Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, May 20, 2019 @ 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 – Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk

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 | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Kathi Iannotti, Council Member | Bruce Heberer, Fire Chief |
| Scott Jeffers, Council Member | David F. Gilbo, Chief of Police |
|  | Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer |
|  | Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program  Darryl Purinton, Internal Control Officer |

ABSENT

Helen Martin, Council Member

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

1. Ron Charney of 40 O’Neil Avenue spoke of accident that occurred. He thanked the Fire, Police, EMS, & DPW for their quick response and going above and beyond responding to the accident and for clean up after. He expressed his concern with the amount of accidents at that intersection and perhaps something can be done to deflect the individual driving at a high rate of speed.
2. David Mulligan of 604 S. Market Street thanked the police for watching his home while he was out of town this winter. He thought they may just drive by but didn’t realize all that they did; his neighbors told him they would physically walk around his home and check windows and doors. They did their job with great diligence.

PUBLIC HEARING – Local Law to amend Charter

Mayor Jackson opened the Public Hearing at 6:08 p.m.

- No comments or questions

Mayor Jackson closed the Public Hearing at 6:26 p.m.

APPROVE MINUTES – April 15, 2019

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion:

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

* General Fund A – unpaid; Abstract #4599 – $ 130,093.71
* General Fund A – paid; Abstract #05/2019A – $ 4,681,733.33
* Sewer Fund G – unpaid; Abstract #749 – $ 114,825.89
* Sewer Fund G – paid; Abstract #05/2019G – $ 31,966.79
* Voucher Fund VO – paid; Abstract #05/2019VO – $ 47,362.08

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion:

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

CITY OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

* Fire/Codes
  + - Fire: conducted in service training operations on motor vehicle accidents.
    - Responded to 150 calls for service; 2 structure fires, 8 motor vehicle accidents, 1 mutual aid call,

16 hazardous conditions, 98 medical assistance and 25 service calls.

* + - Codes: completed training on footings and foundations. 48 permits issued, estimated cost of construction/renovation $647,650.00, fees collected $1,710. Conducted 793 inspections and complaint responses.
    - O’Reilly Auto has resumed with construction.
    - Brown’s Ford is starting a very large addition
    - Burn ban has been lifted; get permit prior to burning
* Police
  + - 769 calls for service; 92 criminal cases were generated, 53 arrests, 96 citations; 96 traffic & 0 parking, 23 traffic accidents investigated.
    - Training:

1 officer attended field training officer course

3 officers attended narcotics enforcement training

3 officers attended commercial vehicle enforcement awareness. Will start DOT checkpoints with State DOT. DOT will conduct inspections, police will be “chase car”.

* Community satisfaction survey results are in and have been distributed to Council. Will also post to Facebook and delivered to media.

Discussion:

* Iannotti asked if Gilbo has had any luck finding the speed machines. Gilbo stated he is looking to find ones with mounting stations that move to avoid having to use trucks and ladders to move from one location to another.
* Mayor stated tickets they are issuing truckers seems to be working.
* DPW
* May 10th curb side clean up ended. Residents can bring debris to drop off
* City wide clean-up 387 vehicles, down from last year and continuing to see decreases each year. May consider a 2 day clean-up (Friday & Saturday), can’t justify paying overtime.
* Arcadis will be at Landfill this week performing ground water samples
* Updating training for employees: OSHA training course, confined space, equipment, and asbestos

Discussion:

* Iannotti said that Main Street looks nice. Work there is temporary until a permanent structure can be put in place. They will be working with DEC and Army Corps of Engineers.
* Senior Center
* Saw 3200+ people in April
* Spring Bazaar took place
* Classes are being well attended; over 350 people have attended
* Craig Adams from Channel 6, Steve Caporizzo from Channel 10, he may be back in fall. Many donations were received for Humane Society
* Steven Willet took pictures of veterans. He said most well attended event he’s had yet. He plans to come back in case any veterans weren’t able to get there.
* Senior Golf League has started at Holland Meadows on Wednesdays
* Memorial Candlelight dinner will be Thursday, May 30th
* Line dancing class start in June
* Gentleman’s Day in June to honor men. Tour of Town Line Museum

Discussion:

* Dee, on behalf of Lion’s Club, thanked the city for picking up flowers and hanging them on Main Street and in the park. Will be up before the parade.
* Internal Control Officer
* Time recording changes implemented starting w/ pay period beginning May 20, 2019
* Working on control environment: responsibilities, lines of authority, policy and procedures and seeing how it all fits in.
* Treasurer
* Nothing to report

LIAISONS’ REPORTS

* Kathi Iannotti, Assessor’s Office
* 2019 Tentative Roll is on file in the City Clerk’s office
* Grievance day is May 28th 4-8 p.m.
* Kathi Iannotti, Planning Board
* Mayor Jackson gave report. Gary Carstens presented plans for a 60 unit multi-family complex on North East Avenue. Project was referred to County Planning Board. A Public hearing has been scheduled for the next Planning Board meeting in June.
* Helen Martin, Joint Sewer Board – N/A
* Water Board – N/A meeting cancelled

RESOLUTIONS

* 42, 2019 presented by Council Member Hayner to amend the City Charter.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 43, 2019 presented by Council Member Iannotti to re-appoint Tina Dimitriadis to City Assessor.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: Iannotti asked if last contract only went to October 1st. This is state certification. This resolution is for re-appointment and contract.

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 44, 2019 presented by Council Member Hayner to authorize certain city owned vehicles be advertised on Auctions International website.

Seconded – Council Member at Large Talarico

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 45, 2019 presented by Council Member Jeffers to sign a Performance Contract Agreement with Siemens Industry, Inc.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 46, 2019 presented by Council Member at Large Talarico to authorize City Clerk to advertise for RFP for telecommunication services.

Seconded – Council Member Jeffers

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 47, 2019 presented by Council Member Hayner to authorize Mayor to execute contract with Western Contractors, LLC to repair fire department roof.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 48, 2019 presented by Council Member Iannotti to authorize Mayor to execute Memorandum of Agreement with Johnstown Police Benevolent Association.

Seconded – Council Member Jeffers

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* Friday, May 24th Memorial Day Parade & Program @ 6:30 p.m.
* Saturday, May 25th JACC Car Show from 4-9 p.m.
* Saturday, June 8th Lexington 5K @ 9:00 a.m.
* Thursday, June 13th Vintage Café & Car Show from 6-9 p.m.
* Farmer’s Market begins on Tuesday, June 18th from 3-6 p.m.
* Business Meeting Monday, June 17th @ 6:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION

Craig Talarico thanked the city for sending both he and Scott Jeffers to the NYCOM meeting. They learned a lot of valuable information.

ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:35 p.m.

Council Member at Large Talarico

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

Present:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Vernon F. Jackson, Mayor | Michael C. Gifford, City Treasurer |
| Craig Talarico, Council Member-at-Large | Michael J. Poulin, City Attorney |
| Bradley Hayner, Council Member | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Kathi Iannotti, Council Member | Darryl Purinton, Internal Control Officer |
| Scott Jeffers, Council Member |  |

Discussion:

Darryl Purinton:

* Time recording changes beginning today for department heads. Fire and Police employees do not keep track of their own time, chiefs do it and this is not necessarily a common practice. Working with Mayor and Dept. Heads to improve. Even though department heads are salaried, it is a better practice for them to track their own time. This will become clearer as recording function becomes more fully implemented; what does and doesn’t work. Need to be patient so they can understand the benefit.
* In the internal control environment he has been working on developing an organization chart, identifying the lines of authority. Areas of challenge include the Water Dept., Joint Wastewater Facility and Section 8 Program as to oversight and how to place on the organization chart because they are service center organizations and handle certain aspects. City is still responsible and need to have a system of internal control over their operations. Joint Wastewater; need all agreements and amendments in one document. Need to work out duties regarding boards.
* Policies and Procedures, there are a few missing:
  + Workplace Violence. Need written policy and committee in place.
  + Annual training needs to take place for all employees. Ex. Workplace Violence, Sexual Harassment, Blood borne Pathogens

Mapleton Tract:

* Need Council approval to allow individuals to purchase more than one lot for the purpose of only putting one structure. Have an offer on the table to purchase 2 lots and build a single family home and Danielle Chirichio who recently bought a lot would be interested in purchasing the lot next to hers. Council approved to allow. Will present resolutions at next council meeting.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:53 p.m.

Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

MOTION TO ADJOURN – 6:54 p.m.

Council Member – Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Jeffers

Discussion:

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk