

**City Council Meeting  
March 9, 2020**

City Council met in a special session on Monday, March 9, 2020 in Council Chambers, City Hall, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Joel Long who opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll was called and present were Council Members Richard Conklin, Barbara Masorti, William Mincer, Richard Morris, Steve Stevenson, and Mayor Joel Long. Also, in attendance were City Manager Gregory Wilson, Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell, Director of Public Works Tony Stopper, Director of Licenses & Permits Cyndi Walker, and Fire Administrator Robert Neff.

**Mayor Long explained the business of this meeting of Council is to have an open discussion about the 2020-2025 Capital Improvement Plan, and for council members to have the opportunity to ask questions.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

The City Manager gave an explanation of the debt service numbers, which were estimated by Concord Financial Services. The borrowing estimate of \$2,250,000 for General Fund capital improvements and for \$500,000 for Airport capital improvements would have a long-term (20-year) financial effect on the City's debt service. The City Manager explained that if the City were to borrow the funds on a "wrapped" debt service, the payments would increase as other debt services decreases, thus maintaining a more steady expenditure over time. The City Manager requested that Council consider a motion to engage our funding solicitor and financial partner Concord Financial Services in order to begin the process of investigating the option of debt service in 2020.

**On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried by a vote of 5-1, with Mr. Mincer voting "no," the request to begin the borrowing process, not to exceed \$2.25 million in the General Fund, and \$500,000 in the Airport Fund, by having Concord Financial Services draw up a Resolution for Council's consideration was approved.**

There was discussion about the use of funds to make repairs on playgrounds, and Mr. Stevenson asked if the city is still rotating through and working on one playground per year. The City Manager explained that the increased funds needed for Hoberman is in response to the recent vandalism that occurred at the park, but the plans remain to examine a park a year to plan for future improvements so that all parks are regularly addressed.

The City Manager and Director of Public Works explained the allocation of funds for Sunset Pines, and street paving projects. The Director of Licenses and Permits discussed with Council

the importance of projects within the city, and securing grants for most of the work so that money does not always come from the General Fund.

City Council discussed outside utility companies working on City streets, and whether or not these companies abide by the same rules when they make street excavations to access their infrastructure. It was explained by the Director of Licenses and Permits and Director of Public Works that all companies are required to get permits; however, City Council previously waived the street excavation fee for Suburban Water Authority and instead the City's General Fund incurs the expenses. The City Manager was asked to investigate the option of repealing the waiver of fees for Suburban Water Authority so that they are treated equitably with other utilities including those owned by the City.

There was discussion on renovations at City Hall, and the Director of Licenses and Permits, and the City Manager, explained a variety of updates that are needed to the structure. The City Manager had asked for an estimate from a local contractor to perform necessary repairs and upgrades and that figure come in at greater than \$1.6-million. The City would need to borrow the money to complete those repairs if the project were to be approved. However, the City Manager recommended that at this point, City Council authorize soliciting for Requests for Proposals for engineering or architectural services to design and generate an estimate for repairs and upgrades to City Hall.

**On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Morris and carried unanimously, the request to develop and distribute a Request for Proposals for the purpose of engineering or architectural services to design the repairs and improvements to City Hall and to provide cost estimate for those repairs and improvements was approved.**

## **OTHER MATTERS**

The Director of Community Life announced the meetings of the Comprehensive Plan at the Ross Library on March 11, 2020. The Stakeholders meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m., and at 6:00 p.m. will be the public education session. Members of Council and the public are invited and encouraged to attend.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon motion by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Masorti, at 9:03 p.m., the meeting adjourned.**

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Mayor

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City Clerk