

## City Council Meeting November 2, 2020

City Council met in regular session on Monday November 2, 2020, at Lock Haven University Raub Hall Room 425, and streamed live over YouTube and Facebook, in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 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, Mayor Joel Long. Also, in attendance was Director of Permits and Licensing Cyndi Walker, Planner and Development Coordinator Abigail Roberts, and Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell. Guests in attendance were Ms. Joann Bowes President of the Clinton County Historical Society, Ms. Tammy Garrison Director of the Annie Halenbake Ross Library, Dr. Matthew Girton representing APSCUF of LHU, Mr. Benjamin Green, representing Leadership Clinton County, Ms. Laura Jameson from the Express, Ms. Teri Provost from SEDA-COG, and Ms. Marie Vilello Manager of Downtown Lock Haven, Inc.

### COUNCIL MINUTES

**On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Mincer and carried unanimously, the minutes of the October 19, 2020 meeting were approved.**

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Matthew Girton addressed Council to speak on behalf of the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties (APSCUF), and inform them about the march and rally being organized for November 17, 2020, in opposition of the proposal to merge Blomsburg, Lock Haven, and Mansfield Universities. Dr. Girton also distributed flyers to council and everyone in attendance.

Council considered the use of Triangle Park on November 17, 2020, by LHU students and faculty for a rally in support of the university, and the Director of Community Life presented Council with the Covid Plan for the rally. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

### CORRESPONDENCE

Council considered a request from the organizers of the Frozen Snot Winter Race, for the use of Zindel Park on February 20, 2021. The Director of Community Life presented their COVID-19 Safety plan, and explained that there will not be more than 250 racers in one area. On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Mincer, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.

The Director of Permits and Licensing announced the Leaf Pick Up Schedule for Fall 2020. Leaf pick-up is scheduled for November 9, 2020 through November 20, 2020. Residents are requested to sweep their leaves onto the streets on the day before their street is scheduled for sweeping. Bagged leaves will be picked up November 9 and 10, and November 16 and 17, 2020. These dates will be extended as needed.

The Director of Permits and Licensing notified Council of Moriarty Funeral Home and Crematory's Clean Air application to DEP.

## 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 Ordinances 2020-08 appropriating the funds for the 2021 fiscal year and 2020-09 setting the real estate tax millage for the 2021 fiscal (calendar) year.

- Ms. Garrison, Director of the Annie Halenbake Ross Library, presented a letter to Council requesting funding of \$30,000 for the 2021 fiscal year, the same amount appropriated by City Council in 2020.
- Ms. Vilello, Manager of Downtown Lock Haven, Inc., presented a letter to Council requesting funding of \$15,000 for the 2021 fiscal year, the same amount appropriated by City Council in 2020.
- Mayor Long presented a letter from the Clinton County SPCA, requesting funding of \$10,000 for the 2021 fiscal year, the same amount appropriated by City Council in 2020.
- Ms. Bowes, President of the Clinton County Historical Society, presented a letter to Council requesting \$1,500 for the 2021 fiscal year, an increase of \$500 over 2020.

Council discussed the requests for annual contributions from the city to non-profits. Mr. Conklin recommended keeping the contributions at the same amount contributed in 2020, with support from Mr. Mincer.

Mayor Long gave an overview of the General Fund, with a proposed budget of \$5,664,954, the Water Fund, with a proposed budget of \$2,637,624.00, the Sewer Fund, with a proposed budget of \$3,924,386.00, the Airport Fund, with a proposed budget of \$219,871.00, and the Liquid Fuels Fund with a proposed budget of \$706,584.00. The total of all Major Funds is \$13,920,615.00, similar to the 2020 budget.

The Director of Permits and Licensing presented an overview of the UCC Codes and Zoning budget, with a review of the accomplishments of the department in 2020. Highlights included the opening of the Lucky 7 Travel Plaza and the sale of 2 E Walnut Street, which should be accomplished by the end of the year. The Director also discussed 37-55 Bellefonte Avenue, and her discussions with developers after the second requests for proposal yielded no proposals.

Council considered a request to form a subcommittee of City Council to review the adoption of updates to the Property Maintenance Code. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, Ms. Masorti and Mr. Mincer were appointed to the subcommittee.**

The City Planner and Development Coordinator presented an overview of the Economic Development (Planning) budget, with a review of the accomplishments of the department in 2020. Highlights included the US Census outreach, made possible by grants, airport projects, and the completion of the Comprehensive Plan by the end of 2020. Ms. Provost of the SEDA Council of Governments, discussed the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program Guidelines, and the city's eligibility to apply for Home Funding. This potential application is open to DCED's competitive funding. The funding of \$500,000 would allow for the completion of nine homes. Council considered Resolution No. 1594 adopting the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab Program guidelines. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

The Director of Community Life presented an overview of the Community Development (Recreation) budget, with a review of the accomplishments in 2020. Highlights include the Farmer's Market, Summer Concert Series, and Downtown Pedestrian Mall. Council considered a request to authorize City Engineer Gwin Dobson & Foreman to provide preliminary engineering for upgrades to Triangle and Hoberman parks, and for ADA restrooms at all parks. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Ms. Masorti, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council considered Resolution 1595, an agreement with UPMC Lock Haven for a Payment in Lieu of Taxes ending 12/31/2024. The agreement is for \$40,000 for four years, for the City to drop the challenge of UPMC not being a non-profit. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

Council considered the appointment of one (1) probationary patrol officer from the qualified list provided by the Lock Haven Civil Service Commission. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, Mr. Bryan Greene was appointed to the position of probationary Patrol Officer.**

Council considered Resolution No 1596 adopting the policy of the use of body-worn cameras by city-police. This policy is required for the grant funding providing the body-worn cameras. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

Mr. Conklin discussed the Veteran's Park project, and the plans that were presented by Mr. Dave Harger and Mr. Steve Getz. The funding is still being established for the project, but the preliminary designs were approved by the subcommittee of City Council.

## NEW BUSINESS

Council considered Ordinance No. 2020-08 adopting the budget for 2021. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the ordinance was passed on first reading.** Second reading of the ordinance and adoption will take place at the regular meeting of City Council on Monday, December 7, 2020.

Council considered Ordinance No. 2020-09 setting the real estate tax millage for 2021. The proposed ordinance sets the millage at the same rate as 2020. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the ordinance was passed on first reading.** Second reading of the ordinance and adoption will take place at the regular meeting of City Council on Monday, December 7, 2020.

Council considered the approval to solicit proposals for a three-year lease of Rosecrans farm properties. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the matter was approved.**

## OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters brought to Council.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Upon motion by Mr. Morris, at 8:19 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.**

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Mayor

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City Clerk