

**City Council Meeting  
November 9, 2020**

City Council met virtually in regular session on Monday November 9, 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, Chief of Police Kristin Smith, Fire Chief & Administrator Robert Neff, and Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell.

**COUNCIL MINUTES**

**On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Mincer and carried unanimously, with Mr. Byerly abstaining, the minutes of the November 2, 2020 meeting were approved.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Council considered a request for the use of Zindel Park on December 12, 2020, by Gail Bryan for a wedding. **On a motion made by Mr. Byerly, seconded by Mr. Mincer, the request was approved.**

Mayor Long announced that there will be three ribbon cuttings in the downtown Business District, on Thursday, November 12, and Friday November 13, 2020.

**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 2021 real estate tax millage in Ordinance 2020-09.

There were no requests from agencies and organizations within the City, and no comments from residents. The City Manager asked for feedback from City Council regarding the organizations within the city, and to confirm the contribution level would remain the same as 2020's contributions. Mr. Conklin addressed concerns about the cost of River Valley Transit,

and the City Manager explained that the amount in the budget is double the previous year as a place holder, but that the county had not yet provided guidance on the estimated cost for 2021.

The Chief of Police presented an overview of the Police Department budget, with a review of the accomplishments of the department in 2020, particularly in regard to COVID-19. The Chief of Police also discussed the 14 body cameras that will be distributed later this year. There were concerns about the overtime costs, and the City Manager explained the percent increase of the officer's wages is used to create the percent increase of the overtime hours, and it is not expected to all be used.

The Chief of Police and the City Manager presented an overview of the Parking Enforcement budget. The City Manager explained that Parking Enforcement is an economic development issue, and its purpose is to encourage turnover in high traffic, high parked areas, in order to give customers the opportunity to find a convenient place to park. The increase in wages in 2021 is the result of the increase in per hour wages for the two parking enforcement officers who are covered by the collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME.

The Fire Chief and City Manager presented an overview of the Fire Department budget, with a review of the accomplishments of the department in 2020. The Chief explained that many objectives for 2020 were put on hold until 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Chief is hopeful that state-sponsored training of volunteers which were often cancelled in 2020 will be able to start again at some point in 2021.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Council considered the agreement with the Clinton County Solid Waste Authority for Wastewater Treatment Plant sludge disposal for the years 1/1/2021 through 12/31/2023. The agreement reflects an increase of 50 cents per ton per year. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the agreement was approved.**

Council considered Ordinance No. 2020-10 setting wages for non-union employees for the 2021 fiscal/calendar year, raising wages 1.9% effective January 1, 2021. The City Manager explained this number is based on the average of the past three years social security cost of living increase. There were concerns raised about giving wage increases during a pandemic and no-tax increase year. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the ordinance was adopted on first reading.** The second reading of the ordinance will take place on November 23, 2020.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Mayor Long announced Fall Leaf pick up and encouraged residents to rake leaves according to their street sweeper schedule, and to check the website and Facebook for more information.

Mr. Stevenson thanked Veterans, and encouraged residents to thank a Veteran on Veterans Day.

ADJOURNMENT

**Upon motion by Mr. Morris, at 8:18 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.**

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Mayor

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City Clerk