

City Council Meeting February 26, 2024

City Council met in person for regular session on Monday February 26, 2024, 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 Heather Alexander, Jeffrey Brinker, Richard Conklin, Barbara Masorti, Steve Stevenson, and Mayor Joel Long, with Ms. Masorti and Mr. Conklin attending via Zoom Conference Call. Absent was Tami Brannan.

Also in attendance was City Manager Greg Wilson, City Planner and Development Coordinator Abigail Roberts, and Director of Community Life Kasey Campbell. Guests in attendance were Bre Reynolds, Josh Hudson, Bill Stankowicz, Joseph Morrison, Juno Olsen, Amy Corbett, Jennifer Grubb, Karen Robbins, and Emily Wright of the Record.

COUNCIL MINUTES

On a motion made by Ms. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the minutes from the February 5, 2024 meeting were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

Council considered a request from Sentimental Journey for the use of the William T. Piper Airport from June 18-23, the use of Hanger 1 for the May 5th Pancake Breakfast, and the use of Hanger 1 for the September 22 Pancake Breakfast. **On a motion made by Dr. Brinker, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

Council considered a request from Bill Stankowicz, Richard Wallace, and the Swissdale United Methodist Church for the installation of Easter crosses in Triangle Park, and to hang the Christian flag on the Triangle Park flagpole for the month of April in celebration of Faith month. Bre Reynolds addressed council and read from the Concerned Women of America's website regarding Faith month and the Christian Flag and stated that the group is recognized as a hate group against the LGBT community. Mr. Stankowicz stated that he provided Council with a proclamation, and the City Manager clarified that the proclamation is not adopted by federal government, the courts or U.S. Military. Ms. Masorti asked for clarification on the request, and asked if the two requests could be separated. Ms. Masorti expressed objection to the Faith Month request because it is not an all-faiths flag but specifically a Christian flag. Mr. Stevenson, who made the motion, stated that he did not feel the requests needed to be separated. A local member of Concerned Women for America stated to council that the group is Christian women working with lawmakers to have the flag flown at government buildings. Mr. Conklin stated that he would not support the motion without separating the two requests. Mr. Conklin stated that he felt flying the Christian flag would be offensive to Jews, as well as Muslims. Mr. Long asked if the Christmas decorations are offensive, to which Mr. Conklin stated that we should understand this is not an inclusive promotion, it is very specific. Mr. Stevenson stated that it is a group of

people that want to put up a display at Triangle Park, and Council does not discriminate against groups making requests. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Ms. Alexander, and carried by a vote of 4 to 2, with Mr. Conklin and Ms. Masorti voting in opposition, the request was approved.**

Council considered a request for the use of Triangle Park for Child Abuse Awareness Month, for a display from April 13-20, and a banner displayed on the gazebo for the duration of the month. **On a motion made by Dr. Brinker, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

Council considered a request from the Clinton County Pride Alliance to paint the stop bars for the month of June for Pride Month. Dr. Brinker asked that if the flags are painted, they should be removed at the end of June, and not whenever they naturally fade. Mr. Stevenson asked that the city manager direct public works to remove the paint in July. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Ms. Alexander, and carried by a vote of 5 to 1, with Dr. Brinker voting in opposition, the request was approved.**

Council considered a request from Luna & Ha Wellness Studios for the use of Memorial Park on June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, and October 6 for a community yoga class. **On a motion made by Dr. Brinker, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

Council considered a request from Lindsey Bierly for the use of Zindel Park on September 28 for a small wedding ceremony. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Dr. Brinker, and carried unanimously, the request was approved.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council considered Resolution No. 2024-05 adopting the Clinton County Hazard Mitigation Plan. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Dr. Brinker, and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.**

Council was provided with an update on the Drought Warning by the City Manager. The City Manager explained that Clinton County is still recognized as being in a Drought by DEP and water customers are asked to continue reducing water use by 10-15%, which would be approximately 6-8 gallons per day. The City Manager answered questions regarding the Dam construction and wells.

Council was notified by DEP of concurrence with proposed rehabilitation of Keller Dam. The City Manager answered questions and explained the status of the PUC application to Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Council considered Resolution No. 2024-06 authorizing STMP Grant application for updates to the city's Zoning and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. The City Planner answered questions from Council and clarified information regarding the grant application. **On a**

motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Dr. Brinker and carried unanimously, the resolution was adopted.

Council considered authorization to solicit bids for the Zindel Park bridge replacements, which will need to be completed in advance of the Keller Dam construction. The City Manager explained that the city engineers reviewed the cost of construction of the bridge replacements and the timber bridges would cost the same as the jersey barrier bridges, and local groups such as the Central Region Trail Friends agreed the timber bridges would fit aesthetically with the park. The City Manager answered questions and stated that the other funding authorities would be notified after approval from Council. **On a motion made by Mr. Conklin, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, and carried unanimously, the authorization to solicit bids was granted.**

The City Manager provided Council with the City's 2022 FY Audit results, as well as the CLGS-30. The Audit will be made available on the City's website and at City Hall for city residents to view.

Council was notified of the Cable TV Franchise payment for quarter 4 of 2023 in the amount of \$24,050.06.

OTHER MATTERS

Council received an invitation to the CCEP Time Out on February 29, information regarding the WTL Tire collection event, correspondence to Wayne Township Supervisors, Annual Water and Sewer letters required under the agreement with LHCA, and the annual donation to LHAFPA.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Ms. Alexander, at 7:43 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.