

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, September 20, 2023, at 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL

Council:

President Bundrant
 Mr. Sizer - Excused
 Mr. James - Excused

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
 Edward Stabile, Chief of Police
 David Tomko, Director of Code Enforcement
 Mark Settle, Public Works Director

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Mr. Fiscus said Resolution #62-23 will be removed from the agenda as the City and AFSCME were unable to reach an agreement regarding the terms of the MOU.
- At the September Workshop, Mr. Fiscus said there may be grant recommendations at this evening's meeting. There will be no recommendations this evening as the team is conducting its diligence by looking back at previous successes and researching to make sure the money is going to the right places to create transformational changes. There are ongoing meetings, and Mr. Fiscus hopes to have recommendations at the October Workshop.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS

- David McLaren, 1113 Haig Street; Mr. McLaren asked about Resolution #71-23; this change order provides three (3) catch basins. He said one is to be located at the corner of Prindle and New Castle, one on the southwest corner of McClure; he asked where the third will be located. Mr. Fiscus did not have information on the specific locations but said these catch basins are part of the Morrison Street improvement project which includes ADA accessibility and curb ramps. In this case, the catch basins interfered with the curb ramps and were replaced. Mr. McLaren asked if Mr. Fiscus could find out the exact locations.
- Mr. McLaren said at the last meeting the City discussed purchasing properties on Orchard Street and Russell Street; he asked what the plans for those properties are. Mr. Fiscus said the City is not purchasing the two properties; the City is the current owner and when ownership was transferred in approximately 1999 and 2000, there were delinquent taxes on the parcels that were never cleared. These delinquent taxes have ramifications when the City goes to purchase properties at the County-level, plus it is embarrassing that the City has delinquent taxes. There are no additional plans for the parcels, and he would love to partner with Lots to Love for the properties to either be adopted or purchased. Resolution #67-23 will clear the delinquent taxes.
- Mr. McLaren asked about Resolution #74-23 regarding the event on September 30th. He asked the cost to the City for this event. Mr. Fiscus said there are no initial up-front costs, but there will likely be some incidentals for the cost of extra police protection, the erection of road closures and barricades, and assistance with health and sanitation. The event is a collaborative effort, and these expenses will be the City's contribution. Food and beverages will be sold on the premises from vendors including West Side Beverage, Croakers, Nova, and the Sharon Hot Dog Shoppe.

- Mr. McLaren asked about Resolution #65-23 and the cost of the SRO Agreement. Mr. McLaren asked if the School Board or the City pay the costs. Mr. Fiscus said the cost of the SRO's comes from the police budget but there is an offsetting revenue from the School. In most cases the split is approximately 70/30 but the City is flexible and will provide officers, if available, for summer school.
- Mr. McLaren asked if the posted draft of the minutes from the August 2, 2023, Council Meeting are different from the draft minutes submitted to Council for approval. Mrs. Parrish said they are identical. He said the draft copy does not include the resolution to pay the bills or approving minutes from the previous meeting. Mrs. Parrish said she would review the August 2, 2023, minutes.
- Bob Means, 334 Forker Boulevard; Mr. Means said he was not present at the meeting when the Zoning Board fee increase was discussed. He haphazardly agreed with Jason Tomko to increase the fee to \$500 but has reconsidered the amount as he feels it may be too high for people to afford. He asked if Council knew the expenses incurred for hearings. Mr. Fiscus said Jason Tomko analyzed the fees and shared the information with Mr. Means and the fee would be revenue neutral. Mr. Means said he believes \$400 would cover all the expenses on any hearing held and the Zoning Board's bank account has a good reserve to handle any upcoming hearings. Hearing expenses include newspaper advertising and a court reporter totaling approximately \$300-\$325. The rest of the money would be deposited in a checking account and sit there. Mrs. Bundrant said the City is not able to make money from it. Mr. Means said he is bringing this up because he believes we would make money on it. Mrs. Bundrant tabled the vote to allow Mr. Tomko and Mr. Means an opportunity for further discussion.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCES

Public Hearing for Ordinance #06-23, introduced August 2, 2023 – SECOND AND FINAL READING, approving editing of various Component Codes of the City's Codified Ordinances

~~**Public Hearing for Ordinance #07-23, introduced August 2, 2023 – SECOND AND FINAL READING**, amending the Codified Ordinances, Chapter 209, Section .04 Fee Schedule, to change the application fee from \$200 to \$500 for a hearing before the Zoning Hearing Board **This Ordinance was TABLED.**~~

No comments or questions.

