 Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday August 15, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

This meeting was broadcast using Facebook Live. The public was able to view the meeting from the official City of Johnstown Facebook page: City of Johnstown, New York

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 – Amy Praught, Mayor

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

|  |  |
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| Amy Praught, Mayor | Thomas Herr, City Treasurer |
| Scott Jeffers, Council Member-at-Large | Michael J. Poulin, City Attorney |
| Bradley Hayner, Council Member Ward 1 | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Scott Miller, Council Member Ward 2 | Bruce Heberer, Fire Chief |
| Eric Parker, Council Member Ward 3 | David F. Gilbo, Chief of Police |
| Max Spritzer, Council Member Ward 4 | Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer  Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program |

ABSENT

Scott Jeffers, Mike Poulin, Tom Herr, Diedrie Roemer

PUBLIC SESSION – None

PRESENTATIONS

1. Scott Henze & Travis Mitchell; spoke about the Letter of Intent regarding the Proposed Fulton County Route 30 Sewer District. They also re-briefed the council about the project.
   * The proposed sanitary sewer would go from the City of Gloversville to the Village of Mayfield and eventually to the Village of Northville. Phase I – Village of Mayfield
   * Discussed rate structure and what it entails (handout is attached and made part of minutes)
   * Fulton County Sewer District responsible for infrastructure and maintenance
   * Scott Miller had questions as to who is doing the work on the I&I in the City of Johnstown. Mitchell stated that they would do work up to a certain point. Miller asked: “Who will pay for it? If you tear it up, you should fix it”. Mitchell stated that the county can’t start a project and then say it’s on you, they’ve got to see it through. The whole idea is for 2 cities to balance out. The Letter of Intent brought before the Board today is to make sure everyone is on the same page. Later on can “hammer out” more details. The overall idea is equal projects between the two cities and eventually get to funding split. At this point in the project, it’s to make sure everyone is on the same page, that’s why the Letter of Intent is necessary in order to proceed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – N/A

APPROVE MINUTES

* June 18, 2022

Motion to approve – Council Member Spritzer

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 3

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Jeffers)

Abstain: 1 (Miller)

* July 29, 2022

Motion to approve – Council Member Spritzer

Seconded – Council Member Parker

Discussion: None

Ayes: 3

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Jeffers)

Abstain: 1 (Miller)

APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

* Motion to approve, upon review – Council Member Parker

Seconded – Council Member Spritzer

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Jeffers)

Abstain: 0

REPORTS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS

* Reports are attached hereto and made part of the meeting minutes.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISONS

* Eric Parker; Water Dept.
  + Accounts Receivable $461k, Accounts Payable $5.6 million; this was money handed back over to City for sewer
* Bradley Hayner; Joint Sewer Board
  + EPA Audit
  + Reviewed Letter of Intent regarding Sewer Project; drafting a letter with their concerns
  + Discussed rise in insurance rates
* Scott Jeffers, Planning Board – absent; Vose gave report
  + Church bought Jansen Ave School – public hearing scheduled for September 6th
  + Solar Farm on Daisy Lane – a public hearing was scheduled to take place although none was had as it was deemed that project was not in current, acceptable use in existing zoning. Codes will issue denial on permit request.
  + Need zoning that regulates solar projects in City; resolution is on the agenda.
* Scott Miller, Assessor
  + Working on roll for 2023
  + All exemptions due by March 1st
  + School Tax bills due without penalty by September 30th
  + All STAR exemptions are processed directly with NYS at [www.tax.ny.gov/star](http://www.tax.ny.gov/star)

LOCAL LAW – N/A

ORDINANCE – N/A

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS – N/A

RESOLUTIONS

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 60. | Agreement with Fulton County and City of Johnstown for snow removal 2022-2023 | | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Hayner | | Seconded by Councilmember |  |
|  | Discussion: None | | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | | |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 | | |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (Jeffers) | | |  |  |
|  | Abstain: 0 | | |  |  |
| 61. | Agreement with Systems East; Tax Collection Software | | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Miller | Seconded by Councilmember | |  |
|  | Discussion: Parker asked is the amount is similar to past agreements. Clerk responded that it was. | | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | | |
|  | Noes: 0 | | |
|  | Absent: 1 (Jeffers) | | |
|  | Abstain: 0 | | |

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| 62. | Agreement with Absolute Auctions & Realty, Inc. | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Parker | Seconded by Councilmember |  |
|  | Discussion: None | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 | |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (Jeffers)  Abstain: 0 | |  |  |

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| 63. | Adopt Six (6) Moratorium regarding Solar Farms in City of Johnstown | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Spritzer | Seconded by Councilmember |  |
|  | Discussion: Miller questioned time frame. Hayner clarified that it means that Council has the ability to shorten or extend the Moratorium. | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 | |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (Jeffers)  Abstain: 0 | |  |  |

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| 64. | Letter of Intent regarding proposed Fulton County Sewer District No 5 | | | |
|  | Presented by Councilmember | Hayner | Seconded by Councilmember |  |
|  | Discussion: Miller questioned what Letter of Intent means. Mayor stated it’s not a contract. This is just saying we’re willing to negotiate. Formal agreement will be coming. | | | |
|  | Ayes: 4 | |  |  |
|  | Noes: 0 | |  |  |
|  | Absent: 1 (Jeffers)  Abstain: 0 | |  |  |

DISCUSSION

* Spritzer thanked Bill Ackerbauer, Johnstown Arts & Music, Midsummer Concert Series held on Thursday nights in the park.
* Johnstown Tourism Group will begin meeting on Thursday evening

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Cayadutta Crawl – August 20th 11 am – dark**
2. **Labor Day – Monday, September 5th; City Offices Closed**
3. **Fulton County Courthouse 250th Celebration – September 8th**
4. St. John’s Church – Twilight Farmers’ Market; September 16th
5. **Farmers Market –** Tuesday evenings from June 28th- October 11th 3 pm - 6 pm
6. Business Meeting – Monday, September 19th @ 6pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION – N/A

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 6:48 p.m.

* Council Member Hayner

Seconded – Council Member Spritzer

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Jeffers)

Abstain: 0

Respectfully submitted,



Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk