Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, December 20, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

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 – Vernon F. Jackson, Mayor

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL – Vernon F. Jackson, Mayor

IN ATTENDANCE:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [x] Vernon F. Jackson, Mayor | [x] Thomas Herr, City Treasurer |
| [x] Craig Talarico, Council Member-at-Large  | [x] Michael J. Poulin, City Attorney  |
| [x] Bradley Hayner, Council Member Ward 1 | [x] Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| [x] Kathi Iannotti, 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 | [ ] Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer[x] Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program |

ABSENT

Christopher Vose

PROCLAMATION / CITATION – N/A

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

* Ron Peters from CRG took a moment to thank the mayor for everything he has done for Johnstown and noted it was a pleasure working with him, he was an asset to city.

PRESENTATIONS – N/A

PUBLIC HEARINGS – N/A

APPROVE MINUTES

November 15, 2021

Motion to approve – Council Member Talarico

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

November 22, 2021

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member at Large Talarico

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve, upon review – Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

CITY OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

Reports are attached hereto and made part of the meeting minutes.

* Spritzer asked the Treasurer
	+ Tyler Technologies - Herr stated the meeting was basically an initial call and will know more on January 3rd; they’ll have more of a schedule of the implementation of the software. It will take a few months to get everything set up.
	+ Bond – contingent on completion of AUDs; working with a CPA firm to have them completed quicker.
	+ Thanked Tom for providing balances of General Fund and EMS Fund and supplying the Council with a monthly report.
* Spritzer Commended fire department on their work on recent fire on Main Street, great response and minimal damage. Heberer stated this was the 3rd time they responded to a fire in that building, this is the least amount of damage and contributed that to new regulation that third floor sprinklers are now required. Heberer thanked the passerby for reporting the fire and police and DPW for the work they did that night too.
* Talarico commented on his recent ride along with police; Impressed with professionalism and training.
* Spritzer asked Chief Gilbo if the recent illegally weapons seized were from city residents. Gilbo stated some were from guns stolen outside of area.

Free gun locks are available from police.

* Parker asked Chief Gilbo on an update on purchasing vehicles. One looking to purchase for next year is being built starting today, 3 are already being built – delivery expected mid-January.

LIAISONS’ REPORTS

* Craig Talarico, Gloversville Johnstown Joint Sewer Board

Sludge dryer required paperwork has been sent in for grant.

DEC toured the facility and were impressed by operation.

Processed: 6 million gallons of wastewater

 15.8 million gallons of washwater

 2.4 million gallons of whey

Accepted 1.2 million gallons of leachate.

Hauled 1,420 tons of sludge to landfill. This amount will be reduced to a fraction of this amount with a sludge dryer. Cost savings includes maintenance to vehicles and roads. Contract with our municipalities; they can save money, we can make money.

Generated, in October, 116,280 Kw hours of electricity. Sold to National Grid for $7,217.56

* Brad Hayner, Water Board

Met on December 13th. Approved funds for permits that have expired for Dam Phase II, in process of participating in the Federal Low Income Household Water Assistance Program, discussed revolutionary cemetery access request to allow visitors.

Sr. Water Treatment Plan Operator, John Denmark submitted his resignation effective December 31, 2021.

* Kathi Iannotti, Planning Board

No Meeting

* Kathi Iannotti, Assessor’s Office

Senior exemption renewals have been mailed, due March 1, 2022.

LOCAL LAW – N/A

ORDINANCES – N/A

RESOLUTIONS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 80. | Amend 2022 Budget  |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Hayner | Seconded by Councilmember  | Spritzer |
|  | Discussion: None  |
|  | Ayes: 5 |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 |  |  |
|  | Absent: 0  |  |  |
|  | Abstain: 0 |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 81. | Agreement with James A. Brennan Humane Society for 2022 |
|  | Presented by Councilmember  | Iannotti | Seconded by Councilmember  | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: Iannotti asked if the fee was the same as last year. It was confirmed that figures remained same. Spritzer asked if we’ve ever exceeded the number of animals they’ll take in from the city. Gilbo stated we have not, the Humane Society lets us know when we are getting close. |
|  | Ayes: 5 |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 |  |  |
|  | Absent: 0  |  |  |
|  | Abstain: 0 |  |  |

DISCUSSION

* Talarico; if you see a street light out email National Grid. You can also contact the police department, send out a monthly report to National Grid.
* Hayner commended Iannotti on 8 years of service on Council, and thanked Mayor as well.
* Mayor thanked everyone, he appreciates all that everyone has done during the time he has been Mayor “you make me look good.” He will miss everyone.
* Parker thanked parade organizers and police department, it was a cold but great parade.
* Spritzer commented on how great the park looks. Heberer said it is a joint city effort.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Christmas Eve – Friday, December 24th ; City offices closed
2. New Year’s Eve – Friday, December 31st ; City offices closed
3. Garbage Collection for the upcoming holidays:
* Christmas Eve - NO GARBAGE; garbage will be collected on Monday, December 27th
* New Year’s Eve - NO GARBAGE; garbage will be collected on Monday, January 3rd
1. Organizational Meeting – Saturday, January 1, 2022 @ Noon
2. Police will not ticket cars for parking on city streets during Christmas and New Years holiday, Gilbo added unless there is more than a dusting of snow.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member at Large Talarico made a motion to enter in to executive session at 6:21 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of proposed, pending and current litigation.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

No action was taken during executive session.

Council Member Iannotti made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:51 p.m.

Seconded – Council Member Spritzer

Discussion - None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 6:51 p.m.

Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Respectfully submitted,



Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk