

City Council Meeting October 16, 2023

City Council met in person for regular session on Monday October 16, 2023, in Council Chambers, 20 E Church St, and streamed live over YouTube and Facebook, in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor 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, Steve Stevenson, Jeffrey Brinker, Barbara Masorti, Richard Morris, and Mayor Joel Long.

Also in attendance was City Manager Greg Wilson, Director of Public Works Anthony Stopper and Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell. Guests in attendance were Tami Brannon, Bre Reynolds, Josh Hudson, Richard Herman, Mary Jo Johnson, Heather Alexander, Bob Larson, and Nic Hawlrychak.

COUNCIL MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the minutes from the October 2, 2023 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Hawlrychak addressed Council and thanked public works for their efficient efforts in fixing the leak and getting the boil water advisory dropped. Mr. Hawlrychak requested that as Council looks at putting funds towards areas that need to be addressed, that there be a focus on the water system.

Mary Jo Johnson addressed Council regarding the closure of Grove Street for the Old Corner's summer activities, and expressed concern for residents in the area, explaining that her tenants experienced difficulties during the weeks of the closures due the noise levels on the street outside their apartments. Ms. Johnson requested better notification for residents that the closure will be affecting. While the agenda is posted online and at City Hall the Friday before every meeting, the Community Life Director volunteered to also add the agenda on Fridays to the city's Facebook page to further alert residents of pending business before City Council.

Dr. Brinker inquired about revisiting or modifying actions made by council, and the Mayor explained it can be reconsidered if a majority of Council chooses to made the reconsideration. Mr. Morris suggested that Downtown Lock Haven be brought into the discussion to act as a mediator between the businesses that are unhappy with the decision, Ms. Masorti and Mr. Byerly were in agreement. Mr. Stevenson agreed to approach the Downtown board about the possibility of setting up a meeting to facilitate conversation regarding the closure and any accommodations that may be made.

Council considered a request from Zack Rogers to hold an Action Sports Competition at the Skatepark on November 11, 2023. **On a motion made by Dr. Brinker, seconded by Mr. Byerly, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

Council considered a request from the PA Trail Dogs for the Annual Boulder Beast event to be held on September 21, 2024 in Zindel Park. **On a motion made by Mr. Byerly, seconded by Ms. Masorti, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council considered Ordinance No. 2023-09 adopting the amended bylaws of the Ross Library Board of Trustees. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Masorti and carried unanimously, the ordinance was adopted on second reading.**

Council considered Resolution No. 2023-27 applying for the 2023 CDBG funding. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Masorti, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

Council was presented with a letter from the Lock Haven City Authority committing to payment of the costs associated with the application to the Public Utilities Commission for increasing water user rates.

NEW BUSINESS

Council considered Resolution 2023-28, declaring a water emergency for the City of Lock Haven water system due to low reservoir levels. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

Council considered directing City Engineer Gwin Dobson & Foreman to engineer the emergency connection of water to the system and prepare a budget for the same. **On a motion made by Ms. Masorti, seconded by Dr. Brinker and carried unanimously, the emergency connection was approved.**

Council was presented with a letter from the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association regarding the operational challenges of the airport. Bob Larson of the AOPA addressed council and gave his concerns regarding council's consideration of the sale of the airport.

The City Manager presented to Council the 2024 Budget Primer, explaining the distribution between funds of property, liability, and other insurances obtained through the PennPRIME Trust.

OTHER MATTERS

Council received updates on Ohl Phase I, notification of the October 17 virtual listening session of the PA Workforce and Innovation and Opportunity Act state plan, notification of the Lock Haven City Authority Agenda on October 9, 2023, notification of the CCEP Time Out on November 1, and the Hoberman Skatepark inspection report.

The Director of Community Life invited Council and the public to the Skatepark Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on November 9, at 3:00 p.m.

Mayor Long thanked City Planner Abbey Roberts and Chief Rickard for their work in securing grants for the camera systems for police cars.

The Public Works Director announced the annual Leaf Pick Up Schedule beginning November 6 following the street sweeper schedule.

Mr. Morris provided an update on the property appeals stating that the CVS appeal had been rejected, and the appeal of Susqueview was under advisement by the county.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Morris, at 8:11 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.