

City Council Meeting April 5, 2021

City Council met virtually in regular session on Monday April 5, 2021, over Zoom conference call, and streamed live over YouTube and Facebook, in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 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, Mayor Joel Long. Also, in attendance was City Manager Gregory Wilson, Director of Public Works Anthony Stopper, City Planner and Development Coordinator Abigail Roberts, and the Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell. Resident in attendance was Don Powers, owner of the Old Corner Bar & Grill.

COUNCIL MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Byerly, seconded by Mr. Morris and carried unanimously, the minutes of the March 15, 2021 meeting were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Don Powers addressed Council and requested permission to close one entrance to the E Church St Parking lot, located on Grove Street, next to the Old Corner Bar and Grill. Mr. Powers explained that by closing the entrance, this would enable more outdoor dining, which would help his business remain open while following the restrictions established by the PA Department of Health. The City Manager ensured the Department of Public Works and Chief of Police will work with the Old Corner to make the closure safe for pedestrians, customers, and drivers using the parking lot. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Byerly, and carried unanimously, the request was approved, pending a letter of support from the neighboring business, for the period of May until the end of September.**

Mr. Mincer requested the levee entrances be re-painted with notices prohibiting the use of bicycles on the levee. The Director of Public Works informed Council that the levee markers will be repainted in the next few weeks, depending on weather.

CORRESPONDENCE

City Council considered a request from Sentimental Journey, for the use of the Piper Airport for the 19th Annual Wings Over Piper August 6-8, 2021. The Director of Community Life will work with the organizers of the event to ensure all COVID guidelines and safety measures are in place.

Council considered a request for the use of Peddie Park by Keystone Little League on Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning in April and ending in September. The Keystone Little League provided a Covid Safety plan that follows the PRPS Guidelines for contact sports and was approved by the Director of Community Life.

Council considered a request for the use of Triangle Park by Roads to Peace (formerly Clinton County Women's Center) on April 9, 2021 with a rain date of April 16, 2021, for a Sexual Assault Awareness Month Event. The Director of Community Life will work with the organizers of the event to ensure all COVID guidelines and safety measures are in place.

Council considered the use of Hanna Park by Lock Haven YMCA, on August 21, 2021, for the Run the River 5k. The YMCA provided a Covid Safety plan that follows the PRPS Guidelines for outdoor events and was approved by the Director of Community Life.

Council considered a request from Downtown Lock Haven, Inc, and the Director of Community Life, for the use of city properties for a city-wide clean up in celebration of Earth Day, on April 24 from 10:00 to 2:00 p.m. The Director of Community Life will ensure all COVID guidelines and safety measures are in place. Mr. Conklin requested to see COVID Safety Plans prior to approval of requests moving forward.

On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Mincer, and carried unanimously, all requests were approved, with the addition of the closure of Armenta Drive for the YMCA's Run the River 5k.

Council considered Resolution 2021-10 for the installation of a banner for the Ross Library book sale, to be displayed August 29, 2021 to September 19, 2021. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Mincer, and carried unanimously, the Resolution was adopted.**

The City Manager notified Council of the 2019 fiscal year Housing Authority PILOT calculation totaling \$22,889.96

The City Manager notified Council of the issuance of the notice to proceed to the construction company for the paving of E Water Street from N Jay to the east to the city line to be completed by Saturday, June 12, 2021. The City Manager clarified that the boat regatta approved previously by Council will no longer be taking place in the city.

The City Manager notified Council of the 2021 Spring Clean up dates, to be held on April 12, 13, 19, and 20, 2021. The City Manager encouraged residents to check the city website for more information and reminded residents of the dumpster located at 99 Second Ave for residents to drop off yard waste by appointment. The Director of Community Life will send out push notifications using the city app to remind residents of the Spring Pick Up dates.

Mayor Long announced the passing of former Mayor William Eisemann, and Members of Council acknowledged his contributions to the city and offered condolences to his family. The City Manager announced the authorization of a donation made in the memory of Mayor Eisemann to the Ross Library on behalf of the city and its residents.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council considered the request of the City Manager to authorize him to engage Concord Public Finance to explore a borrowing package to include an estimated \$450,000 toward the installation of replacement water mains in Castanea Township, where residents are customers of the City Water Department as well as other borrowing necessary to begin approved investments

in the Capital Improvement Plan. The Department of Public Works has engaged the City Engineer in getting a more accurate cost for the project. As part of the exploration of borrowing would be \$445,000 for the Airport fund for the city's share of FOA and BOA capital improvements over the next five years, and the explore the effects of borrowing \$2.5 million for various projects in the community and improvements to City Hall. When Concord Public Finance completes their work, the information would be presented to Council for its consideration. The City Manager explained the timeline would be dependent on the funding and approval process, and the project would not be expected to start until 2022 or later. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, approval was granted to explore the borrowing package.**

Council considered the award of the City Hall Cleaning contract to the lowest responsible bidder. The City Manager explained that there was only one bid received, with an increased price from the current cleaning service, and requested the bid be rejected and other possibilities be explored. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Ms. Masorti, and carried unanimously, the bid was rejected.**

Council considered Resolution No. 2021-11 to apply for DCNR funding for improvements to Taggart. The City Manager and City Planner explained the application to for DCNR funding will help to reduce the funds used from CDBG to update the parks. A survey was put out to the public to gather suggestions from the public on what they would like to see added or improved in Taggart Park. The improvements would include making restrooms ADA compliant, improving drainage issues on the sports fields, and the addition of a walking path. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

NEW BUSINESS

Council considered the approval to solicit for bids for fuel stocked at the Second Avenue Garage. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the approval was granted.**

Council received information from Watershed Manager Frank Rohrer to consider its support of TreeVitalize efforts in the City and encourage City staff, members of the City's Shade Tree Commission, and the residents of Lock Haven to attend the Tree Tender® training sessions. The Director of Public Works answered questions regarding the program, and explained the importance of beautifying the community, and partnering with the Penn State Extension. Mr. Stevenson requested the link to register be added to the website, for the members of the public to register. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, support was given for the TreeVitalize program.**

Council considered the resignation of Daniel Ake as Fire Relief Driver for Citizens Hose Company. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the resignation was accepted with expressed gratitude for his service to the city.**

Council considered of the resignation of Reza Lotfi from the Levee Advisory Board and the Code Enforcement Board of Appeals & Review. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin,**

seconded by Mr. Byerly, and carried unanimously, the resignation was accepted with expressed appreciation to Mr. Lotfi.

OTHER MATTERS

The City Manager announced two job openings with the city; part-time Airport Attendant, and part-time Summer Laborer with the Department of Public Works and encouraged interested applicants to visit the city's website for more information.

The City Planner gave an update to Council on the city's Comprehensive Plan. A revised final draft was given to the City Planner, and after further review the Planning Commission will recommend adoption by Council, and the public will have until April 19 to review the plan and offer comments at the public hearing at 6:30 p.m. on April 19, 2021. Comments can also be submitted by email to the City Planner prior to the April 19 meeting. The draft will be available for residents to view at City Hall, Downtown Lock Haven, Inc., the Ross Library, and the County building.

Mr. Conklin expressed gratitude to the Department of Public Works for their work trimming trees and inquired about the whether or not the City will be retaining the surplus millings generated from the Water Street Paving project. The Director of Public Works explained that extra millings will be kept at Myrtle Street and other city locations.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Morris, at 7:59 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk