Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, March 19, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

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

CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Vernon F. Jackson

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Vernon F. Jackson, Mayor | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Craig Talarico, Council Member-at-Large | Michael J. Poulin, City Attorney |
| Kathi Iannotti, Council Member | Bruce Heberer, Fire Chief |
| Helen Martin, Council Member | Eric Johnson, Police Sergeant |
| Timothy Cellary, Council Member | Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer |
|  | Erica Wing, Library Director |
|  | Michael C. Gifford, City Treasurer |

ABSENT:

Bradley Hayner, Council Member

David F. Gilbo, Provisional Chief of Police

Diedrie M. Roemer, Provisional Director, Senior Citizens Program

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

* Mike Hlozansky, Sr. Water Plant Treatment Operator for the Water Department – 35 years of service to the City of Johnstown

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

1. Benson’s Pet Center w/ Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce – Reptile Ordinance

Mark Kilmer, President of the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce came to show support to Benson’s Pet Center for City to amend reptile ordinance.

Debbie Vincent Evans from Benson’s Pet Center spoke about the store. Family owned retailer with 6 stores in Capital District, including Colonie, Clifton Park, Saratoga, Queensbury, Pittsfield (Pittsfield is the only store, other than Johnstown that doesn’t sell reptiles).

Local demand for reptiles from customers. Will only sell domestic bread reptiles, nothing captive bread. No iguanas, nothing poisonous, no giant, dangerous snakes. They also serve as a rescue to either take back an animal or direct to appropriate agency that can take the animal; this includes animals they sell or don’t sell

They will provide the Council with an exact list of the reptiles they sell.

1. Sheriff Richard C. Giardino – K-9 Equipment

Came to personally thank the Council for the K-9 equipment donation; worth thousands of dollars and will come in handy. He also wanted to add that if a need arose, the K-9 unit is available to assist Johnstown.

APPROVE MINUTES – February 20, 2018

Motion to approve – Council Member Martin

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

* General Fund A – unpaid; Abstract #4324 – $202,902.89
* General Fund A – paid; Abstract #03/2018A – $979,776.64
* Sewer Fund G – unpaid; Abstract #691 – $9.90
* Sewer Fund G – paid; Abstract #03/2018G – $951.19
* Voucher Fund VO – paid; Abstract #03/2018VO – $51,344.90

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

* Fire/Codes
* Fire: continued in-service training on 1st Aid and EMS Operations. Responded to 72 calls for service; 4 structure fires, 2 vehicle fires, 1 mutual aid to Gloversville, 8 motor vehicle accidents, 22 hazardous conditions, 15 medical assists and 20 service calls.
* Codes: conducted training on NYS Life Safety Code. Issued 32 permits w/ estimated cost of $124,747 and fees of $1,427. 560 inspections and complaints responses, and ward sweeps have begun.
* Burn Ban in affect from March 16-May 14, 2018
* Police
* In February all 4 sergeants attended training on use of force. 2 officers recertified as breath test operators, 627 calls for service; 79 criminal cases were generated, 48 arrests, 121 citations, 70 traffic, 51 parking, 44 traffic accidents investigated.
* DPW
* Continuing work on Bridge NY. Resubmitting the application for the total replacement of the West State Street Bridge. Fulton County Soil & Water are going to include Briggs Street Bridge on their application, they have been a tremendous asset and thanks them for all their assistance. Miller Street Bridge will be done this year. Townsend Avenue Bridge is under the Federal Bridge Program, using federal and state money, shooting for Spring 2020 construction.
* HiWay Oil; waiting on State Comptroller to give DEC go ahead to be on site.
* Senior Center - None
* Library
* Golf Fundraiser on Saturday, 10-3
* Funding Initiative; moving along. Board of Education Meeting on Thursday, hoping they will take action for a June 5th vote in hopes of becoming a school district public library.
* Treasurer
* County very efficient in providing tax invoices this year, they have been sorted and mailed, due end of April.

LIAISON REPORTS - None

MAYORAL APPOINTMENT

* Planning Board – Jason Mylott
* Zoning Board – Peter Raneri, Pamela Hammer

RESOLUTIONS

* 35, 2018 presented by Council Member Martin to advertise for a Public Hearing for a Community Development Block Grant; assist projects at Evolution Recycling Inc. & Pioneer Windows Manufacturing, both located in the Johnstown Industrial Park.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 36, 2018 presented by Council Member Iannotti to advertise for written proposals for pre-construction consulting services for the Townsend Avenue Bridge.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 37, 2018 presented by Council Member Martin to retain Arcadis to perform consulting support and 2018 compliance monitoring of the closed Johnstown Landfill.

Seconded – Council Member Cellary

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 38, 2018 presented by Council Member Cellary to accept the bid of Contech Engineered Solutions for construction of the replacement of the Miller Street Bridge.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 39, 2018 presented by Council Member-at-Large Talarico to accept an offer of Brian Calabrese to purchase city-owned property located on Union Avenue: SBL#174.18-1-6.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 40, 2018 presented by Council Member Iannotti to authorize the City Treasurer to collect the tax levy, per the 2018 Tax Warrant.

Seconded – Council Member-at-Large Talarico

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

DISCUSSION

* Mayor Jackson – he and Councilmember Iannotti attended a presentation at Johnstown High School by the students of Ms. Vonderheide. They presented ways to “sell” Johnstown. He commended the students on a job well done. There is another project coming up on how to improve their school safety; the Chief of Police will attend, along with Officer Jones.
* Councilman-at-Large Talarico - addressed his feeling toward the possibility of the City discontinuing the sale of Sportsman’s Licenses – he does not want to see this happen, doesn’t want to lose personal touch between city and its residents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* City-wide garage sale: Friday, May 4th – Sunday, May 6th, 2018; no permit required
* City-wide clean up: Thursday, May 10th – Saturday, May 12th, 2018
* April 16th Council Meeting @ 6 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – 6:42 p.m.

Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member-at-Large Talarico

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk