Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, June 21, 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

SWEARING IN

Mayor Jackson swore in Eric Parker to fill the Ward 3 Council Seat.

PROCLAMATION / CITATION – N/A

PUBLIC HEARINGS

* Chapter 20; Designation of Through Streets

Opened at 6:03 p.m.

* Discussion: Mayor indicated this is for the placement of a stop sign at the north side of Linden Avenue leading in to Pleasant Avenue.

No public comments received.

Closed at 6:04 p.m.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS – N/A

PRESENTATIONS – N/A

APPROVE MINUTES

– May 17, 2021

Motion to approve – Council Member at Large Talarico

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

– June 8, 2021

Motion to approve – Council Member Spritzer

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| General Fund A | * Unpaid | Abstract # | 5204 | $ | 84,359.66 |
| General Fund A | * Paid | Abstract # | 06/2021A | $ | 1,324,776.55 |
| Sewer Fund G | * Unpaid | Abstract # | 839 | $ | 331,938.79 |
| Sewer Fund G | * Paid | Abstract # | 06/2021G | $ | 580.15 |
| Voucher Fund VO | * Paid | Abstract # | 06/2021VO | $ | 48,412.60 |

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.

* Discussion:
* Codes Office
* Spritzer asked Chief Heberer how the gas leak was on Comrie Avenue. Contractors working for DOT hit a gas main, causing a high pressure leak. The leak was repaired by early morning and everything is ok now. Spritzer commented that the operation seemed well run with all agencies involved.

* Department of Public Works
* Mayor thanked Engineer Vose for fixing the major sewer line break on Bloomingdale Avenue.
* Police Department
* Question was presented to Chief Gilbo from a Facebook user regarding what is being done to stop the parking on Opportunity and Venture Drive. Gilbo stated over 250 tickets have been issued this year. May look in to putting up cameras in that location.
* Spritzer asked Gilbo to elaborate the use of force mentioned in his monthly report. Gilbo stated individual ran off trying to avoid arrest and officers pursued suspect. Under the new state guidelines this must be indicted as use of force, although no actual force was used other than verbal commands.
* Spritzer asked for update on bikes and skateboards in the parks. Gilbo stated that there haven’t been any further instances.
* Senior Center
* Iannotti thanked the Center for the open house party.

LIAISONS’ REPORTS

* Craig Talarico, Gloversville Johnstown Joint Sewer Board

Emergency power repair for the 69,000 volt line that exploded is just about wrapped up.

Processed 5.8 million gallons of wastewater, 15.7 million gallons of wash water, 2.6 million gallons of whey, and hauled 1,629 tons of sludge to the landfill and accepted 900,000 gallons of leachate. Wallace Arnold is going to be researching a paralysis machine to see how it operates. They feel this is best, as it’s more efficient than a normal sludge dryer.

* Bradley Hayner, Water Board

Water Board met on June 14th. They passed a resolution to increase water rates and made a motion to purchase an electromagnetic flow meter for Maylander Storage Tank. Mayor asked when effective date of raise for water rates. Hayner stated in July. Iannotti stated it would depend on your billing schedule as to when rates would take effect.

* Kathi Iannotti, Planning Board

Ruby & Quiri are putting on another addition for storage.

* Kathi Iannotti, Assessor’s Office
  + No Report

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

– Planning Board; Chandra Casline

ORDINANCES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5, 2021 | Presented by Council Member at Large Talarico to Amend Chapter 20, Section 20-202; Designation of Through Streets; Add Stop Sign at Linden Avenue. |
|  | Seconded – Council Member Iannotti  Discussion: Iannotti asked when this goes in to effect. Gilbo said signs aren’t up yet, Vose stated sign will be up by the end of the week.  Ayes: 5  Noes: 0  Absent: 0  Abstain: 0 |

RESOLUTIONS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 41, 2021 | Presented by Council Member Hayner to accept offer from Janet Wade to purchase 6 Spring Street. |
|  | Seconded – Council Member Parker  Discussion: None  Ayes: 5  Noes: 0  Absent: 0  Abstain: 0 |
| 42, 2021 | Presented by Council Member Iannotti to execute Renewal Agreement with Unified Court System for Court Security Services. |
|  | Seconded – Council Member Hayner  Discussion: None  Ayes: 5  Noes: 0  Absent: 0  Abstain: 0 |
| 43, 2021 | Presented by Council Member Spritzer to authorize Grant of Easement to National Grid for access to city owned property commonly known as Railroad Road (Industrial Park Road). |
|  | Seconded – Council Member at Large Talarico  Discussion: Mayor asked if this is where the power problem is. Vose stated that it is not there is already an existing Easement for that. This is just so National Grid can upgrade facilities.  Ayes: 5  Noes: 0  Absent: 0  Abstain: 0 |
|  |  |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Independence Day – City Offices closed on Monday, July 4th
2. Johnstown Midsummer Concert Series on Thursdays: July 15th, 22nd, 29th and August 5th
3. Business Meeting Monday, July 19, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION

* Mayor received word from City Treasurer that the Bond Package has been sent to bond attorneys for their action. This may take 2 weeks or better.
* Councilman at Large Talarico has been in contact with Scott Henze, the County Planning Director, discussing the possible paving of the Rail Trail from Fonda to Johnstown.
* Spritzer congratulated the Johnstown Class of 2021.
* Heberer stated Graduation is Friday night and there will be fireworks in the area of Knox.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member at Large Talarico made a motion to enter in to executive session at 6:25 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of proposed, pending and current litigation.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

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 7:02 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 Hayner

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Respectfully submitted,



Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk