce Lorentz remarked that he would like to see the agenda describe the motions in more detail. Solicitor Black described the agenda as a fluent roadmap where wording can be changed. The approved meeting minutes will reflect the proper wording of the motions in depth.

Alex Tuten addressed Layla Joseph's concerns first thanking her for her interest and involvement and her hope that more people get involved proactively with their local government. She added that Council members put themselves out and work hard for little compensation and may appear frustrated at times with those who only show up to complain that Council is not doing their job.

Adjournment:

With nothing further on the agenda to discuss, Jeff Campbell asked for a motion to adjourn. Lauren Christmann made the motion and John Hicks provided the second. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.