

**City Council Meeting
February 1, 2021**

City Council met virtually in regular session on Monday February 1, 2021, 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. Guests in attendance representing the Rotary Club of Downtown Lock Haven was Sue Foust. Also, in attendance was City Manager Gregory Wilson, City Planner and Development Coordinator Abigail Roberts, and the Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell.

COUNCIL MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Byerly, seconded by Mr. Conklin and carried unanimously, the minutes of the January 4, 2021 meeting were approved, including an edit from Mr. Stevenson.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Sue Foust, on behalf of the Rotary Club of Downtown Lock Haven, made a request to Council to place two more little libraries in city parks, at Piper-Harmon Memorial Park, and the City Beach. Ms. Foust will work with the Director of Community Life and members of Public Works to install the little libraries. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

Council also considered a request from the Rotary Club of Downtown Lock Haven for the use of Triangle Park for their Flags of Honor event on Memorial Day weekend, and the Angel Lights event on September 11, 2021. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Byerly, and carried unanimously, the request was approved pending further approval from the Director of Community Life.**

CORRESPONDENCE

Council considered a use request for the Piper Airport facilities for the annual Sentimental Journey fly-In June 22-26, 2021, and for the pancake breakfasts on May 2, 2021 and September 19, 2021. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Mincer, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

Council considered a request by Downtown Lock Haven, Inc, for their 2021 events. These events include the closure of Main Street and Grove and Vesper Streets on June 26, 2021 for the Best of Clinton County Festival and parade, and the closure of Main Street for Haven

Holidays on November 27, 2021 for a parade. The Director of Community Life will work with Downtown Lock Haven on the coordination of parking for the parade. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the request was approved, with the stipulation that parking will be prohibited on Main Street during the parade.**

The City Manager presented to Council the 2020 unpaid real estate taxes turned over to county "Tax Claim" for \$264,930.95, a 91% collection rate, compared to last year's 96% collection rate. The City Manager explained that due to economic hardships in 2020, DCED expected up to a 20% reduction in collection rate, but the City of Lock Haven only saw a 5% reduction. The City Manager credited the payment plan put in place for Real Estate Tax in 2020 and will be presenting this payment plan again for 2021 under New Business.

The City Manager presented to Council the 2020 use of state Liquid Fuels allocation (MS-965), this is the tax paid at the pump for fuel, that is given back to the City. In 2020, \$27,000 was used for street cleaning, \$32,000 for snow plowing, and \$8,000 for traffic signals. This coming year the city is expected to have a total of \$689,000, with funds allocated towards Phase One of the Sunset Pines Sewer Project.

The City Manager presented the Annual Notice of total tonnage for 2020 of curbside pick up from Wayne Township Landfill. 350.56 tons were picked up in 2020, compared to 346.34 tons in 2019.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The City Planner and Development Coordinator reviewed the draft of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan. The draft is available for review by Council and the public on the city's website, and hard copies are available at Downtown Lock Haven, Inc. as well as the Ross Library. Comments on the draft plan can be submitted to the City Planner until February 11, 2021, at which time the City Planner will discuss changes with the consultants. There will be a public meeting on March 15, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., and this will be the last opportunity for public comments. The Comprehensive Plan will be adopted by Council on at the March 15, 2021 regular meeting of Council.

Council considered a motion directing the Mayor to sign the agreement (02U297) between the City and PennDOT for the utility (hydrant) relocation cost-sharing project approved by Resolution 1597 of 2020. **On a motion made by Mr. Mincer, seconded by Mr. Byerly, and carried unanimously, the motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

Council considered the approval of the annual Community Development Block Grant resolutions. The City Planner and Development Coordinator presented Resolution No. 2021-001 Fair Housing and Resolution No. 2021-002 Section 504 ADA Compliance. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the resolutions were adopted.**

Council considered Ordinance No. 2021-01 providing for installment payments for the 2021 Real Estate Tax for the City of Lock Haven. The City Manager explained that there does not need to be a State of Emergency for this to be adopted, and the ordinance can be adopted every year. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the ordinance was adopted on first reading with second reading to take place Monday, February 15, 2021.**

Council considered Resolution No. 2021-003 providing for a 1-year extension of the collective bargaining agreement with the Lock Haven Police Officers Association, the local union representing the city's police force. The Police Officers Association is asking that the city postpone the expiration until 2022 due to the pandemic. The City Manager recommended extending the expiration under the agreement that collective bargaining does begin in 2021. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the one-year extension was granted.**

OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Morris requested that conversations regarding the Downtown Pedestrian Mall begin taking place with Downtown Lock Haven, Inc., so that plans may be put in place and Council give approval. The City Manager explained that Downtown Lock Haven, Inc. put out a survey to merchants, and will be making a decision at their February 2 meeting on the plans for the Pedestrian Mall.

Mr. Morris acknowledged the leaving of Dr. Pignatello from his position as President of Lock Haven University, and recognized his contribution to the community during his time as president. Mayor Long mirrored the recognition and thanked Dr. Pignatello for being a part of the Lock Haven Community.

Mayor Long addressed a concern from the community regarding the snow plowing by the City. The City Manager explained the schedule that the Public Works crews follow, and the unusual nature of the current storm, keeping crews on the streets all day and night.

Mr. Stevenson announced the return of the River Valley Transit bus service, on Fridays and Saturdays for Clinton County.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Morris, at 7:50 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk