 Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting

Council Chambers, City Hall

Tuesday, June 20, 2023 @ 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:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Amy Praught, Mayor | Thomas Herr, City Treasurer |
| Scott Jeffers, Council Member-at-Large | Michael M. Albanese, City Attorney |
| Bradley Hayner, Council Member Ward 1 | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Scott Miller, 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  Susan Conine, Human Resource Manager |

ABSENT – Max Spritzer

PUBLIC SESSION

* Dean DeCuyke of Johnstown thanked the City for all that was done to take care of an ongoing issue he brought to the attention of the Codes Office regarding individual potentially operating a business from his garage.

PRESENTATIONS – N/A

PUBLIC HEARINGS

* Mayor Praught opened the Public Hearings for the following at 6:04 p.m.:
  1. Local Law; insufficient funds
  2. Ordinance; Barrel Drive
  3. Ordinance; Parade and Special Events
  4. Ordinance; One-Way Street
* No comments or discussion.
* Mayor Praught closed the Public Hearings at 6:13 p.m.

PROCLAMATION – N/A

APPROVE MINUTES

* May 15, 2023

Motion to approve – Council Member

Seconded – Council Member

Discussion: None

Ayes: 3

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Spritzer)

Abstain: 1 (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 (Spritzer)

Abstain: 0

REPORTS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

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

* DPW
  + Parker asked how Lead Replacement is going
  + Parker asked how Water Meter Replacement is going. Vose stated about 3500 installations have been complete and its moving along.
* Police
  + How is graffiti handled? Gilbo stated that to contact the police department. They will photograph it and see if it matches up to known graffiti patrols will also look out in the neighborhood.
  + Asked if department was fully staffed. Gilbo stated new hire is in school and won’t be available until next March.
* Fire
  + Parker asked about the blinking light on Townsend and N. Perry. Heberer stated that a control head was fried due to a nearby fire and waiting on parts. In the meantime they are conducting study
  + Parker asked if the department is fully staffed. Heberer confirmed that it was.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISONS

* Eric Parker; Joint Sewer Board – Minutes attached hereto
  + Looking into getting a grant for sludge dryer. Although price has gone up significantly. Originally 6 million, now 10-12 million. Grant would pay 40%
  + Any odor complaints are logged on to website and available for residents to view
  + Close to being fully staffed. Have hired 4-5 new employees this year
  + Negotiating new contracts for Fage and Euphrates
  + Have not approved contract for Route 30A sewer line. Matter has been tabled for further discussion. Mayor added that the City has not yet approved contract either.
* Scott Jeffers, Planning Board
  + Second Wind Coffee initial Site Plan was approved. Have a year to begin work, can come back for extension if more time needed.
* Scott Miller, Assessor
  + Grievance Day was held May 23rd, notices will be mailed by the end of the month
  + Final Roll will be filed with the Clerk by July 1st and also available on County website

LOCAL LAW

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | Adopt Local Law #1, 2023 – Amend Article 4; Section C 4.0 | | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Hayner | Seconded by Councilmember | Parker |
|  | Discussion: Miller asked what the current fee being charged is. Allen stated there currently wasn’t anything in place. | | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |
|  | Noes: 0 | |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | |

ORDINANCE

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | Adopt Ordinance #1, 2023 – Chapter 20, Section 20-205 Entitled One Way Streets | | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Jeffers | Seconded by Councilmember | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: None | | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |
|  | Noes: 0 | |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | |

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| 2. | Adopt Ordinance #2, 2023 – Amend Article II: Parades, Processions, Races and Special Events | | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Parker | Seconded by Councilmember | Jeffers |
|  | Discussion: None | | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |
|  | Noes: 0 | |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | |

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| 3. | Adopt Ordinance #3, 2023 – Amend Chapter 11: Licenses and Miscellaneous Business Regulations; Vendors | | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Miller | Seconded by Councilmember | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: None | | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |
|  | Noes: 0 | |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | |

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS – N/A

RESOLUTIONS

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 45. | Enter into an Agreement with Greater Johnstown School District for a School Resource Officer | | | | | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Jeffers | | Seconded by Councilmember | | | Hayner | |
|  | Discussion: None | | | | | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | | |  | | |  | |
|  | Noes: 0 | | |  | | |  | |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | | |  | | |  | |
|  |  | | |  | | |  | |
| 46. | Renewal Agreement with NYS Unified Court System for Court Security Services | | | | | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Hayner | | | Seconded by Councilmember | | Jeffers | |
|  | Discussion: Parker asked what the difference in dates were if it’s a five year agreement, why do we revise every year? Gilbo advised that the officers change. | | | | | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | | |
|  | Noes: 0 | | |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | | |
|  |  | | |
| 47. | Advertise for Bids – Resurface certain city streets | | | | | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | | Miller | | | Seconded by Councilmember | | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: Parker asked about the increase in touring route. Do we need to only use for Route 29. Vose stated that the state prefers it but we can use for other streets. Miller asked how we can get ahead of paving in the fall. Vose explained by the time we get the monetary amount from the state, because of their budget and he goes around to inspect the street this is really the earliest we can go out to bid. | | | | | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | | | | |  | |  |
|  | Noes: 0 | | | | |  | |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | | | | |  | |  |

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| 48. | Accept offers for surplus/obsolete vehicles and equipment | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Parker | Seconded by Councilmember | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: Parker asked if Vose was happy with the amount; Vose confirmed. | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 | |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | |  |  |

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| 49. | Advertise for Bids – Mafia Blocks for use on Enterprise Road | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Spritzer | Seconded by Councilmember | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: Parker asked who would install. Vose stated his department would be installing. Mayor said this money is coming from IDA Account designated for City of Johnstown. Miller asked about individual that coordinated clean up near sewer plant; could possibly coordinate for industrial park. Parker is going to look into. | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 | |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | |  |  |
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| 50. | Accept offer for surplus / obsolete vehicles and equipment; 1990 Fire Pumper | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Jeffers | Seconded by Councilmember | Hayner |
|  | Discussion: None | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |
|  | Noes: 0 | |
|  | Absent: 1 (Spritzer)  Abstain: 0 | |
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DISCUSSION

* Mayor
* WalMart hired company to clean alongside of the street and will do again if necessary.
* Vintage Car Show was a huge success. Thanked DPW, Fire and Police for assistance.
* Meat Locker, new business coming to Main Street, will be open during the Block Party.
* Parker
* Johnstown graduation will be held Friday night, June 23rd
* Knox will be closing the track for the summer for construction
* No Fireworks this year
* Chief Gilbo
* He mentioned the request of the concerts on Main Street. He cannot close down Main Street every week during the summer. This is a State Highway and a lot goes in to having to close the street and redirect traffic. Especially due to fact of

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Toying Around Block Party – Saturday, June 24th 10am - 6pm
2. Primary – Tuesday, June 27th
3. Concerts in the Park:
   * Citizen’s Band – July 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th & August 11th, 18th
   * Midsummer Concert Series – July 13th, 20th, 27th, August 3rd, 10th
4. Summer’s Best Car Show – Sunday, July 16th 10am - 1pm
5. Business Meeting – Monday, July 17th @ 6pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

* Council Member at Large Jeffers made a motion to enter in to executive session at 6:28 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Spritzer)

Abstain: 0

* + No formal action was taken during executive session.
* Council Member Hayner made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:52 p.m.

Seconded – Council Member Parker

Discussion - None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Spritzer)

Abstain: 0

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 6:52 p.m.

* Council Member Hayner

Seconded – Council Member Parker

Discussion: None

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| Ayes: 4 |
| Noes: 0 |
| Absent: 1 (Spritzer) |
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Respectfully submitted,



Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk