

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 27, 2017**

City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 27, 2017 in Council Chambers, City Hall, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor William Baney who opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll was called and present were Councilmembers Jonathan Bravard (participating via telephone), Douglas Byerly, Richard Conklin, Ted Forbes, Steve Stevenson, Sara Stringfellow and Mayor William. Also attending the meeting were City Manager Richard Marcinkevage, Assistant City Manager Gregory Wilson, and reporter Wendy Stiver for The Express.

Mr. Stevenson commented that Council had not voted on a policy or procedure to allow a councilmember to participate via telephone therefore he objected to having Mr. Bravard participate in a Council meeting. He added that he didn't feel that Mr. Bravard should be marked present when he is not physically present.

Mr. Baney stated he was taken by surprise. The Manager reminded Council that during discussion of possible telephonic participation, no one mentioned wanting any policy or procedure.

Mr. Conklin said that Council has no legal say regarding this issue since the State has taken it out of their hands and therefore there is no need for a policy. Councilmen Byerly agreed with Mr. Conklin.

Mr. Stevenson stated that if this is true then no one had to attend a council meeting; everyone could "attend" via phone. Mr. Wilson explained that the Third-Class City Code requires that a physical quorum be present to hold a meeting, and that using telecommunications is allowed for select uses.

Mr. Forbes stated that it seems like it is just an option not a mandate. Mr. Stevenson stated he would not want to set a precedent if Council decides to allow it.

Mr. Baney said he didn't have a problem with Mr. Bravard listening in but perhaps shouldn't vote. He asked that they get clarification as to what is legal and what is not.

With no formal objection from Council, Mr. Bravard was permitted to vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was none from those in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE

Comcast CATV/Notification of price changes

The Manager acknowledged receipt of correspondence from Comcast regarding a price change effective 20, 2017.

PA Department of Transportation/Notification of scheduled bridge preservation work

The Manager acknowledged receipt of correspondence from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation regarding proposed bridge preservation work to the Great Island Bride on SR 1002, which is tentatively scheduled for April 2018.

PA Family Council/Observations on Act 42 which authorizes Category 4 casinos

The Manager recognized the receipt of correspondence from the Pennsylvania Family Council regarding Act 42 which authorizes Category 4 Casinos, noting that the Act allows a municipality to pass a resolution prohibiting this type of casino within their boundaries. The Council provided a sample Resolution and noted that the resolution must be passed and delivered

to the Gaming Control Board no later than December 31, 2017. The Manager stated that a Resolution will be presented to Council for consideration at their next meeting.

Public Hearing/2018 Recommended Budget

Mayor Baney convened a public hearing on the City's FY 2018 recommended budget and invited comments from Council, City agencies, and others in attendance. Diane Whittaker, Director, Annie Halenbake Ross Library, addressed Council stating that she wished to thank Council for their continued support and described several programs offered by the library. Ms. Whittaker introduced Tammy Garrison, who will be replacing Ms. Whittaker upon her retirement at the end of the year. Mayor Baney lead the audience in a round of applause for Ms. Whittaker's many years of service.

There being no further comments, the Manager indicated that Council needed to address two Ordinances on first reading as part of the budget process – the Tax Levy and Annual Appropriations Ordinances. He reported that the Tax Levy Ordinance included the same tax rates as 2017. ***On a motion of Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Byerly and carried unanimously, the following Ordinance was approved on first reading:***

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LOCK HAVEN, CLINTON COUNTY,
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE YEAR
2018

The Manager indicated the second action required the approval of the Annual Appropriations Ordinance that adopts the budget. He reviewed the amounts in each of the funds and requested Council approval on first reading. He noted that the amounts will change prior to second and final reading which is scheduled for December 18, 2017. ***On a motion of Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Forbes and carried unanimously, the following Ordinance was approved on first reading:***

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LOCK HAVEN, IN THE COUNTY OF CLINTON,
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROPRIATING SPECIFIC SUMS
ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES OF THE MUNICIPAL
GOVERNMENT, HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, DURING THE YEAR 2018

The Manager added that a budget work session with City staff will be held after the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

The Manager stated there was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance Amending Budget of the General Fund/Keystone Grant (Ross Library)

The Manager presented an Ordinance amendment to the General Fund to recognize the revenue and expenses for the 2016 Ross Library Keystone Grant in the amount of \$88,890.00. ***On a motion of Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Forbes and carried unanimously, the following Ordinance was approved on first reading:***

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF THE GENERAL FUND

Proposal from SEDA COG to provide financial and technical assistance for City's Commercial Loan Program

The Manager presented a memo from Planner & Development Coordinator Maria Boileau regarding a proposal from SEDA COG to continue providing financial analysis and technical assistance for the City's Commercial Loan Program for 2018. Ms. Boileau explained that SEDA COG's hourly rate is \$80.00 which is the same as their 2017 rate. She presented a breakdown of SEDA COG's expenses for 2015-2017, and noted that the cost fluctuates depending on the number of outstanding loans that are served. Ms. Boileau added that the City currently has eight active loans. ***On a motion of Mr. Forbes, seconded by Ms. Stringfellow and carried unanimously, a contract was awarded to SEDA COG to provide financial analysis and technical assistance for the City's Commercial Loan Program for 2018 at an hourly rate of \$80.00 not to exceed an annual cost of \$25,000.00***

Consideration of a rezoning request from Penn Terra Engineering, Inc.

The Manager presented a request from Penn Terra Engineering, Inc. on behalf of Townhomes of Susquehanna Square, L.P. and Patrick M. and Pamela N. Bigatel to rezone Tax Parcels 22-A-2-A and 22-A-2-A1 (part of the former Painter Stadium site) to Commercial. The Manager stated that the request needs to be referred to the Planning Commission for their recommendation. ***On a motion of Mr. Forbes, seconded by Ms. Stringfellow and carried unanimously, the rezoning request was referred to the Planning Commission for their recommendation.***

OTHER MATTERS BY COUNCIL

Mr. Conklin commented positively on the installation of new LED street lights & poles by PP&L. The Manager stated that PP&L will also be replacing the poles in the Church Street parking lot within the next two weeks.

Mr. Stevenson noted that there are several lights out along Bellefonte Avenue. The Manager stated that the City's bucket truck has been down however it is now operational, and the lights will be addressed.

Mr. Baney said he was approached by someone asking if the City would be interested in one of the recently removed railroad crossing signals for installation at the City's train station property. The Manager stated that the property is leased by the Clinton County Arts Council and therefore the request should be referred to the Arts Council for their consideration.

OTHER MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Dwayne Koons from the Lock Haven Area Jaycees presented Council with a Presidential Award of Honor to the City for their continued support of the Lock Haven Jaycees.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion of Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Stevenson and carried unanimously the meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Mayor

City Clerk