Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, July 19, 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:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Vernon F. Jackson, Mayor | Michael C. Gifford, City Treasurer |
| Craig Talarico, Council Member-at-Large | Michael J. Poulin, City Attorney |
| Bradley Hayner, Council Member Ward 1 | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Kathi Iannotti, Council Member Ward 2 | Bruce Heberer, Fire Chief |
| Eric Parker, Council Member Ward 3 | David F. Gilbo, Chief of Police |
| Max Spritzer, Council Member Ward 4 | Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer  Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program |

ABSENT

Michael Gifford, City Treasurer

Assemblyman Robert Smullen was present to observe meeting and to welcome the public to contact him with any issues. Thanked the City for allowing to have his satellite office in City Hall.

PROCLAMATION / CITATION – N/A

PUBLIC HEARINGS – N/A

PUBLIC SPEAKERS – N/A

PRESENTATIONS – N/A

APPROVE MINUTES – June 21, 2021

Motion to approve – Council Member Hayner

Seconded – Council Member Talarico

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| General Fund A | * Unpaid | Abstract # | 5230 | $ | 94,335.97 |  |
| General Fund A | * Paid | Abstract # | 07/2021A | $ | 858,930.53 |  |
| Sewer Fund G | * Unpaid | Abstract # | 842 | $ | 132,774.94 |  |
| Sewer Fund G | * Paid | Abstract # | 07/2021G | $ | 481.28 |  |
| Voucher Fund VO | * Paid | Abstract # | 07/2021VO | $ | 54,980.60 |  |

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.

Parker asked Vose if he had any information as to how long the construction will continue on Rt. 30. Vose stated this is a state project and he has no control over what they do, but believes that the work will continue through the construction season.

LIAISONS’ REPORTS

* Craig Talarico, Gloversville Johnstown Joint Sewer Board

1. Electrical work on the exploded line have been complete, at a cost less than expected.

2. A meeting was held regarding the sludge dryer, looking to obtain state grants to cover cost

* Bradley Hayner, Water Board

Met July 12th. Approved financials, Minutes, and billing levy. Next meeting is August 9th at 5pm at the Cork Center

* Kathi Iannotti, Planning Board

1. Ruby & Quiri addition approved

2. City Line Storage – adding additional units. Public Hearing set for Tuesday, August 3rd @ 4pm.

3. 4xHeaven – remodeling old John C. Miller building. Public Hearing set for Tuesday, August 3rd @ 4pm.

* Kathi Iannotti, Assessor’s Office

N/A

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS – N/A

ORDINANCES – N/A

RESOLUTIONS

Bond Appropriation - Tabled

Presented by Councilmember Hayner Seconded by Councilmember Iannotti

Discussion: Hayner stated that the Council understands the importance and urgency of passing the Bond but they need questions answered by City Treasurer prior to going forward. They are willing to conduct a special meeting if necessary to approve.

Fire Chief, Police Chief and Water Board President voiced their concerns about needing the Bond approved.

Heberer:

* + - 6 years waiting for items to be replaced, cost is approaching $200,000 in increased costs.
    - An additional ambulance is needed. EMS in the County is in dire straits for ambulance providers
    - He is looking in to presenting a Resolution to change billing percentage and charging for on scene services, this will increase revenue

Gilbo:

* + - Requesting 2 vehicles in bond (administrative and undercover), not 5. This will replace 12 yr. old fleet.
    - Other vehicles: 2 were budgeted for in 2020 and 2021 and the other, a 2018 vehicle was in an accident and covered by insurance.

Capparello

* + - 75% of what is requested is state mandated

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

1. Advertise for Public Hearing – Amend Chapter 11; Transfer Station Charges

Presented by Councilmember Iannotti Seconded by Councilmember Hayner

Discussion: Changes will include imposing a $5 replacement fee and offering a discount for permits purchased after September 30th

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

1. Advertise for Public Hearing – Amend Chapter 4; Dog Licensing

Presented by Councilmember Parker Seconded by Councilmember at Large Talarico

Discussion: Changes include raising fees by $0.50, $5 late fee and Senior Citizen discount

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

1. Advertise for Public Hearing – Amend Chapter 20; Nellis Ave. Stop Sign

Presented by Councilmember Spritzer Seconded by Councilmember Iannotti

Discussion: Currently no traffic control devise on this street. The city does maintain the street.

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

1. Accept Bid – Infrastructure Replacement; Jablonski Excavating.

Presented by Councilmember at Large Talarico Seconded by Councilmember Iannotti

Discussion: Spritzer asked what the timing of project will be and if “Covid” money would be used. Vose stated they plan to get to work right away and have completed by year end. Funding would come partially from State Touring Route money, this is similar to CHIPS. Funding can be used for State route maintained by municipality.

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

1. Agreement – CSEA Memorandum of Agreement to amend holidays.

Presented by Councilmember Hayner Seconded by Councilmember Iannotti

Discussion: Include Juneteenth, new federal holiday. Spritzer asked if this would be retroactive, and was advised that this would be for moving forward.

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

1. Advertise for Bid – Street Resurfacing

Presented by Councilmember at Iannotti. Seconded by Councilmember at Large Talarico

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Business Meeting Monday, August 16 2021 @ 6:00 pm
2. Harry Potter Festival – Saturday, July 31st 10-4pm
3. Suicide Prevention Bake Sale – Saturday, July 24th 9:30 – 1:30 pm
4. One Main Financial moving in to the old Payless Shoe Store
5. Mike Anich is retiring from the Leader Herald. The Mayor thanked him for his years reporting on behalf of the City and wished him luck in his retirement. This will be his last meeting covering the City of Johnstown.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member at Large Talarico made a motion to enter in to executive session at 6:28 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 Hayner made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:01 p.m.

Seconded – Council Member at Large Talarico

Discussion - None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 7:02 p.m.

Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Parker

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Respectfully submitted,



Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk