Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, October 15, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

DRAFT 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 | 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 | Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program |
| Timothy Cellary, Council Member | Erica Wing, Library Director |

ABSENT

Michael C. Gifford, City Treasurer

Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer

MOMENT OF SILENCE

* Mayor asked for a brief moment of silence for the victims of the Schoharie accident and Mike Kirkpatrick

APPROVE MINUTES – September 17, 2018

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Abstain: 0

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

* General Fund A – unpaid; Abstract #4450 – $474,140.52
* General Fund A – paid; Abstract #10/2018A – $977,554.52
* Sewer Fund G – unpaid; Abstract #722 – $144,013.12
* Sewer Fund G – paid; Abstract #10/2018G – $446.62
* Voucher Fund VO – paid; Abstract #10/2018VO – $46,403.40

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

CITY OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

* Fire/Codes
  + - Fire: continued in-service training on Apparatus Placement & Industrial Operations. Responded to 68 calls for service; 3 structure fires, 4 vehicle fires, 8 motor vehicle accidents, 15 hazardous conditions, 12 medical assistance and 26 service calls.
    - Codes: Conducted training on NYS energy code. 57 permits issued, estimated cost of construction/renovation $1,553,758.00, fees collected $4,700.00. Conducted 874 inspections and complaint responses.
* Police
  + - 737 calls for service; 115 criminal cases were generated, 57 arrests, 61 citations; 56 traffic & 5 parking, 29 traffic accidents investigated.
    - Eric Johnson was promoted to the rank as Provisional Captain (re-classified Lieutenant’s position).
    - Following training took place:
      * One investigator sent to Basic Criminal Investigation school
      * Two officers to Response to Active Shooter Training.
      * Two sent to Accreditation Assessor Training School.
* DPW
  + - CHIPS paving is complete.
    - Eastbound lane of E. Main Street (between E. State and Chase) is closed due to a structural deficiency found in a culvert near the Senior Center, corrective actions are in the works for temporary fix, no timeline on when lane will be reopened.
* Senior Center
  + - Card Party & Chinese Auction was held on September 27th
    - Lifeline presentation was held on October 3rd for seniors on fall presentation
    - Sheriff Giardino spoke on October 4th regarding scams and programs in county for seniors
    - Anniversary luncheon was held to celebrate senior center and 50+ club 52 years
    - Mark Lawson will be at center on Thursday to appraise items. $10 fee. Proceeds will go to Hope House in Albany.
    - October 23rd RCIL 10-12 for caregivers
    - Healthy Eating Workshop to teach healthy eating. Beginning Friday, October 26th from 12-2 for 4 weeks.
    - Election Day bake sale 9am -6pm and spaghetti dinner; tickets available at the office for $5.
  + Library
* Change in government process continues to move along. They are working to insure building as well as insurance for disability, workers comp, etc. Over next few months she would like to highlight and recognize the Trustees that have served the library for many years that will no longer be serving on the new board. Programs continue at library; art classes, social security workshops, kid’s programs, movies, art & history lecture, etc.
* Treasurer
* No report; absent

LIAISONS’ REPORTS

* Kathi Iannotti, Planning Board meeting
  + - Brown’s Ford was approved for a 4,800 sq. ft. metal building addition at the Public Hearing on October 2nd
    - Fulton Friendship House was approved for a 2 story, 65,000 sq. ft. housing development at 507 N. Perry Street at the Public Hearing on October 2nd
  + Helen Martin, Sewer Board meeting
* Annual DEC inspection was done on September 21st ; passed
* NYS Department of Health lab assessment audit was done; passed
  + Tim Cellary, Water Board meeting
* Hoping to begin roof project at Christman Reservoir this week
* Working on 2019 Budget

RESOLUTIONS

Before Resolutions were read the Mayor gave the Council a few moments to discuss the first 8 resolutions having to do with city-owned property sales.

Discussion: Council Member Iannotti asked the City Attorney if bidders are aware of or should we include the assessed value of property, even though they are bidding at a much lower amount? Attorney said that is the responsibility of bidder to look in to prior to bidding. We can, in the future, include assessed value of property in bid packet if that is what Council would like.

* 79, 2018 presented by Council Member Hayner to accept offer from Christopher & Lisa Duesler for city-owned property at 3 Adams Avenue.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 80, 2018 presented by Council Member Iannotti to accept offer from Kevin L. Smith for city-owned property at 2 Matthew Street.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 81, 2018 presented by Council Member Hayner to accept offer from Jeremy Miller for city-owned property at 102 Wells Street.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: Council Member Cellary questioned if $50 was low to accept as bid. Council Member Iannotti asked if the Fire Chief had been through properties, he responded yes. She then asked if the offer was too cheap and he stated that wasn’t his call. A member from the gallery spoke up and said the house previously had a fire. Mayor said that they have right to reject bid. Council Member Iannotti stated if they don’t accept bid the city would be responsible to demolish. Fire Chief stated it could be put back on market and advertised again. Council Member Iannotti said if they accept at least taxes would be paid on it. Council Member Martin asked if the city gives substantial time for work to be done on property. Mayor stated that there is wording in bid packet but Fire Chief stated that it is hard to enforce and the city has been unsuccessful in the past enforcing. Council Member Martin asked that if they don’t do work on the property it could sit and deteriorate. Fire Chief responded unless it violates the code and they could site them, then yes.

Ayes: 3

Noes: 1; Martin

Abstain: 1; Hayner

* 82, 2018 presented by Council Member Iannotti to accept offer from Jeremy Miller for city-owned property at 114 Prospect Street.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Abstain: 1; Hayner

* 83, 2018 presented by Council Member Martin to accept offer from for Stephen and Saleena Maxson for city-owned property at 339 West Montgomery Street.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 84, 2018 presented by Council Member Cellary to accept offer from Mental Health Association for city-owned property at 305 Meadow Street.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 85, 2018 presented by Council Member at Large Talarico to accept offer from Megan and Konstantinos Vahaviolos for city-owned property at 2 Hamilton Street.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 86, 2018 presented by Council Member Martin to accept offer from Janet Wade for city-owned property at 839 Glebe Street.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 87, 2018 presented by Council Member Cellary to advertise city-owned property at 319 North Perry Street for sale in future (no bids received).

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 88, 2018 presented by Council Member at Large Talarico for Mayor to execute a Resolution with NYS DOT for city to maintain highway lighting.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 89, 2018 presented by Council Member Hayner to approve re-appointment of Catharine Levee to Board of Assessment Review.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: Mayor announced that there is still another opening on the Board, he is entertaining names to fill last seat.

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 90, 2018 presented by Council Member Iannotti to authorize Mayor to execute documents necessary to effectuate acquiring of funding for NYS Community Block Grant for Evolution Recycling, Inc.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: Mayor is happy for Evolution Recycling, Inc. getting this money.

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 91, 2018 presented by Council Member Martin to authorize Mayor to execute agreement with West and Company, CPAs PC to audit statutory financial statements.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

* 92, 2018 presented by Council Member Cellary to authorize Mayor to execute agreement with Auctions International Inc. to provide online auction services.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The City will issue winter parking permits for the Library for this 2018-2019 winter season. Next winter season the Library will take over issuing the permits. The City will maintain the parking lot for the remainder of this year, until December 31st after that time the Library will take over maintenance.
2. Farmers Market is open in the Park on Main Street. Tuesdays from 3-6 p.m., until Tuesday, October 23rd
3. Trick or Treating – will be on Halloween night, Wednesday, October 31st from 6-8 p.m.
4. City Hall will be closed on Monday, November 12, 2018 – Veterans’ Day

MOTION TO ADJOURN – 6:40 p.m.

Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk