Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, September 17, 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 – 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 | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Bradley Hayner, Council Member | Michael J. Poulin, City Attorney |
| Kathi Iannotti, Council Member | Bruce Heberer, Fire Chief |
| Helen Martin, Council Member | David F. Gilbo, Chief of Police |
| Timothy Cellary, Council Member | Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer |
|  | Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program |
|  | Erica Wing, Library Director |

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

None

PUBLIC SPEAKERS – Traffic issue on North East Avenue

* Richard Menconi of 2 N. East Avenue has noticed an increase in semis and traffic in general, speeding, and people not obeying signage at the intersection of N. East Avenue and E. Main Street (Co. Hwy. 107). They have thanked the police for having more of a presence but feels that more can be done. Suggested the following: more visible signs, more patrol, red flags on stop signs, repaint stop lines, LED speed sign, speed bumps, add additional stop sign at Prindle Ave., limit street to residential traffic only or lower speed limit in city from 30 to 25.
* Roger Eaton of 3 N. East Avenue is concerned with traffic as well, his grandchild is unable to ride bike on sidewalk because of the traffic. There is an increase in truck traffic coming up 107 in to the city. He inquired as to making a truck route, the mayor stated that is the truck route; the state would have to change that.
* Bruce Menconi of 4 N. East Avenue he asked to have a mobile speed machine placed in front of his house to perhaps force people to slow down and he would also like to see speed limit lowered to 25.

Discussion: Chief Gilbo stated that they could put a mobile speed machine out but there is nothing to enforce if someone is speeding unless there was an officer there. The machine is to make people aware of their speed. The more infrastructure we get, the more traffic we will get. He told the residents that if they see a particular vehicle or truck disobeying laws (driving over lawns) report it at that time to the office. Easier to respond at the moment than weeks later. Chief Gilbo will also contact the Sheriff’s office to see if they could make a larger presence at this intersection.

PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

APPROVE MINUTES – August 20, 2018

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Abstain: 1; Martin

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

* General Fund A – unpaid; Abstract #4429 – $117,045.16
* General Fund A – paid; Abstract #09/2018A – $677,909.66
* Sewer Fund G – unpaid; Abstract #719 – $269,904.71
* Sewer Fund G – paid; Abstract #09/2018G – $109,345.20
* Voucher Fund VO – paid; Abstract #09/2018VO – $46,121.90
* Capital 2013 Fund H13 – unpaid; #6 – $10,985.15

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

CITY OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

* Fire/Codes
  + - Fire: continued in-service training on Apparatus Placement & Industrial Operations. Responded to 73 calls for service; 4 structure fires, 4 vehicle fires, 2 mutual aid calls to Gloversville, 12 motor vehicle accidents, 13 hazardous conditions, 12 medical assistance and 26 service calls.
    - Codes: Conducted training on NYS energy code. 80 permits issued, estimated cost of construction/renovation $2,358,893.00, fees collected $5,479.00. Conducted 968 inspections and complaint responses.
    - Reminded public to get chimneys inspected before they use for heating season.
    - Raised almost $4500 for MDA with Fill-A-Boot event Labor Day weekend.
* Police
  + - 670 calls for service; 96 criminal cases were generated, 62 arrests, 35 citations; 29 traffic & 6 parking, 31 traffic accidents investigated.
    - Police department will be participating in Safety Awareness (fingerprinting children & bicycle safety) at the Johnstown Moose on September 23rd from 1-5 p.m.
* DPW
  + - CHIPS project; ½ sidewalks are poured. Milling should begin the end of this week or beginning of next week. Expects that once they begin it should go relatively quickly.
    - Miller Street Bridge – stamp drawings are back; additional surveying and more material is needed before work can begin.
* Senior Center
  + - Over 2800 people visit building in the month of August. About 50 people a week attend various exercise programs.
    - Workforce Solutions – approximately 65 people attended the job fair
    - Bleeding Heart Pageant was held at the center; raise money for bleeding disorders
    - There will be a Card Party & Chinese Auction on September 27th
    - Speakers on October 4th Sheriff Giardino, November 11th Tedra Cobb
    - Adirondack Train Ride to Old Forge on October 5th
  + Library
* Change in government process continues to move along as scheduled. They are working to gather information regarding vendors, etc.
* Treasurer
* His office is also working on getting things ready for library transition; payroll, insurance carriers, etc.
  + - Budget process has begun; he has received budget requests from department heads.
    - Working on Bond issue for equipment, also Water Department will also need bond proceeds as well.

LIAISONS’ REPORTS

* Kathi Iannotti, Assessor’s Office
* NYS has implemented changed to the Enhanced Star Exemption Program for 2019. New information will be sent out with Enhanced Star renewals in October. Information is available in the Assessor’s office or available online at [www.tax.ny.gov](http://www.tax.ny.gov)
* Kathi Iannotti, Planning Board meeting
  + - Miracle Ear was approved for a 3,318 sq. ft. addition to their existing building.
    - Brown’s Ford requests a 4,800 sq. ft. metal building addition; Public Hearing is October 2nd
    - Fulton Friendship House requests a 2 story, 65,000 sq. ft. housing development at 507 N. Perry Street; Public Hearing is October 2nd

RESOLUTIONS

* 75, 2018 presented by Council Member Hayner to advertise certain city-owned properties for bid.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 76, 2018 presented by Council Member Iannotti to authorize the exchange of vehicles between the City of Johnstown and County of Fulton.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 77, 2018 presented by Council Member Martin to accept the bid of Specialty Vehicles, Inc. for purchase of used ambulance.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Discussion: The Mayor stated Bruce has pictures of the ambulance if anyone would like to see it. Bruce stated this is a 2009 with 36,000 miles, fully equipped minus medical supplies, new tires and lettered.

* 78, 2018 presented by Council Member Cellary to enter in to a new 5 year agreement with the Unified Court System for court cleaning and minor repairs.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

DISCUSSION

1. Due to the library becoming a school district library, the City will no longer be able to issue winter parking permits for the library parking lot. Winter parking permits will still be available for lots at City Hall, West Main Street, South Market Street & the Senior Center.

* Erica stated that the Board of Trustees has met and hope to continue offering this service; they are in the process of trying to work out the details on how to implement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Farmers Market is open in the Park on Main Street. Tuesdays from 3-6 p.m, until Tuesday, October 23rd
2. City Hall will be closed on Monday, October 8th – Columbus Day

MOTION TO ADJOURN – 6:38 p.m.

Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk