Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, July 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:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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 |
| Kathi Iannotti, Council Member | David F. Gilbo, Chief of Police |
| Helen Martin, Council Member | Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer |
| Timothy Cellary, Council Member | Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program |
|  | Michael C. Gifford, City Treasurer |

ABSENT:

Erica Wing, Library Director

PRESENTATION

NYS Auctions – Greg Frederick & Frank Pietrzak

They are the combined team of Haroff Auction Realty and Absolute Auction and Realty based out of Pleasant Valley, NY. They would like to assist the City with returning tax delinquent properties back to the tax roll. Once the city owns the property they would begin marketing (taking photos, inspect, prepare marketing material, etc.) to move forward to auction. From time we give property info to them (SBL #) it typically takes about 5-6 weeks to have an auction. City can opt for a standalone auction or coincide with the Fulton/Hamilton County auction. They offer internet bidding and live auction, prepare all paperwork (computerized and automated). No fee to city, commission is paid by the bidder on top of their bid price.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

* Patricia Isabella spoke regarding the presentation. She would prefer to have the City use local realtors, on rotation, to sell city owned property. Need to keep local, sell to local residents.

APPROVE MINUTES – June 18, 2018

Motion to approve – Council Member Martin

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

* General Fund A – unpaid; Abstract #4387 – $170,950.91
* General Fund A – paid; Abstract #07/2018A – $606,739.53
* Sewer Fund G – unpaid; Abstract #708 – $319.63
* Sewer Fund G – paid; Abstract #07/2018G – $474.11
* Voucher Fund VO – paid; Abstract #07/2018VO – $45,019.60

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

* Fire/Codes
  + - Fire: Conducted in-service training on Engine Company Operations. Responded to 62 calls for service; 5 structure fires, 2 vehicle fires, 1 mutual aid call to Gloversville, 8 motor vehicle accidents, 24 hazardous conditions, 10 medical assistance and 22 service calls.
    - Codes: Conducted training on NYS Building Code updates. 83 permits issued, estimated cost of construction/renovation $501,594, fees collected $2,974. Conducted 954 inspections and complaint responses.
    - Plumbing Board test will be upcoming.

Discussion: Kathi Iannotti questioned the status of E. State Street property. Bruce advised that the owners are waiting on the asbestos survey before they can proceed to demolish building.

* Police
  + - Sponsored a day training on Search & Seizure, 16 officers attended along with 37 officers from other agencies. 3 officers attended Officer Survival Skills training. 3 officers attended Active Shooter training; 95% of dept. has gone through this training. Next step is having officers go to Emergency Response Team training, which will help progress toward 92-93% compliance to be nationally recognized response team.
    - 720 calls for service; 111 criminal cases were generated, 53 arrests, 24 citations, 23 traffic, 1 parking, 28 traffic accidents investigated.

Discussion: Mayor announced that Chief Gilbo is now officially the Police Chief, Provisional has been removed from his title.

* DPW
  + - Continue preparing streets for paving. Anticipate paving to be completed by Labor Day.
    - Miller Street Bridge will be installed soon.
    - DEC will be coming back to finish clean up at old HiWay Oil site.

Discussion: regarding 6 Spring Street; Council Member Iannotti asked if perhaps DEC could assist the City in removing the tank at this property. Chris Vose will look in to.

* Senior Center
  + - Carl Jurica spoke to seniors regarding bees during a recent covered dish.
    - There will be a 2019 trip planning meeting on July 26th
    - Chicken BBQ August 10th at Whitey’s; tickets $10
    - Lifeline screenings will be held on August 14th
* Treasurer
  + - 2017 State Report is out and has been provided to everyone. This report is also one of the key financial documents for arbitration proceeding which he is working on with Chief Gilbo.

LIAISON REPORTS

* Kathi Iannotti, Assessor’s Office
  + - No report
* Kathi Iannotti, Planning Board meeting
  + - No report
* Helen Martin, Joint Sewer Board June 13th monthly meeting
* Removing grit from primary digester
* Contract will be going out for UV Disinfection Project
* Postponed interviewing for vacant wastewater engineer position until a competitive exam is scheduled to be done in October
* Tim Cellary, Water Board July 9th meeting
  + - John Rizzo, from Greenman Pedersen did a presentation on Phase 2 of the Spillway Project
    - Christman Roof Project bids are out. There will be a pre-bid meeting on July 19th, bids accepted August 1st and possibly awarded at August 13th meeting.
* Craig Talarico
  + - No report

RESOLUTIONS

* 69, 2018 presented by Council Member Hayner to enter in to a Municipal Advisor Services Agreement with Munistat Services, Inc.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

* 70, 2018 presented by Council Member Iannotti to rescind Resolution #42, 2018 pertaining to offer at 6 Spring Street.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: Council Member Cellary asked if we were aware of tank prior to putting out to bid. Chris Vose stated that we did not. If we knew of tank being there we would have to be transparent and make it known. He believes it may be an underground fuel oil tank. DEC may have to sign off of. He will reach out to DEC to see if there is any assistant they can give us, or we may have to pursue alternatives.

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

DISCUSSION

* Mayor mentioned the offer of Joseph Lander, who owns the old Rainbow Restaurant building and has started clean up process. He has put an offer in to purchase the property located on Hoosac Street to use as parking. The council will need to make a decision for the next council meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. JACC’s Star Spangled Fireworks Celebration will be Saturday, July 21st at Knox Field beginning at 7:00 p.m.
2. Farmers Market is now open in the Park on Main Street. Tuesdays from 3-6 p.m., until Tuesday, October 23rd
3. Johnstown Citizens Band will be performing in the park on Main Street; Friday, July, 20th & 27th from 7-9 p.m.
4. Johnstown Midsummer Concert Series will begin on Thursday, July 19th – August 9th from 7-9 p.m. in the park on Main Street
5. Motorcycles on Main Street on Thursday, August 16th @ 6 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – 6:51 p.m.

Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk