

The Borough of Speers Council met on July 2, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Mr. Rice, Mr. McCorkle, Mrs. Barcelona, Mr. McDonough, Ms. Hartley, Mr. Sauer, Mrs. Devine and Mayor Herd.

A motion to accept the previous meeting minutes as read was made by Mrs. Barcelona and seconded by Mr. McDonough.

No correspondence at this time.

REPORTS: Calls for June: EMS – 19, Fire – 9, Police – 179; report available.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Mr. McCorkle – Income: \$216,063.48; Expenses: \$68,471.85. YTD: (+) \$138,683.37.

Borough Improvement: Mr. Sauer – planning park activities to include a craft show/food truck festival, tentative date of October 18th.

Parks: Mrs. Barcelona – will defer to Mr. Creagh.

Grants: Ms. Hartley – still working on obtaining the GE donation. She is also looking into the Multi-modal grant opportunities. That grant is a 70/30 commitment. We need to prioritize the bridge when looking for grants available.

Streetlights: No additional outages reported.

Transit Authority: Mayor Herd reported that a study is being done to cut bus routes.

Mayor Herd: spoke with Justin Theakston and was told the county will not help with bridge repair costs. We need to find funding from other avenues including LSA grants. He also is looking at the TIP program. Thanked Council for all their hard work.

Tim Anthony street report – met with railroad company while working on track in Lower Speers, cut dead trees at the park, clean drains and catch basins and streets from storms, spray weeds, cut grass, weed whack, paint curbs, fix truck light, clean building for meeting, 5 One Calls and 2 downspout inspections. Tim submitted a quote for a new AC unit for the Civic Club room and garage. He also has a quote for a new blower and back pack (\$439.98). A motion to purchase the new equipment was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Sauer; all in favor.

Engineer: Mr. Creagh contacted DCNR about releasing the final grant payment for the Lower Speers Park. The checklist is complete. He is waiting for a response from Winnie.

He reported the work on the Arentzen Bridge is complete from APC within the \$220,000 available funds. They are still waiting for the GE donation to complete the remainder of the needed repairs so we can extend their contract. APC is requesting a change order to help

minimize erosion. Secretary will forward a picture to Mr. Creagh showing the damage that APC left behind that needs to be restored. Mr. Rice asked which is better – tar & chip or pave? Per Mr. Creagh – the bridge can support up to 3” of asphalt. Tar & chip is a short-term fix (5 years or less). Tim Anthony stated that the big trucks driving over the bridge will cause vibrations that will make black top crumble off.

SOLICITOR: Mr. Lint – nothing to report. Mrs. Barcelona asked if Jehovah’s Witnesses need a permit to do ministry in the neighborhood? No, they do not need a solicitation permit and it is a law that we cannot prohibit them from doing their ministry activities.

CITIZENS: Mr. Rost asked if political parties can pass out information without a permit? Yes, it is allowed per Mr. Lint. Mr. Rost spoke on the MMVTA funds that is included with the TIP program.

Mayor Herd stated that GE is doing an expansion project. How will that affect the bridge? Heavier equipment and trucks can add to the problems if the bridge is not repaired. Tar & chip would be cheaper to do but it would need to be redone every 3-5 years. We need to also look at the best option that would prevent water and salt from seeping in and causing more damage.

TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT: Deposit of \$178,009.35

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Mr. McCorkle recommends getting quotes for tar & chipping and also for paving the bridge; sooner than later before the plants close for winter.

Mr. McCorkle received 3 bids on moving the digital sign.

1. Carl signs - \$2,500
2. Johnny B Signs - \$3,200
3. Outdoor Signs - \$4,400

These quotes are for moving the sign only. All companies are insured. We would still need to relocate the electricity, which would need to be bid out separately. Mr. McDonough and Mr. McCorkle will obtain quotes from an electrician. A motion to have Johnny B Signs move the digital sign across from the gas station was made by Mr. McDonough and seconded by Mr. Rice; all in favor.

Council is waiting on selling the sewage lines at this time.

New AC unit for the garage/shop and Civic Club room quotes:

1. JED = \$4,950
2. Gillock Heating = \$6,100

Mr. McDonough will try to obtain one more quote. Contingent upon obtaining a 3rd bid, a motion to award the lowest responsible bidder to replace the AC unit was made by Mrs. Barcelona and seconded by Mr. McDonough; all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reimbursement for tire replacement to Mr. Mitchell. Claim will be filed with the insurance company. It is up to them to deny or approve.

Council will discuss charging for messages posted on the digital sign.

Mr. McDonough relayed a message from residents thanking Council for addressing the property maintenance violations.

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

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Sauer.