Johnstown Common Council

Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall

Monday, September 16, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

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 – Vernon F. Jackson, Mayor

SWEARING IN / OATH OF OFFICE – N/A

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 | Michael J. Poulin, City Attorney |
| Bradley Hayner, Council Member | Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk |
| Kathi Iannotti, Council Member | Bruce Heberer, Fire Chief |
| Helen Martin, Council Member | David F. Gilbo, Chief of Police |
| Scott Jeffers, Council Member | Christopher J. Vose, City Engineer  Diedrie M. Roemer, Director, Senior Citizens Program  Darryl Purinton, Internal Control Officer |

ABSENT

Craig Talarico

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

N/A

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

John Denmark – 30 years of service to city

PUBLIC HEARING – Section 8 Five Year Plan

Open Meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Jim Mastriani of Joseph E. Mastriani, Inc. spoke on the program. They administer program in 9 counties for approximately 28 clients. They have worked with the city since 2006 by administering the Housing Choice Voucher Program, typically called Section 8, is a subsidy that helps the elderly, disabled and low income members of community for safe, sanitary and decent housing, which is funded by Federal Government. A program like this has proven that if you have stable housing you can get better outcomes in your life. Their goals are to expand supply of affordable housing to meet local needs, promote self-sufficiency and asset development of families and individuals, ensure equal opportunity housing and reduce fraud. Help up to 102 families in the City of Johnstown. 85% of participants are elderly or disabled. Average subsidy is $387.

Close Meeting at 6:05 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS – NA

PROCLAMATION – NA

APPROVE MINUTES – August 19, 2019

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

Motion to approve – Council Member Iannotti

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| General Fund A | * Unpaid | Abstract # | 4677 | $ | 115,022.13 |
| General Fund A | * Paid | Abstract # | 09/2019A | $ | 782,946.45 |
| Sewer Fund G | * Unpaid | Abstract # | 762 | $ | 253,535.74 |
| Sewer Fund G | * Paid | Abstract # | 09/2019G | $ | 460.86 |
| Voucher Fund VO | * Paid | Abstract # | 09/2019/VO) | $ | 42,809.40 |

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

CITY OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

* Fire/Codes
  + - Fire: Continued training in Operations at Multi-agency Haz-Mat incidents.
    - Responded to 206 calls for service; 4 structure fires, 8 motor vehicle accidents, 3 mutual aid to Gloversville, 29 hazardous conditions, 142 emergency medical service and 20 service calls.
    - Codes: Conducted training on installation and inspection of heating devices.
    - 63 permits issued, estimated cost of construction/renovation $645,526 fees collected $2,715. Conducted 795 inspections and complaint responses.
      * Ambulance is doing well. Working with County officials.
      * Firefighter VanEvery has begun Paramedic Training
      * Firefighter Brown has begun NYS Code Enforcement Officer Training.

Iannotti thanked all departments for their response and assistance to everyone affected by recent tornado.

* Police
  + - 820 calls for service; 113 criminal cases were generated, 52 arrests, 62 citations; 58 traffic & 4 parking, 21 traffic accidents investigated.
  + No training in August, will start again in fall.
  + Interviewed a candidate for vacant position, waiting on complete background check to be completed.
* DPW
* CHIPS Paving: Signed contracts back and walked job. Waiting on schedule. Should be paved by end of October. Town of Johnstown helped on O’Neil Avenue.
* Confined Space Training updated.

Iannotti thanked DPW for putting up Lions Club Banners and watering flowers

* Senior Center
* Open House huge success, over 125 people
* Fire inspected Center
* MaJong class on Monday mornings
* AARP done until spring
* Thursday, Open Mic 6-8
* Thursday, movie showing
* September 26th; Office for Aging soup and sandwich. Linda Kollar to speak on enhanced licenses, etc.
* October 1st ; Chair caning
* October 10th  ; anniversary luncheon at Nicolino’s
* October 17th ; Senior Council meeting

Roemer thanked DPW for putting up Lions Club Banners

* Internal Control Officer
* Capital policies have been given to Mayor for review
* Next will begin addressing procurement, accounts payable processing & receiving
* Comptroller coming tomorrow to start audit
* Treasurer
* Working on bond issue. Resolution will be put on Agenda for next meeting as another resolution had to be done first; relative to SEQR Process
* Budget may change due to price increase. May be closer to 2m

LIAISONS’ REPORTS

* Brad Hayner, Water Board
* September 9th meeting: On agenda was GPI concerning Phase 2 Spillway, sand filter replacement, smart waters, FC Water District #1, new Board member was appointed. President gave speech at the beginning of the meeting concerning conduct at meetings. He mentioned procedures that would take place if anyone acts out during the meeting. The Sheriff’s office would be called to have individual removed Statement, will prosecute to furthest extent of law, and no matter who you are charges will not be dropped. Hayner requested a copy of the statement and Mr. Swierzowski responded that statement is part of the Water Board Bylaws. They are not complete but when they are he will give him a copy.
* Special Meeting on September 12th to choose one of the options for Phase 2 Spillway Project. George DiMarco, water board member, was in the gallery and spoke up to say that Option 2 was chosen. Went in to executive session.
* Kathi Iannotti, Assessor’s Office – No Report
* Kathi Iannotti, Planning Board – No Report
* Helen Martin, Joint Sewer Board –
* Basic “housekeeping” type meeting; contract negotiations will begin soon.
* Responded to 3 reports regarding odor. Protocol was followed and issues resolved.

RESOLUTIONS

* 65, 2019 presented by Council Member Hayner to adopt Five (5) Year Plan for Public Housing Agency. 2020-2024.  
  Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: None

Ayes: 3

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 1 (Iannotti)

* 66, 2019 presented by Council Member Iannotti to execute new Five (5) Year Agreement with NYS Unified Court System for court security services; 2019-2024

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

* 67, 2019 presented by Council Member Martin to execute Agreement with NYS Unified Court System for court cleaning.

Seconded – Council Member Jeffers

Discussion: Martin asked if this amount was roughly the same contract price as in previous years. Mayor responded that it was.

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

* 68, 2019 presented by Council Member Jeffers to adopt new rates for billing by Certified Ambulance Group for Advanced Life Support First Response Service.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: Hayner asked if we need to rebill. Mayor responded that the company has been holding the bills but are able to go back to January 1st.

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

* 69, 2019 presented by Council Member Hayner to authorize publication for ad for public hearing to amend parking ordinance; N. William Street.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: Iannotti asked if this would help with congestion. Gilbo stated that there has been 3 accidents in that area by tractor trailers.

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

* 70, 2019 presented by Council Member Hayner to authorize professional services agreement with CT Male for new waterline on Linden Avenue.

Seconded – Council Member Iannotti

Discussion: Hayner asked if CT Male would be installing the waterline or just providing the engineering services. Mayor stated just the engineering services.

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

* 71, 2019 presented by Council Member Iannotti to authorize additional site work at Karg Bros. Tannery site by Arcadis.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: Iannotti asked if this would be it. Vose stated this is ongoing compliance monitoring, not as extensive as the dump but does have to be monitored. Martin asked if this was annually and Vose replied yes.

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

* 72, 2019 presented by Council Member Martin to declare Common Council as lead agency and issue negative declaration for 31 Crescendoe Road; new salt water storage facility.

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

* 73, 2019 presented by Council Member Jeffers to accept dissolution of Johnstown Public Library as a municipal library.

Seconded – Council Member Martin

Discussion: Martin asked if they were now all set. Gifford stated they are still waiting for approval from the retirement system, which means the city is still processing payroll but it won’t be long. Mayor has a letter prepared to go out to the Board of Regents saying the library now belongs to the school district.

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

DISCUSSION

Martin

* FC Historical Society holding trolley tour of Johnstown. FC Museum is taking care of the reservations.
* Townsend opening of the Stitch was success. Grateful they are here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* Climate Awareness Rally; in front of Main Street Park – Friday, September 20th 3-5 p.m.
* Farmer’s Market in the Main Street Park; Tuesdays from 3-6 p.m.
* Blessing of the Pets; Main Street Park – Sunday, October 6th @ 1-4 p.m.
* Business Meeting Monday, October 21st @ 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Council Member – Iannotti

Seconded – Council Member Hayner

Discussion: None

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Talarico)

Abstain: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen

City Clerk