

SHARON CITY COUNCIL

Purpose: Special Council Meeting
Date: Monday, December 28, 2009
Time: 3:00 P.M.
Location: Sharon Municipal Building Council Chambers

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL – PRESENT:

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

Council:

President Donato
Mr. Flower
Mr. Connelly

Mr. Heutsche
Mr. Messina

Attorney Madden - City Solicitor
City Manager Tom Lavorini
Sharronda Faber – City Clerk

News Media:
Courtney Anderson – The Herald

Dept. Heads:

Michael J. Menster - Chief of Police
Diane Thut - Treasurer
Joseph Fragle - Community Development

Also Present:

Ed Palanski
Robert Wilson
Ron Maurice
William McConnell Jr.

LEGAL NOTICE – Read by City Clerk: *The City of Sharon will hold a special Council Meeting on Monday, December 28, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Sharon Municipal Building, 155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA, to consider Ordinances related to budget adoption and the financing thereof, and any other business that may come before it.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

ORDINANCES

MOTION that Ordinance #20-09 entitled “An ORDINANCE of the City of Sharon establishing and designating the authorized personnel for each of the six (6) administrative codes for 2010” **pass**
FINAL reading by title.

Motion: Mr. Connelly

Second: Mr. Flower

Vote: Yes - Mr. Flower
Yes - Mr. Heutsche
Yes - Mr. Messina

Yes - Mr. Connelly
Yes - Mr. Donato

MOTION that Ordinance #21-09 entitled "An ORDINANCE of the City of Sharon appropriating specific sums estimated to be required for the specific purposes of City Government during the fiscal year 2010 in the amount of \$8,224,539" **pass FINAL reading by title.**

Motion: Mr. Flower

Second: Mr. Messina

Vote: Yes - Mr. Connelly

Yes - Mr. Messina

Yes - Mr. Flower

Yes - Mr. Donato

Yes - Mr. Heutsche

ORDINANCE #23-09 REMOVED FROM AGENDA

MOTION that Ordinance #24-09 entitled "An ORDINANCE of the Council of the City of Sharon, County of Mercer, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, continuing in 2010 the tax rate on earned income of both resident and non resident taxpayers and requiring the filing of quarterly returns and payment of estimated taxes in certain instances in addition to those already required" **pass FIRST reading by title.**

Motion: Mr. Connelly

Second: Mr. Flower

Vote: Yes - Mr. Heutsche

Yes - Mr. Flower

Yes - Mr. Messina

Yes - Mr. Donato

Yes - Mr. Connelly

COMMENTS:

Mr. Donato quoted the Mayor and City Manager in stating that budgeting is not an exact science. He advised that City Council was originally not going to pass the budget until January 2010, but at the request of the City Manager, they will reconsider passing it before the end of the year. He advised that the budget has not changed from the last proposal by the Mayor, and that they may pass it with reservations. However, he advised that it gives parameters to the City Manager to spend money - he can spend less he just can't spend more. He advised that they came up with several options to decrease expenditures to consider: 1) Utilize Act 44 (amount paid into pension plans); 2) Decrease arbitration line item; 3) Eliminate the 3.75% pay increase for non-union employees; 4) Ask for increase health insurance co-pays from non-union employees; 5) Switch to a 4-day work week for public works and non-union employees; 6) Decrease the number of employees.

NEWS MEDIA:

Courtney Anderson - The Herald - Inquired if the millage is the same. Mr. Donato advised that the millage remains at 26.51 mills. Ms. Anderson inquired about the Council's concerns over the EIT money coming in lower than anticipated in 2009, and asked if the proposed Ordinance to collect it quarterly will help. Mr. Donato advised that it was advocated by Centax, and that it will give a better read on taxes. He advised that it is only for those who are self-employed and those not having the EIT tax taken from their pay. Ms. Anderson sought clarification about the passed budget being different from the proposed budget. Mr. Donato advised that City Council is leaving it to the City Manager to take the reigns. Ms. Anderson inquired if the 2009 TAN note was paid. Mr. Donato advised that it was paid on this date. Ms. Anderson inquired about the rollover of bills. Mr. Donato deferred to the City Manager, who advised that he does not have the exact amount. She asked about cuts to the complement. Mr. Donato advised that the proposed 1.5 job cuts were left in the budget as presented by the Mayor.

CITIZENS:

Kurt Toth - Inquired about what departments the bills are being rolled over from. Mr. Donato advised that he would have to check with the bookkeeper. Mr. Heutsche advised that the City continues receiving bills through the end of the year and that the number will change daily.

MR. FLOWER:

None

MR. CONNELLY:

None

MR. HEUSCHKE:

Stated that he voted for the budget with some reluctance, but that he has confidence in the City Manager to implement cost-cutting measures.

MR. MESSINA:

None

MR. DONATO:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 3:14 P.M.

Motion: Mr. Flower

Second: Mr. Heutsche

Vote: Yes - Mr. Flower
Yes - Mr. Connelly
Yes - Mr. Messina

Yes - Mr. Heutsche
Yes - Mr. Donato



Council President

Attest:



City Clerk