Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, April 16, 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:

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| --- | --- |
| Vernon F. Jackson, Mayor | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Craig Talarico, Council Member-at-Large | Michael J. Poulin, City Attorney |
| Bradley Hayner, Council Member | Bruce Heberer, Fire Chief |
| Helen Martin, Council Member | David F. Gilbo, Provisional Chief of Police |
| Timothy Cellary, Council Member | Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer |
|  | Diedrie M. Roemer, Provisional Director, Senior Citizens Program |
|  | Erica Wing, Library Director |
|  | Michael C. Gifford, City Treasurer |

ABSENT:

Kathy Iannotti, Council Member

The Mayor took a moment to welcome Ms. Vonderheide’s class from Johnstown High School.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

1. Alfin Maynor of 207 Jansen Avenue wanted to address a few concerns to Council:
2. Speeding on Jansen Avenue
3. Cemetery between North Chase and North Perry

* people aren’t cleaning up after their dogs
* headstones are knocked over

Discussion: Chief Gilbo, asked that in the future address issue with police when incident occurs rather than waiting. Mayor Jackson will get a hold of the cemetery association and make them aware.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Ron Robinson, Johnson Jog

* 5K has been in existence for 7 years and now part of the Triple Crown. Proceeds benefit community. He thanked the police, department of public works and city hall for support. Jessica Ford, one of the organizers for the race, also thanked everyone for support.

1. Tricia Terleckey of Catholic Charities, Tobacco Free Community

* Help municipalities adopt tobacco free policies in their parks. The services are free of charge to municipality; education, signage, community outreach. They recommend adding e-cigarettes and vaping in to policy. Mayor has looked in to the policies that other municipalities have adopted, council and he are very close to making a decision, just need to clarify as to how far they want to go with enforcement; where, fines, items banned, etc.

1. Erica Wing, Library Funding Initiative

* Spoke as to the library being taken over as a school district public library and funded by the tax payers of the Greater Johnstown School District and not the City of Johnstown. The Library needs sustainable funding, as the city is not obligated to fund the library beyond $5000 per year. If approved they would receive the base amount asking $396,528 annually; currently the city gives them $278,000. Library would take over payroll, insurance, accounting responsibilities that the city currently provides for them. If district is not established the library would face cutting hours, services and possibly closing. Voting will take place on June 5, 2018 from 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. at the library; the school district will be running the election for the library.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Hearings were opened at 6:28 p.m.

1. Pioneer Windows - $750,000 grant to assist in expansion
2. Evolution Recycling - $81,500 grant to assist in expansion

Discussion:

Nick Zabawsky, grant writer for city, spoke on the grants and uses:

* Pioneer Windows – They are growing and running out of room. Need to expand to keep up with demand for production. Grant is approximately 7% of total project cost. Project would add 75 full time jobs; currently have 140.
* Evolution Recycling – Increasing workload requires them to buy additional equipment. Project would add 5 full time jobs.

Hearings were closed at 6:32 p.m.

APPROVE MINUTES – March 19, 2018

Motion to approve – Council Member Martin

Seconded – Council Member Cellary

Discussion: None

Ayes: 3

Noes: 0

Abstain: 1 (Hayner)

Absent: 1

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member-at-Large Talarico

* General Fund A – unpaid; Abstract #4338 – $122,129.17
* General Fund A – paid; Abstract #04/2018A – $3,612,331.40
* Sewer Fund G – unpaid; Abstract #696 – $2,054.37
* Sewer Fund G – paid; Abstract #04/2018G – $226,085.95
* Voucher Fund VO – paid; Abstract #04/2018VO – $43,994.90

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

* Fire/Codes
* Fire: continued in-service training on firefighter survival skills, responded to 64 calls for service; 2 structure fires, 4 vehicle fires, 2 mutual aid to Gloversville, 8 motor vehicle accidents, 18 hazardous conditions, 16 medical assists and 10 service calls.
* Codes: conducted training on NYS Life Safety Code. Capt. Humphrey successfully completed First Line Supervisors Training and Firefighter Schuyler Duross completed 8 weeks of 12 recruit training program. Issued 40 permits w/ estimated cost of $262,206 and fees of $1,770. 634 inspections and complaints/responses.
* Burn Ban in effect from March 16-May 14, 2018
* Police
* All 4 sergeants attended three (3) week supervisor school. 684 calls for service; 118 criminal cases were generated, 70 arrests, 125 citations, 67 traffic, 58 parking, 22 traffic accidents investigated.
* Thanked DPW for completion of women’s locker room upgrade
* Reminded everyone to keep vehicles locked
* DPW
* Brush drop off is open, curbside pickup has begun and will continue until May 11th
* Miller Street Bridge delivery date; week of June 11th
* Final employee is licensed as an asbestos supervisor, and received asbestos handling license from Dept. of Labor. Aside from borrowing equipment from county, self-sufficient for asbestos removal. Chris will attend school to become a project designer.
* HiWay Oil; tanks are out. DPW will remove building, a projected date is May 1st & 2nd
* Attended an LED street light seminar and has learned of options available to the city. There are significant cost savings to switch to LED lighting…80-85% of electric bill.
* Senior Center – 2300 visitors in month of March. Tedisco spoke to seniors this week. Annual Bazaar was held April 14th, hearing screening April 26th, Community Health Fair April 28th, Ladies Day celebration planned in May.
* Library
* All information about library funding initiative is available on their website.
* Treasurer
* Tax collection is going well.

LIAISON REPORTS

* Helen Martin, Joint Sewer Board April 11th monthly meeting
* Efforts are being made to control odors with chemicals, working with DEC
* Presentation of 2018 / 2019 sewer rates; public hearing on April 25th @ 6:00 p.m. to adopt proposed rates.
* Tim Cellary, Water Board April 9th meeting
* Presentation from John Rizzo of GPI regarding Dam Rehabilitation
* 2 employees going to Grade A Operator school
* Looking to replace roof at Christman Filtration Plant
* Craig Talarico, jobs
* Working on a project with other politicians and business leaders to make students and parents aware of the tremendous job and career opportunities available in Fulton County.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENT

* None

RESOLUTIONS

* 41, 2018 presented by Council Member-at-Large Talarico to advertise for Public Hearing to amend Article IV, Section 4-403(b); Wild Animals.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 42, 2018 presented by Council Member Hayner to sell 6 Spring Street, SBL#162.20-5-2 to Kevin L. Smith.

Seconded – Council Member Cellary

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 43, 2018 presented by Council Member Martin to authorize Mayor to sign Intermunicipal Agreement for SWAT Team.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 44, 2018 presented by Council Member Cellary to dispose of 2010 Chevy Impala (VIN# 2G1WD5EM2A1212260)

Seconded – Council Member-at-Large Talarico

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 45, 2018 presented by Council Member-at-Large Talarico to authorize to apply for $750,000 grant for Pioneer Windows Manufacturing Corp.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 46, 2018 presented by Council Member Hayner to authorize to apply for $81,500 grant for Evolution Recycling, Inc.

Seconded – Council Member-at-Large Talarico

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 47, 2018 presented by Council Member Martin to sign contract agreement with GPI for Townsend Avenue Bridge.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

* 48, 2018 presented by Council Member Cellary to authorize police to apply for armored vehicle from Brinks Armored Vehicle Program.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

Discussion: Chris Vose stated that DPW crew is capable of servicing the vehicle. Chief Gilbo stated if vehicle is damaged beyond repair the chief would need to send photographs, a sworn deposition stating it’s destroyed. Vehicle will be beneficial to community and entry team.

* 49, 2018 presented by Council Member-at-Large Talarico to execute contract for Health Officer Services from Nathan Littauer Hospital.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* April 15th – April 22nd , 2018 is proclaimed as Federation of New York Insurance Professionals Week
* NYS DOT will hold a public informational meeting in the Council Chambers on Thursday, April 19th @ 6:30 p.m. regarding the NYS Route 30A Safety Project
* City-wide garage sale: Friday, May 4th – Sunday, May 6th, 2018; no permit required
* City-wide clean up: Thursday, May 10th & Friday, May 11th from 11 a.m.-7p.m. and Saturday, May 12th, from 7 a.m.-1 p.m.
* May 21st Council Meeting @ 6 p.m.

DISCUSSION

* Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for Friday, May 25th @ 6:00 p.m. Route will be from Jansen Avenue to the Park.
* Bill Ackerbauer received grant funding to put concerts on in the park, Thursday evenings this summer beginning July 19th

MOTION TO ADJOURN – 7:04 p.m.

Council Member-at-Large Talarico

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk