

The Borough of Speers Council met on August 2, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Mr. Rice, Mr. McCorkle, Mr. Hepple, Mrs. Spina, Mr. Daylong, Mrs. Barcelona and Mayor Herd.

Absent was Mr. Todora.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as read; a motion to accept was made by Mr. Daylong and seconded by Mr. McCorkle; all in favor.

Secretary read the correspondence: Multi-Member Mixer with the Chamber invitation, Little Great Race donation request, LSA allotment \$27,009.63, Bridge inspection due 2024.

**Calls for Speers - July:** Police: 34, EMS: 18, Fire: 8.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Streets & Sewers: Mr. Todora – absent.

Finance: Mr. McCorkle: July budget: Income = \$126,404.46; Expenses = \$65,689.55. YTD (+) \$88,583.90.

Borough Improvement: Mr. Daylong – Nothing to report.

Streetlights: No outages to report.

Parks: Mrs. Barcelona – Secretary working on the bank issues due to lack of communication regarding the grant payment. Mrs. Barcelona has not received an update from Mr. Krider. We will reach out again to Mr. Krider for clarification on several issues. Can we obtain used equipment? ADA equipment required? We will also look into Costars for equipment. Mrs. Barcelona was under the impression that Mr. Krider was handling all of this. Mr. Krider was supposed to get an estimate for parking, fencing, and signage so we know how much is available for the equipment.

Transit Authority: Mayor Herd – Ridership in Speers is increasing. GE expressed a desire to have bus service for their employees. There is no place for a bus to turn around; GE would have to contact MVA to discuss. 10 new buses will be in operation by next month.

Grants: Mrs. Spina – Nothing to report at this time.

Mayor Herd: Spoke on the re-cap that Mrs. Spina provided from the bridge meeting between Council, Mr. Krider and Shannon. The project will be advertised again; mostly concrete work, not a whole new bridge construction. Bids can be from out of state companies.

Dennis Carson's Report – cut grass, weed whacked, sprayed weeds, painted blue handicap curbs, flushed sewer line, straightened stop signs, filled in ruts across from Exxon, planted grass seed, added fence around trees, cleaned park and restrooms for rentals, cleaned steps down to RT 88, cleaned up rocks along RT 88, cleaned catch basins, cleared gravel after storms, 4 One Calls. He cannot remove the donated flag pole from a resident's property due to it being too large and possible danger of hitting their house. There is a flagpole at the park already.

Solicitor: Mr. Lint – provided a draft for the Tax Credit ordinance for local volunteer fire fighters; Council reviewed. Mr. Lint will advertise for adoption at the next meeting and file with the Law Library. Secretary will also add a resolution regarding the Tax Credit to the agenda for the September meeting.

A motion to increase the dye/downspout inspection fee to \$100 was made by Mr. Daylong and seconded by Mr. McCorkle; all in favor. Resolution signed.

**Citizens:** None present.

**Tax Collector's Report:** Deposit of \$84,105.16

**Old Business:** Email to Mr. Krider for clarification.

**New Business:** Little Great Race donation; a motion to donate \$350 as a block sponsor was made by Mr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Hepple; all in favor.

Mrs. Spina spoke on the issues with vehicles parking in front yards. Can we adopt an ordinance preventing this? Council agrees it looks terrible. What can we do? Who will enforce this? Council will hold an open meeting with residents to further discuss. The meeting will take place on August 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Borough Building (300 Phillips Street).

Council is planning to host a community meeting with local businesses in the Industrial Park to discuss the upcoming bridge repair project. We will contact the Vo-Tech to hold the meeting there on August 21<sup>st</sup>. We will also contact Shannon (DCNR) to attend the meeting.

Mr. McCorkle – spoke on the Pennsylvania Traffic Calming Handbook – which details what can be done to assist drivers to slow down. A paid survey can be done to assess the situation. There is a list of pros and cons with having traffic calming methods which include speed bumps, speed humps and pillows. Child safety is very important. The handbook states that speed humps should not be installed on streets with a grade exceeding 8% or any roads that have curves. Further studies show that speed humps can delay emergency vehicle response times by 10 seconds which can make a huge difference to the victim. Liquid fuels allocations will also be affected/reduced.

Mayor Herd spoke on the railroad permit regarding the bridge project. Mr. Krider feels that is why companies are not bidding on this project. The permit could cost an estimated \$5,000. Should the Borough pay for it? A motion to pay up to \$5,000 for the railroad permit was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Spina; in favor – Mr. Rice, Mr. Daylong, Mrs. Barcelona; opposed Mr. Hepple.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Daylong; all in favor.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona.