# City Council Meeting April 1, 2020

City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, April 1, 2020, over video conference call, in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 3:02 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 Douglas Byerly, Richard Conklin, Barbara Masorti, William Mincer, Richard Morris, Steve Stevenson, and Mayor Joel Long. Also, in attendance were City Manager Gregory Wilson, Planner and Development Coordinator Abigail Roberts, and Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Morris and carried unanimously, the minutes of the March 9, 2020 and March 23, 2020 special meetings were approved.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments submitted by residents.

Planner and Development Coordinator discussed the Cares Act, and how funding will be distributed to municipalities, with \$5 billion being made available to the Community Development Fund, to prepare, prevent, and respond to COVID-19. Funds will be made available in three waves, using current CDBG allocation of funding, as well as allocation based on the needs in municipalities. The Department of Community and Economic Development is asking municipalities to identify the needs emerging in their communities in relation to COVID-19, and all projects must be completed by September 30, 2022.

The Planner and Development Coordinator and City Manager explained that this information will be made available to Council and the public, and put on the city's website, and that it is difficult to predict how much funding Lock Haven will receive, based on CDBG's formula.

The Planner and Development Coordinator discussed the Complete Count's Committee's Facebook page for the 2020 Census, and a contest being held to encourage more residents to participate in the Census. 20 winners will receive a gift card from a local business. This contest is only open to residents within the City of Lock Haven and closes on July 31, 2020. The City Manager and Planner and Development Coordinator also explained that all college students should

be counted where they would normally be living on April 1, and not where they are living due to the COVID-19 shut down.

The Planner and Development Coordinator gave an update of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan, and announced that a survey is available online, and encouraged residents to participate in the survey.

Mr. Stevenson asked if the City received a PML survey regarding economic losses related to COVID-19. The City Manager explained that the City responded right away to the FEMA survey, and will fill out the PML survey if time allows.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The City Manager notified Council of Comcast's response to help Americans get connected to the internet during the Stay-At-Home Order, by offering free services to those in need.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council considered the second reading of Ordinance No. 2020-05, providing for installment payments of the 2020 Real Estate Taxes. This is for individuals and businesses in the community that were financially impacted by COVID-19 and allows for four installment payments. The first quarter payment must be made by May 4, 2020, in order to participate in the payment plan. Mr. Long commented that this was well received by the public during this crisis and thanked the City Manager for his actions in this ordinance.

On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Mincer and carried unanimously, the Ordinance was adopted on second reading.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Council considered Resolution No. 1374, extending and amending the Proclamation of the State of Emergency. The items put into place on March 18, 2020 were extended, and also provides for the furlough of 24 employees beginning April 13, 2020. The City Manager noted that this decision is not a reflection of behavior, but is for the health and safety of the employees, and the intention is to have employees return to work based on the Commonwealth's guidelines. On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Byerly and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.

Council considered the distribution of the Clinton County Community Foundation Stephen Poorman Small Business Development Fund proceeds for 2019 and 2020. The City Manager explained the funds in the amount of \$20.27 will be distributed to the 48 local businesses in the Downtown Central Business District that were forced to close due to COVID-19. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Ms. Masorti and carried unanimously, Council approved the distribution of funds.** 

Council considered the Deed of Dedication from SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority for the parcel of land within the City beginning at East Walnut Street and ending at the Castanea Township Line. The intention is to convert the street to a City Street. This property will become a city street and will enable trucks to stay out of neighborhoods and have a direct route to First Quality. The resolution was amended to include the provision for the inclusion of language that the guide rail installed within the city's right-of-way by the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority is the Authority's property to repair, maintain and replace. On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Ms. Masorti, Council requested the City sends a letter to First Quality, requesting the Walnut Street Address be made the official delivery address for First Quality. On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Ms. Masorti and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.

OTHER MATTERS	
No other matters were discussed.	
ADJOURNMENT	
Upon motion by Mr. Morris, at 3:57 p.m., the meeting adjourned.	
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City Clerk	