

**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, August 2, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER AT 6:45 PM**  
**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
**ROLL CALL**

**Council:**

President Bundrant  
 Mr. Sizer  
 Mr. James

Mr. Koerth  
 Mr. Galaska

Robert Fiscus, City Manager  
 Attorney Madden, City Solicitor  
 Daphne Parrish, City Clerk

**News Media:**  
 The Herald

**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**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS**

Dave McLaren, 1113 Haig Street; Mr. McLaren asked for more information on proposed Ordinance #06-23. Mr. Fiscus said new legislation passed since last year's update is now included in the updated Codified Ordinances. The online version is also updated.

Mr. McLaren asked about the part-time new hire that was reported on at the Workshop Meeting. Mr. Fiscus said a part-time employee was hired in the Street Department as a CDL Driver.

Mr. McLaren said the new signs look nice when entering Sharon from Ohio, but a bush is obstructing the view of the second SHARON sign.

**ORDINANCES**

**MOTION** that Ordinance #06-23 entitled "An ORDINANCE of the Council of the City of Sharon, County of Mercer, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving the editing and inclusion of certain Ordinances as parts of the various component codes of the Codified Ordinances, providing for the adoption and publication of new matter in the updated and revised Codified Ordinances" **Pass FIRST reading by title.**

**Motion:** Mr. James  
**Vote:** YES Mr. Koerth  
YES Mr. Sizer  
YES Mr. Galaska

**Second:** Mr. Sizer  
YES Mr. James  
YES Mrs. Bundrant

**MOTION** that Ordinance #07-23 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 Two, “Administration Code”, Title Two, “General Provisions”, Chapter 209, “General Fee Schedule”, Section .04, “Schedule” to change the fee for certain enumerated services or materials supplied” **Pass FIRST reading by title.**

**Motion:** Mr. Sizer

**Vote:** YES Mr. James

YES Mr. Koerth

YES Mr. Sizer

**Second:** Mr. Koerth

YES Mr. Galaska

YES Mrs. Bundrant

## RESOLUTIONS

**MOTION** that Resolution #56-23 entitled “A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, adopting the Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Sharon and the Rose of Sharon Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police” **be adopted.**

**Motion:** Mr. Koerth

**Vote:** YES Mr. Galaska

YES Mr. James

YES Mr. Koerth

**Second:** Mr. Sizer

YES Mr. Sizer

YES Mrs. Bundrant

## 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.*

**MOTION** that Resolution #57-23 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” **be adopted.**

**MOTION** approving minutes from the July 5, 2023, Council Meeting **be adopted.**

**MOTION** that Resolution #58-23 entitled “A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, authorizing appointments for certain Committees, Boards and Commissions” **be adopted.**

- Shenango Valley Enterprise Zone Corporation
  - Molly Bundrant (4-year reappointment)

**Motion:** Mr. James

**Vote:** YES Mr. Sizer

YES Mr. Galaska

YES Mr. James

**Second:** Mr. Sizer

YES Mr. Koerth

YES Mrs. Bundrant

### **COMMENTS:**

**CITY MANAGER:** No comments.

**NEWS MEDIA:** No comments.

**MR. JAMES:** Mr. James provided Mr. Fiscus with some locations in need of mowing. Mr. James complimented the Street Department on the crack sealing project that is currently underway.

**MR. SIZER:** Mr. Sizer asked if this is the first time the Street Department has taken on a crack sealing project. Mr. Fiscus said yes. and this project has been a learning process for the Department. Mark Settle has experience with crack sealing from previous employment. There was no cost to use the equipment with the purchase of the materials. The City has been aggressive in the past with paving streets but had no plan in place for maintenance. Mr. James agreed that money will be saved in the long run. Mr. Sizer thanked the Street Department for stepping up their game.

**MR. KOERTH:** Mr. Koerth asked for an update on the Shenango Inn. Mr. Fiscus said there has been some landscaping clean-up of the property. The clean-up is to be done in three phases as agreed upon between the owner and the contractor and each phase will take place as the contractor receives payment from the owner. There is a notice posted on the property for delinquent taxes. The City has researched to see if other encumbrances exist on the property and there have been conversations with the lender, Marty Goldin.

**MR. GALASKA:** No comments.

**MRS. BUNDRANT:** No comments.

**CITIZENS:**

Ben Griffin 528 Dwyer Way; Mr. Griffin asked who is doing the demolition projects on West Hill. Mr. Fiscus said it is Siegal Excavating. Mr. Griffin said they are doing a terrible job and cited the property located at the corner of Columbia and Hazen. Mr. Fiscus said that demolition was not a city sponsored project. Mr. Griffin said boulders and rocks are left behind and asked how the property will be mowed. He said the property on Nimick was left the same way. Mr. Fiscus said as part of the contract, a RockHound is utilized to remove rocks and sift the property. These demolition projects are overseen by City staff to make sure the contracts are fulfilled. Mr. Griffin commented that Sereday has done a great job with their projects.

Mr. Griffin asked if anybody is keeping tabs with what is happening at the new Dollar General store. Mr. Fiscus said the City's third-party inspector and Fire Inspector remain up to date with the project.

Debby Pickens, 629 Sherman Avenue; Ms. Pickens asked if a hearing has been rescheduled for Terry Whalen's case. Mr. Fiscus said there is a tentative date of August 22, 2023. Ms. Pickens talked about various problems involving properties owned by Terry Whalen and Jarrett Whalen. One of Jarrett Whalen's tenants has a leaking roof. Mr. Whalen owns 170 properties and employs only three people. One of Terry Whalen's houses house has a blue tarp on it. The house on the corner of Budd Street and Oakland Avenue is owned by Jarrett Whalen and is boarded up but has FOR RENT signs up. Mr. Fiscus said there are things the City can do; however, there are some staffing shortages and jobs posted; one vacancy is for an individual to manage the list of 2,500 rental properties.

Ms. Pickens named two places where foliage is overgrown, creating visibility issues: Turning onto the Shenango Valley Freeway next to the former Hanson Meats location; another is the FNB parking lot on South Water Avenue.

Mary McCall, 810 Irvine Avenue; Ms. McCall asked if the Revitalization and Investment Grants are approved in an open forum and the amount of funds still available in this program. Mr. Sizer said the grants are approved by Council at regular monthly meetings. Mr. Fiscus said he did not have the exact dollar amount remaining available, but there is little left to be awarded. Ms. McCall asked how to obtain an application. Mr. Fiscus asked her to see him after the meeting. There are still applications to be reviewed that were received prior to the April 2022 deadline, as well as applications received after the deadline. Discussion took place regarding reopening the application period in order to make the grants available to anyone interested who did not apply prior to the April 2022 deadline. Mr. Fiscus said the goal is to award the remaining funds to applicants making a transformational change to the City.

Herman Griffin, 1082 Woodland Place; Mr. Griffin asked about the houses that are being torn down, can any of these houses be fixed up? We are reducing the number of houses on the City's tax rolls. Mr. Fiscus said of all the houses being demolished taxes were not being paid as far back as 2008. The houses are abandoned, vacant and generate no tax revenue. The City has not raised taxes for 12-13 years. Mrs. Bundrant suggested he contact the County regarding land bank authority.

Mr. Griffin asked if it would be feasible to put speed cameras on East State Street in the School Zone. Mr. Fiscus said he would be in favor of cameras if we had the funding mechanism, and if cameras would be permitted. He said there recently has been a large state police presence in this area.

Dave McLaren, 1113 Haig Street; Mr. McLaren asked if there will be two Council Meetings next month. Mrs. Bundrant said yes; one meeting per month was for the summer months only.

Mr. McLaren asked who owns the lots after they are cleared following demolition. Mr. Fiscus said if there is value to the property, Lots to Love may purchase, if it is eligible to become a side lot. Lots are purchased at private sale and ownership is transferred to the Redevelopment Authority until it is ready to be transferred to the new owner. The Lots to Love Program has so far placed eight to ten properties back onto the tax rolls.

<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>
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**Meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM**