Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, November 18, 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

SWEARING IN / OATH OF OFFICE – N/A

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 at 6:30 p.m. |
| Bradley Hayner, Council Member | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Kathi Iannotti, Council Member | Bruce Heberer, Fire Chief |
| Helen Martin, Council Member | David F. Gilbo, Chief of Police |
| Scott Jeffers, Council Member | Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer  Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program  Darryl Purinton, Internal Control Officer |

ABSENT

Helen Martin

Darryl Purinton

PUBLIC SPEAKERS – N/A

PRESENTATIONS

Tony Procopio and Kirk Horan of ST Network alongside Tri Utility Cost Reductions, Inc.

Help organizations, companies, municipalities, and schools recover money where they have been overcharged on utility bills (electricity, natural gas and telecommunications).

Proprietary software looks at a utility bill demand charge and breaks down, dissects and look for errors. Compound for a course of past 6 years of utility bills. Stats show that there is an 87% chance overcharged for utilities. Company has been able to recover 3-12% on total utility costs over 6 years.

50/50 split between municipality and Tri Utility, and then ST Networks donates 15% to help a nonprofit organization. Currently working with a Navaho Nation in the Southwest portion of this country in New Mexico.

Process takes approximately 6 months from start to finish to extract refund from utility companies.

Hayner asked if the 50/50 split was negotiable. Mr. Procopio stated that it was not but split going forward in the future is capped at 36 months but he would be willing to shorten time frame for Johnstown to keep 100% of findings after 18 months.

Talarico asked if this includes water, Procopio said they can look at water.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

* David F. Gilbo, Chief of Police; 25 years of service

PUBLIC HEARING - N/A

PROCLAMATIONS – N/A

APPROVE MINUTES – October 21, 2019

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: N/A

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| General Fund A | * Unpaid | Abstract # | 4715 | $ | 69,417.35 |
| General Fund A | * Paid | Abstract # | 11/2019A | $ | 1,074,004.08 |
| Sewer Fund G | * Unpaid | Abstract # | 768 | $ | 113,559.26 |
| Sewer Fund G | * Paid | Abstract # | 11/2019G | $ | 616.05 |
| Voucher Fund VO | * Paid | Abstract # | 11/2019VO | $ | 44,494.10 |

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: N/A

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

CITY OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

* Fire/Codes
  + - Fire: conducted in-service training on Cold Weather Operations.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | 185 | Calls for service |
|  | 2 | Structure fires |
|  | 10 | Motor vehicle accidents |
|  | 0 | Mutual aid |
|  | 30 | Hazardous conditions |
|  | 115 | Emergency Medical Service |
|  | 18 | Service Calls |

Codes: conducted training on installation and inspections of solid fuel heating devices.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 65 | Permits issued |
|  | $ | 458,928.00 | Estimated cost of construction |
|  | $ | 2,685.00 | Fees collected |
|  |  | 790 | Inspection and complaint responses |

* Police

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | 691 | Calls for service |
|  | 96 | Criminal cases were generated |
|  | 50 | Arrests |
|  | 55 | Citations |
|  | 52 | Traffic |
|  | 3 | Parking |
|  | 24 | Traffic accidents investigated |

* Introduced new officer, Jake Arrunategui.
* Overnight parking ban goes in to effect December 1st. Will be issuing warnings. If a storm is predicted residents will need to get vehicles off the road.
* There will be a Town Hall meeting at FMCC on November 19th from 6-8 p.m. to explain and discuss Bail Reform & Discovery Law changes, which take effect January 1, 2020.
* DPW
* Paving finished; approx. $350,000 worth of work. Reimbursement has been sent to State.
* Townsend Ave Bridge – received preliminary design approval from DOT. Have discussed temporary easements with property owners that will be needed during construction
* Sand Barrels going out.
* Leaf pick up until day next Wednesday, day before Thanksgiving. After that time city will not pick up.
* Drop off will remain open until needed for snow storage.
* Garbage pickup will be picked up on Friday due to Thanksgiving holiday. There is no scheduled route; have out either night before or by 6:30 a.m. on Friday.
* Senior Center
* About 2500 at Center in October
* November 19th: Blood Pressure clinic from 9-1, bingo
* November 20th; CDPHP from 10-12
* November 20th; Office for Aging Thanksgiving luncheon, Christmas card making
* November 21st; Covered dish at 5
* December 4th; Luncheon & decorate Center
* December 4th; 50+ Club putting up mitten tree to donate to schools
* Adopt an Angel $3
* Collecting Humane Society donations
* December 11th; NYC Rockettes show
* December 12th; Christmas Party. Canajoharie School Chorus will be singing
* Internal Control Officer
* Absent; report on file
* Treasurer
  + No report, business as usual

LIAISONS’ REPORTS

* Brad Hayner, Water Board – approved additional spending for CT Male. Bought new equipment for filtration plant and went in to Executive Session
* Kathi Iannotti, Assessor’s Office – Senior exemption renewals will be processed and mailed by the end of November. All exemptions are due March 1, 2020. Working on 2020 roll.
* Kathi Iannotti, Planning Board – No report
* Craig Talarico, Joint Sewer Board – Working on disinfection since May. 2020-2021 Capital Plan being worked on. Various pumps, parts and fencing is being replaced as needed.

RESOLUTIONS

* 80, 2019 presented by Council Member Hayner to accept 2019 budget amendments.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion:

Discussion: N/A

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 81, 2019 presented by Council Member Iannotti to authorize Mayor to execute agreement with Brezzy’s Cleaning Service for janitorial services in City Hall.

Seconded – Council Member Jeffers

Discussion:

Discussion: N/A

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 82, 2019 presented by Council Member Jeffers to authorize Mayor to execute and Agreement with Systems East, Inc. for Application Software and Support Services related to tax collection software.

Seconded – Council Member Talarico

Discussion:

Discussion: N/A

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 83, 2019 presented by Council Member Talarico to authorize Mayor to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Roemer, Wallens, Gold & Mineaux. LLC.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion:

Discussion: N/A

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 84, 2019 presented by Council Member Hayner to authorize the appointment of Craig Talarico to the Gloversville Johnstown Joint Sewer Board

Seconded – Council Member Jeffers

Discussion: Craig Talarico will be replacing Helen Martin

Discussion: N/A

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

* 85, 2019 presented by Council Member Iannotti to authorize the Mayor to execute a Contract with Hodgson Russ for the purpose of reviewing the Johnstown City Charter.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion:

Discussion: N/A

Ayes: 3

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 1 (Jeffers)

DISCUSSION – N/A

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* Thursday, November 21st @ 6:00 NYS Department of Transportation is going to give a presentation on Phase 2 of the Route 30A Corridor Improvement Project; Briggs Street to Prindle Avenue.
* Curbside leaf pickup has begun. Please put leaves on your terrace for pickup, not in the street.
* Thanksgiving Garbage pickup: Garbage for both Ward 4 and Ward 1 will be collected on Friday, November 29th. Residents are reminded to put their garbage out either the night before or by 6:30 a.m. Friday.
* Budget Review Meeting with members of the Council – Wednesday, November 20th @ 6:00 p.m.
* City Hall closed for Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 28th & Friday, November 29th
* Holiday Parade & Colonial Stroll – Friday, December 6th @ 6:30 p.m.
* Business Meeting Monday, December 16, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.
* Real estate auction of city-owned properties is Wednesday, December 11th at 10:00 am

Information is available on the city website with link to company’s website. Walk-thru of properties will be day before on December 10th. Schedule is also available on website.

* Congratulate Lady Bills on making to finals

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member at Large Talarico made a motion to enter in o executive session at 6:32 p.m. to discuss proposed, pending or current litigation.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

Mayor excused dept. heads and members of the public.

No resolutions or motions were made.

Council Member Iannotti made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:53 p.m.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 7:54 p.m.

Council Member – Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Talarico

Discussion: N/A

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Martin)

Abstain: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk