BUREAU OF COUNCIL
Molly Bundrant, President
Carl Sizer, Vice President
William James
David Koerth
Taylor Galaska



Robert Fiscus, City Manager William J. Madden, City Solicitor Daphne Parrish, City Clerk

SHARON CITY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers Wednesday, June 7, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AT <u>6:56</u> PM PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE ROLL CALL

Council:

✓ President Bundrant✓ Mr. Koerth✓ Mr. Sizer✓ Mr. Galaska

✓ Mr. James

✓ Robert Fiscus, City ManagerNews Media:✓ Attorney Madden, City Solicitor✓ The Herald

✓ Daphne Parrish, City Clerk

Department Heads:

✓ Jason Tomko, Finance Director (Jessica Flynn, Assistant Finance Director)

Edward Stabile, Chief of Police

✓ David Tomko, Director of Code Enforcement

Mark Settle, Public Works Director

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

No comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS

Dave McLaren, 1113 Haig Street; Mr. McLaren asked about Resolution #45-23, application for an ARLE Grant; he asked what the money would be used for, if \$250,000 is awarded. Mr. Fiscus said depending on the amount awarded, the grant will be used for youth recreation in the West Hill area near the school and HopeCAT.

ORDINANCES

<u>MOTION</u> that Ordinance #05-23 entitled "An ORDINANCE of the Council of the City of Sharon, County of Mercer, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Codified Ordinances of the City of Sharon, Part Four, "Traffic Code", Title Eight, "Parking", Chapter 480, "Parking Generally", to add thereto Section .18 to prohibit parking of RVs, campers, utility trailers, and boats on highways, streets or alleys within the corporate limits of the City between the hours of 6:00 PM and 6:00 AM" **Pass FIRST reading by title.**

Motion: Mr. James

Vote: YES Mr. Galaska

Second: Mr. Koerth
YES Mr. Sizer

YES Mr. James YES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. Koerth

RESOLUTIONS

<u>MOTION</u> that Resolution #42-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the proper City Officials to approve Change Order #1 to the Huntington Bank Building Demolition Project with Sereday Trucking, Inc., for additional asbestos removal from floor tile in the building; total net increase to the contract not to exceed \$26,000" <u>be adopted</u>.

Motion:Mr. KoerthSecond:Mr. SizerVote:YES Mr. SizerYES Mr. KoerthYES Mr. GalaskaYES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. James

<u>MOTION</u> that Resolution #43-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the designation of the City Manager and Finance Director as the authorized signers for the Sharon Police and Firefighters Investment Advisory Agreement accounts with U.S. Asset Management LLC" **be adopted.**

Motion:Mr. JamesSecond:Mr. SizerVote:YES Mr. KoerthYES Mr. JamesYES Mr. SizerYES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. Galaska

<u>MOTION</u> that Resolution #44-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, accepting the proposal for consulting services from Mackin Engineers & Consultants for the City of Sharon Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance Update; amount not to exceed \$74,854" be adopted.

**Mr. Sizer asked if any of this project will be funded by grants for which we previously applied. Mr. Fiscus said no.

Motion:Mr. SizerSecond:Mr. JamesVote:YES Mr. JamesYES Mr. GalaskaYES Mr. KoerthYES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. Sizer

<u>MOTION</u> that Resolution #45-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the City Manager to submit an application for the Automated Red Light Enforcement Transportation Enhancement Grant" <u>be adopted</u>.

Motion:Mr. JamesSecond:Mr. KoerthVote:YES Mr. GalaskaYES Mr. SizerYES Mr. JamesYES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. Koerth

<u>MOTION</u> that Resolution #46-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, awarding the Morrison Street Improvement Roadway Replacement bid to Combine Construction, Inc.; amount of contract not to exceed \$227,197.52" <u>be adopted</u>.

Motion:Mr. KoerthSecond:Mr. JamesVote:YES Mr. SizerYES Mr. KoerthYES Mr. GalaskaYES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. James

MOTION that Resolution #47-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, awarding the Demolition and Clearance Project 23-02 bid to Sereday Trucking, Inc.; amount not to exceed \$118,000" **be adopted.**

Motion:Mr. KoerthSecond:Mr. SizerVote:YES Mr. KoerthYES Mr. JamesYES Mr. SizerYES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. Galaska

<u>MOTION</u> that Resolution #48-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the proper city officials to apply for a Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program Grant; amount not to exceed \$250,000" <u>be adopted</u>.

Motion:Mr. JamesSecond:Mr. KoerthVote:YES Mr. JamesYES Mr. GalaskaYES Mr. KoerthYES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. Sizer

<u>MOTION</u> that Resolution #49-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the proper city officials to approve an addendum to the School Resource Officer Agreement dated January 27, 2023" be adopted. THIS RESOLUTION WAS TABLED.

<u>MOTION</u> that Resolution #50-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, authorizing utilizing American Rescue Plan Act Funds to award Sharon Revitalization and Investment Grants to three (3) applicants; total amount of awards not to exceed \$75,000" <u>be adopted</u>.

Motion: Mr. James

Vote: Mr. Sizer - ABSTAINED

Second: Mr. Koerth

YES Mr. Koerth

YES Mr. Galaska YES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. James

CONSENT AGENDA

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE CONSIDERED BY CITY COUNCIL TO BE ROUTINE CITY BUSINESS AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION AND ONE ROLL CALL VOTE. ANY COUNCIL MEMBER, CITY OFFICIAL OR CITIZEN WISHING CLARIFICATION OF AN ITEM MAY ASK A QUESTION BY RAISING THEIR HAND AND IDENTIFYING THE ITEM BEFORE ADOPTION OF THE ITEM.

<u>MOTION</u> that Resolution #51-23 entitled "A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, County of Mercer, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing, in accordance with Section 915 of the Home Rule Charter, The City Manager and Financial Officer to pay bills on attached Schedule "A" <u>be adopted</u>.

MOTION approving minutes from the May 17, 2023, Council Meeting be adopted.

Motion:Mr. KoerthSecond:Mr. SizerVote:YES Mr. KoerthYES Mr. JamesYES Mr. SizerYES Mrs. Bundrant

YES Mr. Galaska

COMMENTS:

CITY MANAGER: Mr. Fiscus said he is looking forward to starting the process of developing a Comprehensive Plan having a roadmap to make sure the actions he recommends and those taken by Council are consistent with what the citizens want, and what the plan would read. Also, the Zoning Update is an important part of it. He also looks forward to the new businesses and business expansions coming to Sharon and the continued transformation.

NEWS MEDIA: None.

MR. JAMES: None.

MR. SIZER: Mr. Sizer asked if a separate committee will be appointed to steer the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Kepple said the executive team will appoint the steering committee. Mrs. Bundrant said there will be a lot of community input and the consultant will drive that.

MR. KOERTH: None.

MR. GALASKA: None.

MRS. BUNDRANT: Mrs. Bundrant echoed Mr. Fiscus' comments.

CITIZENS:

Roland Curry, 492 South Oakland Avenue. Mr. Curry listed several houses near him that received a demolition notice. He asked if the City has title to these properties and the right to destroy; nobody goes inside the homes to check the condition. In Peoria, Illinois they are successfully selling homes on the internet. Mr. Fiscus said there is a lengthy process that the Community Development and Code Departments partner in to evaluate the houses for demolition. The City does not take ownership of the house but does advertise and send notices to all invested parties of the property notifying them the house is scheduled for demolition. Notices are posted on houses as an early step in the demolition process. This gives the owner the opportunity to come forward and enter into a plan to make repairs to the house and bring it up to code. Mr. Curry asked what happens if the owner is on vacation or in a nursing home and has no idea this is happening to the house. Mr. Fiscus said the expectation is if you own property in the City, you will maintain it and take care of it. If the property is left abandoned to decay, there is the risk it will be torn down. Mrs. Bundrant said every attempt is made to contact the rightful owner of the property and the process allows plenty of time to make a plan or find someone to take care of the property. She said the City has begun talking with a group from Pittsburgh that works with the community to find properties and fix them up and sell them at an affordable price to someone who will take care of the property. The company would provide the banking system associated with the program. Ms. Kepple gave details on the demolition process: It is advertised three times in the newspaper; a letter is sent certified, first class, and is also posted on the house; the City diligently researches where the owners are. She explained the differences between demolition, condemnation, and raze, remove and repair.

James Epstein, 1339 Kimberly Road; Mr. Epstein said there are two notices of violation posted on the Shenango Inn, as well as an imminent danger letter. He thanked Bob Fiscus and Dave Tomko for following up with the owners when the zoning ordinance was changed and is looking forward to future enforcement actions. Mr. Epstein thanked Chief Stabile for having patrolman check the property daily. He is concerned the property is not posted against trespassing; nor is the property blocked in any way. There are kids walking up and down the drive and, as noted on the citation, broken glass is around. With bicyclists and pedestrians walking there, the imminent danger is real.

Mr. Epstein suggested/requested the City post annually on the website a summary of what each department does, such as how many structure fires there were, number of building inspections, etc. Mrs. Bundrant said there were reports presented at meetings earlier this year from the department heads. Mr. Fiscus agreed this is a good idea. Mr. Sizer said the reports were prepared by each department head and are part of the minutes, but not separately posted on the website.

Herman Griffith, 1082 Woodland Place; Mr. Griffith said there was an incident on Memorial Day near St. Peter & Paul Church; a resident there set a toilet out on the side and put garbage out on Stambaugh Avenue. Kids broke the tank off of the toilet out on the street, leaving porcelain all over the road. The police swept the broken porcelain off to the side of the road; the rest of the toilet needs to be taken out to where the garbage is collected.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM