

City Council Meeting November 16, 2020

City Council met virtually in regular session on Monday November 16, 2020, over Zoom conference call, and streamed live over YouTube and Facebook, in 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 Douglas Byerly, Richard Conklin, Barbara Masorti, William Mincer, Richard Morris, Steve Stevenson, Mayor Joel Long. Also, in attendance was City Manager Gregory Wilson, Director of Public Works Anthony Stopper, Public Property Foreman Jared Gist, Public Works Foreman Kyle Dale, and the Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell.

COUNCIL MINUTES

On a motion made by Ms. Masorti, seconded by Mr. Morris and carried unanimously, with Mr. Byerly abstaining, the minutes of the November 9, 2020 meeting were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Long announced that prior to the City Council meeting there was a public hearing on the Public Housing Program with SEDA-COG, which is available to view on the City's YouTube channel.

The City Manager presented a letter from Michelle Crowell on behalf of the Central Mountain Swim Team, requesting the city work with the county and other organizations to explore a community pool.

The City Manager explained to council and for the public, that with the increase in COVID-19 cases, City Hall remains closed, and anyone concerned about paying an extra fee to pay their water bill can have their bank account linked to their water account, and avoid the extra fee associated with paying through credit card. Residents also have the option to mail their payments to City Hall.

CORRESPONDENCE

The City Manager notified Council of UPMC Lock Haven's intent to file for a water supply permit in conjunction with Suburban Water Authority.

The City Manager notified Council of the quarterly Comcast franchise fee payment in the amount of \$17,631.04.

The City Manager notified council of the annual mailing of the service line warranty program through the National League of Cities for city water and sewer customers. This is for new customers, not customers currently enrolled. The service line warranty program acts like an insurance policy to help owners complete costly repairs to service lines which are the property owner's responsibility.

Council considered a request from Citizens Hose to close Leather Alley from Bellefonte to Stone Alley on November 27, 2020 through December 28, 2020 for their Annual Christmas Tree Sale. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, and seconded by Mr. Conklin, the request was approved.**

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2021 BUDGET

Mayor Long stated the purpose of the hearing is to afford the public an opportunity to comment and make observations on the recommended budget as reflected in Ordinance 2020-08 and the setting of the real estate tax millage in Ordinance 2020-09.

There were no requests from agencies and organizations within the City, no comments from residents, and no comments from Council members.

The Director of Public Works Tony Stopper and Public Property Foreman Jared Gist presented an overview of the 2020 United State Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) Levee Inspection and discussed other public property projects, with a review of the accomplishments of the department in 2020. Highlights included backing up the berm, as well as an asphalt repair and sealcoat project on the Clinger Walkway on the levee.

The Director of Public Works and Public Works Foreman Kyle Dale presented an overview of the 2021 Paving schedule and discussed other street, snow, and street sweeping projects, with a review of the accomplishments of the department in 2020. Anticipated projects in 2021 included working the agility program with PennDOT, paving projects on Spring Street and West Fourth Street, as well as paving Water Street from Jay Street east to the city line.

The Director of Public Works gave a review of the Sunset Pines Stormwater Management engineering study. The project has been split into five phases, with each phase able to be accomplished in a single year. However, due to financial constraints, the project will take more than 5 years to accomplish. The City Manager added to the discussion that there are enough funds in Fund 035 Highway Aid from state liquid fuels apportionments to address Phase I in 2021, and that there may be enough to also address Phase II in 2022. After that, each phase will like happen every other year or more thereafter making the entire estimated \$1.7 million stormwater and paving improvement project an eight to ten year plan using only funds from the state allocation of liquid fuels funds.

The Director of Public Works also gave a presentation on the need to address the city's aging stormwater infrastructure. Mr. Stopper expressed that according to the American Public Works Association many municipalities are having issues with Stormwater Management and one

proposed fix is to institute a Stormwater Fee. A Stormwater Fee is associated with a person's property, and accounts for the impervious areas of a property, and would help to subsidize the funds being used from liquid fuels to accomplish stormwater infrastructure repairs and replacement including curbs and gutters, the underground drainage system, and paving the affected areas. The City Manager asked Council to consider engaging City Engineer Gwin Dobson and Forman for the 2021 study and community dialogue to explore the implementation of a city stormwater fee in 2022. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Council considered Resolution No. 1597 for cost-sharing the required relocation of fire hydrants prior to the 2022 traffic signal improvement project with PennDOT paying 75% of the cost, and the city paying 25% of the cost. **On a motion made by Mr. Byerly, seconded by Ms. Masorti, and carried unanimously, the Resolution was adopted.**

OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Mincer inquired about the request made by resident Michelle Crowell regarding a community pool, and inquired if the City Recreation Board has met regarding this issue. Mr. Mincer also proposed that a community pool could be explored in conjunction with a community center as well. The Director of Community Life responded that the City Recreation Board has not yet met, but will meet before the end of the year and these issues will be brought before them.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Morris, at 8:26 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk