

City Council Meeting November 13, 2023

City Council met in person for regular session on Monday November 6, 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, City Planner and Development Coordinator Abbey Roberts, Director of Permits and Licensing Cyndi Walker, Chief of Police Matthew Rickard, Fire Chief Tyler Wooding, Lieutenant Beth Gregory, Officer Baumgardner, Facilities Manager Caleb Rogers, and Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell. Guests in attendance were Tami Brannan, Bre Reynolds, Robert Neff, Lacey Heggenstaller, Heather Alexander, S.C. Sanders, Jr., and William Bailey Jr.

PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE

Council heard from James Tomaini regarding the vacating of an alley adjacent to his property and inquired about the process of vacating an alley. Mr. Tomaini was informed that the process is defined by state law and that is the process that the city uses. After a street or alley is vacated, the city then notifies the County Assessor's Office and to know more about what happens after that Mr. Tomaini was encouraged to reach out to the County.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council considered the second reading of Ordinance No. 2023-10 amending the Lock Haven City Code Chapter 105 Personnel. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Masorti, and carried unanimously, the ordinance was adopted.**

Council considered Ordinance No. 2023-11 setting the 2024-2026 wages for non-union employees. Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. and reconvened at 7:57 p.m. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Ms. Masorti, and carried unanimously, the ordinance was adopted, with the amendment of the ordinance with sections 2 and 3 being removed from the ordinance, regarding setting the raises for 3 years.** The second reading of the ordinance will be on November 20.

NEW BUSINESS

Council considered Ordinance No. 2023-12 amending Chapter 59 "Fire Department" to account for two, rather than three, companies. Mr. Stevenson requested there be a meeting of the Fire Advisory Board to review the changes to the ordinance prior to Council voting to adopt. **On a motion made by Mr. Byerly, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried by a vote of 5 to 2, with Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Brinker voting in opposition, the ordinance was adopted.** Second

reading of the ordinance will take place during the regular meeting of Council on December 4, 2023.

Council was presented with the results of the single audit review on the city's grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, in which there were no findings.

Council was notified of the third quarter Comcast franchise fee of \$24,613.91.

Council was presented with a letter to Clinton County and Keystone Central of the closure of the first ward polling site at Hand-in-Hand Hose Company because of its relocation to the Hope Hose facility as part of the consolidation of the two companies. Mayor Long requested that the letter only address the closure of Hand-in-Hand and not discuss the city's wards. With the consent of Council, the letter will be sent to Clinton County.

The City Manager provided Council with the 2024 Budget Schedule, with the budget being presented to Council on November 20, made available to the public on November 21, A special meeting of council on November 27 for a budget hearing, a regular meeting of Council on December 4 for the budget hearing, and a special meeting of Council on December 11 for the Budget adoption.

The City Manager presented council with clarification to comments regarding city architect Buchart Horn.

The City Manager provided an update to the Water Emergency, stating that the wells are being pursued, and that water consumption has not gone down. Leaks are being found and currently being repaired, as well as notification to residents where leaks were found on private property.

OTHER MATTERS

Council received Ohl Phase I updates, a letter of thanks from the Lock Haven Fire Department, and the response letter to Norfolk Southern in regards to their request to vacate railroad crossings throughout the city.

The City Manager notified Council of the Clinton County Economic Partnership Holiday Party on December 6, 2023.

Mr. Conklin addressed Council with a statement regarding his displeasure at the behavior of Council, and what he viewed as misinformation spread to the public by members of council leading up to the recent election regarding the police department construction, City Hall improvements, and police coverage.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Morris, at 8:26 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.