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 FINAL reading by title.**

Motion: <u>Mr. Koerth</u>	Second: <u>Mr. Galaska</u>
Vote: <u>YES</u> Mr. Galaska	<u>Mr. Sizer - Excused</u>
<u>Mr. James - Excused</u>	<u>YES</u> Mrs. Bundrant
<u>YES</u> Mr. Koerth	

~~**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 application fee from \$200 to \$500 for a hearing before the Zoning Hearing Board” **Pass FINAL reading by title. This Ordinance was TABLED.**~~

MOTION that Ordinance #08-23 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”, Section .01, “No Parking Streets” to add thereto Flowers Avenue, east side, the entire distance, between Glenwood Drive and East State Street” **Pass FIRST reading by title.**

Motion: <u>Mr. Koerth</u>	Second: <u>Mr. Galaska</u>
Vote: <u>YES</u> Mr. Koerth	<u>Mr. James - Excused</u>
<u>Mr. Sizer - Excused</u>	<u>YES</u> Mrs. Bundrant
<u>YES</u> Mr. Galaska	

MOTION that Resolution #72-23 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 City of Sharon Demolition Project 23-01 with Combine Construction, Inc. for catch basin repair at Prindle Street and New Castle Avenue; total Change Order cost not to exceed \$4,900; offset by decrease in Contract #23-01 with Siegel Excavating, LLC, total net decrease not to exceed \$4,900” **be adopted.**

Motion: Mr. Koerth
Vote: Mr. James - Excused
YES Mr. Koerth
 Mr. Sizer - Excused

Second: Mr. Galaska
YES Mr. Galaska
YES Mrs. Bundrant

MOTION that Resolution #73-23 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 City of Sharon Demolition Project 23-03 with Combine Construction, Inc., for catch basin repair at the southwest corner of McClure Avenue and Leslie Street; total Change Order cost not to exceed \$3,800; offset by decrease in Contract #23-03 with Siegel Excavating, LLC; total net decrease not to exceed \$3,800” **be adopted.**

Motion: Mr. Koerth
Vote: YES Mr. Galaska
 Mr. James - Excused
YES Mr. Koerth

Second: Mr. Galaska
 Mr. Sizer - Excused
YES Mrs. Bundrant

MOTION that Resolution #74-23 entitled “A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, allowing alcoholic beverages on designated City property on Saturday, September 30, 2023, between the hours of 4:00 PM and 10:00 PM local time. The designated property being: Shenango Street from East State Street to Pitt Street, and west to the Shenango River, for the Rockin’ On the River Event” **be adopted.**

Motion: Mr. Koerth
Vote: Mr. Sizer - Excused
YES Mr. Galaska
 Mr. James - Excused

Second: Mr. Galaska
YES Mr. Koerth
YES Mrs. Bundrant

MOTION that Resolution #75-23 entitled “A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, setting the 2023 Halloween Trick or Treat Hours for Tuesday, October 31, 2023, from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM” **be adopted.**

Motion: Mr. Koerth
Vote: YES Mr. Koerth
 Mr. Sizer - Excused
YES Mr. Galaska

Second: Mr. Galaska
 Mr. James - Excused
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 #76-23 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 August 2, 2023, Council Meeting **be adopted.**

Motion: Mr. Koerth
Vote: Mr. James - Excused
YES Mr. Koerth
 Mr. Sizer - Excused

Second: Mr. Galaska
YES Mr. Galaska
YES Mrs. Bundrant

COMMENTS:

CITY MANAGER: No comments.

NEWS MEDIA: No comments.

MR. JAMES:

MR. SIZER:

MR. KOERTH: No comments.

MR. GALASKA: No comments.

MRS. BUNDRANT: No comments.

CITIZENS:

- Hirman Griffin, 1082 Woodland Place; Mr. Griffin said there are no handicapped accessible sidewalks at the Ballpark where the Carnival was held. Mrs. Bundrant said there is an inlet down by the driveway. Mr. Griffin asked if the City received funds to install handicapped sidewalks. Mr. Fiscus said the City did not receive funds for that project. Mr. Griffin thought the City was supposed to be handicapped accessible on all sidewalks, corners, etc. Mr. Fiscus said we strive to be, but not every corner in Sharon is handicapped accessible. ‘
- Mr. Griffin said the big dumpster located by the railroad tracks has an open door and stuff is blowing all over. Mr. Fiscus said the Street Department will handle it.
- Pat from the Sharon Elks Lodge asked for help in lowering the Club’s taxes and fixing their driveway. The two businesses located behind the Club use their driveway to access their properties and the entrance is in disrepair. The other businesses are unwilling to help with the cost of repairs. Mr. Fiscus said because this is private property it is a challenge for the City to assist. Pat asked if the City could provide cold patch and the Club members would do the labor. Regarding taxes, Mr. Fiscus said there is a county-wide property reassessment underway, which could potentially provide some relief.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM