

City Council Meeting November 6, 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, Director of Public Works Anthony Stopper Fire Chief Tyler Wooding, and Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell. Guests in attendance were Tami Brannan, Bre Reynolds, Richard Herman, Jason White, Gerard Banfill, Paul Sattazalin, Benjamin Phillipi, Holly Wilson, Robert Neff, David Calhoun, Benjamin Adam, Angela Harding, Sasha Sheridan, Alex DiCostanzo, Nic Hawlrylchak, and Eric Jacobs.

COUNCIL MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Byerly, and carried unanimously, the minutes from the October 16, 2023 meeting were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE

Sasha Sheridan made a presentation to Council, providing care packages made by women in the local Amish community, for children taken from domestic abuse situations. These care packages were presented to the Police Department and are being made for other municipalities in the area as well.

Angela Harding, president of Downtown Lock Haven, Inc. addressed Council regarding comments made at the October 16, 2023 meeting and explained the role of Downtown Lock Haven in regards to businesses and the city.

Council considered a request from Roads to Peace for the use of Triangle Park on June 29, 2024 for a Pride in the Haven event, and October 25, 2024 for a Domestic Violence Vigil. **On a motion made by Ms. Masorti, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council considered Resolution No. 2023-29 to submit a Letter of No Prejudice to PennVEST to enable future refunding of the emergency water well expenses. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

Council considered Resolution No. 2023-30 adopting the updates to the collective bargaining agreement with the Lock Haven Police Officers Association as provided in the Act 111

Arbitration Award. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Byerly, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

Council considered Resolution No. 2023-31 adopting the updates to the collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME Local 2834. **On a motion made by Ms. Masorti, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

The Consideration of Ord. No. 2023-11 setting the 2024-26 wage for nonunion employees was moved to the November 13, 2023 meeting of Council.

The City Manager notified Council of the award of the Strategic Management Planning Program (STMP) grant to offset the costs of the updated employee handbook in the amount of \$4,875.00.

NEW BUSINESS

Council considered a request from Norfolk Southern to vacate the street crossings at 4th Street, Liberty St., Vesper St, Grove St., and Henderson St. Council heard from Fire Chief Tyler Wooding, and other members of emergency services, regarding the request to vacate street crossings, citing the detriment to public safety and response times should the request be approved. Residents in attendance addressed Council with their concerns regarding the request. Council members expressed their opposition to vacating the crossings. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Byerly, and carried unanimously, the request from Norfolk Southern was denied.**

Council considered Ordinance No. 2023-10 amending the Lock Haven City Code Chapter 105 Personnel. **On a motion made by Ms. Masorti, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the ordinance was adopted on first reading.** Second reading will be held at the November 13 regular meeting.

Council considered the WTL wastewater sludge disposal agreement contract proposal. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Byerly, and carried unanimously, the agreement proposal was approved.**

Council was notified of the city cost in 2024 for complementary curbside residential recycling in the amount of \$34,594.00. Mayor Long inquired about the ability to look for other sources of disposal, and the city manager explained that we are in a 3-year agreement, but it can be revisited at the end of the agreement in 2024.

Council considered the procurement of wastewater treatment chemicals for 2024. **On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Conklin, and carried unanimously, council agreed to extend the contract with current supplier of Aluminum Sulfate, USACLO, and the contract with the current supplier of Polymer, Pollutech for the entirety of 2024, at the recommendation of the Director of Public Works.**

Consideration of the lease agreement with “East Side Fire & Rescue” (formerly Hope Hose) for 124-128 E Church Street. Council had questions regarding contents of the lease which were answered by the City Manager and the Fire employees present. **On a motion made by Mr. Byerly, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the agreement was approved pending corrections.**

Council considered a request from the Lock Haven Area Flood Protection Authority for a 2024 donation in the amount of \$2,500.00. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

OTHER MATTERS

Council received Ohl Phase I updates, minutes of the LHCA meeting of 9/7/23, minutes of the Commonwealth – LH town/gown meeting, notice of the Municipal League PATH 2024 trainings, correspondence from the PA Secretary of the Budget regarding local impact of the PA legislatures having not adopted the 2023-2024 budget, and an update from Buchart Horn on Police Department facility project. Mr. Morris addressed Council regarding his concern with Buchart Horn’s changes to the plan and the pace at which the project is being completed.

Robert Neff inquired about making a request for the use of Triangle Park for the Halloween Parade and he was encouraged to make his request at his earliest convenience.

The Director of Community Life encouraged everyone to attend the Skatepark Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on November 9, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Dave Calhoun from Wayne Township addressed Council and requested a work session to have a member of the City explain the water emergency to the Township supervisors, and a meeting was set up for the engineers to attend. The Director of Public Works and a representative from Gwin Dobson & Foreman will schedule to attend the township’s work session.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Morris, at 7:51 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.