 Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, December 19, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

This meeting was broadcast using Facebook Live. The public was able to view the meeting from the official City of Johnstown Facebook page: City of Johnstown, New York

The proceedings of this meeting were taped for the benefit of the City Clerk; the minutes are not a verbatim record of the proceedings, therefore the minutes are not a word-for-word transcript.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Amy Praught, Mayor

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL – Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE:

|  |  |
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| [x] Amy Praught, Mayor | [x] Thomas Herr, City Treasurer |
| [ ] Scott Jeffers, Council Member-at-Large  | [ ] Michael J. Poulin, City Attorney  |
| [x] Bradley Hayner, Council Member Ward 1 | [x] Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| [x] Scott Miller, Council Member Ward 2 | [x] Bruce Heberer, Fire Chief |
| [x] Eric Parker, Council Member Ward 3 | [x] David F. Gilbo, Chief of Police |
| [x] Max Spritzer, Council Member Ward 4 | [x] Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer[x] Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program |

ABSENT – Scott Jeffers, Michael Poulin

PUBLIC SESSION – N/A

PRESENTATIONS – N/A

PUBLIC HEARINGS – N/A

APPROVE MINUTES

* November 21, 2022

Motion to approve – Council Member Hayner

Seconded – Council Member Parker

Discussion: None

Ayes: 3

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)

Abstain: 1 (S. Miller)

APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

* Motion to approve, upon review – Council Member Parker

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)

Abstain: 0

REPORTS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

* Reports are attached hereto and made part of the meeting minutes.
* Parker asked about Townsend Ave Bridge, if it’s still going to move forward. C. Vose stated he was optimistic
* Parker confirmed that all property on auction list were sold. T. Herr stated just waiting for bidders to pay; have until December 30th
* Parker commented that sales tax continues to go up.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISONS

* Eric Parker; Joint Sewer Board
* Did not receive grant for the sludge dryer due to lack of funding, will pursue other avenues. Application scored well but program didn’t have adequate funding.
* Amsterdam toured facility. There are going to commission a study to determine if the facility can accept their sludge. No cost to our communities
* Discharge Permits renewed for 2023
* Financial Audit conducted; everything looked good
* Bruce Heberer, Planning Board – N/A
* Scott Miller, Assessor
* Tax exemptions were mailed; due on March 1st.
* New homeowners register for STAR credit online

LOCAL LAW – N/A

ORDINANCE – N/A

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS – N/A

RESOLUTIONS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 80. | Change Organizational Meeting Date |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Hayner | Seconded by Councilmember  | Spritzer |
|  | Discussion: Miller asked why date was changed. Mayor stated that being we didn’t have anyone being sworn in and didn’t feel a need to meet. |
|  | Ayes: 4 |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers) |  |  |
|  | Abstain: 0 |  |  |
| 81. | Appoint Michael M. Albanese as City Attorney |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Miller | Seconded by Councilmember  | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: Mayor introduce Atty. Albanese to all present |
|  | Ayes: 4 |
|  | Noes: 0 |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)  |
|  | Abstain: 0 |
| 82. | Advertise for Bids – update lighting and doors and Cork Center & Christman Filtration |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Parker | Seconded by Councilmember | Spritzer |
|  | Discussion: None |
|  | Ayes: 4 |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)Abstain: 0  |  |  |

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| 83. | Contract w/ Brezzy’s Cleaning Service |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Spritzer | Seconded by Councilmember  | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: Miller asked who performed the services in past. Vose stated that the individual who used to do the cleaning retired and found need to have that titled position back in field. |
|  | Ayes: 4 |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)Abstain: 0 |  |  |

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| 84. | Accept offer for 237 N. Perry Street (resolution did not pass) |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Hayner | Seconded by Councilmember  | Spritzer |
|  | Discussion: None |
|  | Ayes: 3 |  |  |
|  | Noes: 1 (S. Miller) |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers) |  |  |
|  | Abstain: 0 |  |  |
| 85. | Agreement w/ Girvin & Ferlazzo – Labor Attorney |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Hayner | Seconded by Councilmember  | Parker |
|  | Discussion: None |
|  | Ayes: 4 |
|  | Noes: 0 |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)  |
|  | Abstain: 0 |
| 86. | Lease Agreement with Johnstown Area Community Center |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Miller | Seconded by Councilmember | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: None |
|  | Ayes: 4 |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)Abstain: 0  |  |  |

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| 87. | Agreement for Assessment Support Services |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Parker | Seconded by Councilmember  | Spritzer |
|  | Discussion: None |
|  | Ayes: 4 |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers) |  |  |
|  | Abstain: 0 |  |  |
| 88. | Agreement w/ FC Center for Regional Growth – Johnstown Loan Fund |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Spritzer | Seconded by Councilmember  | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: None |
|  | Ayes: 4 |
|  | Noes: 0 |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)  |
|  | Abstain: 0 |
| 89. | Authorize Sale of 1994 Athey to Town of Johnstown |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Hayner | Seconded by Councilmember | Spritzer |
|  | Discussion: None |
|  | Ayes: 4 |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)Abstain: 0  |  |  |

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| 90. | Authorize Contract with James A. Brennan Humane Society |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Hayner | Seconded by Councilmember | Parker |
|  | Discussion: Parker noted a slight increase from last year. Clerk stated it was minimal by about $100 |
|  | Ayes: 4 |
|  | Noes: 0 |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)Abstain: 0  |

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| 91. | Authorize Telecommunications Site Lease Agreement w/ First Light Fiber, Inc. |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Miller | Seconded by Councilmember | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: Parker confirmed location; near leaf dropoff. Vose stated that the building won’t be very big.  |
|  | Ayes: 4 |
|  | Noes: 0 |
|  | Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)Abstain: 0  |

DISCUSSION

* Chief Gilbo introduced the new police officer, Carrie Houser. She started on December 18th
* Mayor thanked Bruce on a wonderful parade & Tourism and Downtown Business Association on Colonial Stroll.
* Chief Heberer stated that the hospitals are full. If in need of non-emergency services to utilize urgent care facilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. City Offices closed December 26th & January 2nd ; Christmas Day & New Year’s Day
2. City Offices closed January 16th; Martin Luther King Jr. Day
3. Business Meeting – Tuesday, January 17th @ 6pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION – N/A

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 6:20 p.m.

* Council Member Hayner

Seconded – Council Member Spritzer

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (S. Jeffers)

Abstain: 0

Respectfully submitted,



Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk