

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 9, 2017

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor
Jane Dlugos
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor (via Skype)
James Johnson
Samuel Lyons
James Marshall
Ryan Rudegeair

Members Excused: None.

In Attendance: Tracy Jamieson, City Manager
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor
Sheila Boughner, Community Development Director/Recording Secretary
Chuck Gibbons, Code Enforcement
Harmony Motter, Finance Director
Jon Haag, Venango Newspapers, Inc.
George Francis, Wireless Resources

Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Resolution No. 1

Mr. Lyons moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Resolution No. 2

Mrs. Fletcher moved to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting of Dec. 5, 2016, of the Dec. 5, 2016 Public Hearing on the Proposed 2017 Budget, and of the Public Hearing on the FY-2014 CDBG Modification, also held on Dec. 5, 2016, as presented. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PAY THE BILLS - Resolution No. 3

Mr. Rudegeair moved to pay the bills as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CITIZENS' INQUIRIES – None.

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS -- Resolution No. 4

Mr. Rudegeair moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to issue Certificates of Appropriateness for:

- A new sign for Richards & Richards, Real Estate, LLC, replacing the sign for Oil Region Realty, at 1256 Liberty St.
- A sign at 1140 Liberty St. listing the tenants of the Galena Building
- Face mounted signs in the front and rear of the building at 309 13th St.

All three were recommended for approval by HARB. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF PARKING CHANGES – LIBERTY STREET

Mrs. Jamieson asked Council to consider a request by Tom Surman of Vantage Healthcare Network at 13th and Liberty Streets for parking changes on Liberty Street. While Surman had asked that two parking spots in front of the Vantage building be designated for loading and unloading only, to permit elderly and disabled customers to use the spaces when picking up oxygen tanks, Ms. Jamieson suggested that Council might consider limiting parking in those spaces to 10 minutes. That way anyone could park there, but there would be quick turnover. Such a change would require a change to the parking ordinance, she said. She added

that if the ordinance is modified, two handicapped parking spaces in that block not currently identified in the ordinance should be included in the ordinance at that time.

Mr. Marshall said he is not opposed to the 10-minute parking. He cautioned, however, that if it is to work, it will have to be strictly enforced.

Mrs. Fletcher wondered about the 10-minute time period, and Mayor Baker concurred, saying he was not sure if 10 minutes would be long enough or short enough. He said he did think the owner of the business next door would support the short-term parking as she has a number of customers who just want to pick things up.

Ms. Jamieson said the 10-minute restriction would be limited to the hours of 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., so as not to prevent restaurant patrons from parking there during the dinner hours. She added that the City's parking enforcement officer said he does not write many tickets for violations of the 10-minute parking near Spanky's Tobacco World/the Barrow-Civic Theatre, which would seem to support turnover.

Mayor Baker said if the short-term parking is working down the street he would support a similar measure for two or three spots in front of Vantage. Council concurred. The ordinance will be prepared for Council's February meeting.

FIRST READING – BILL NO. 1 – ADOPTION OF REVISED FEE SCHEDULE -- Resolution No. 5

Mr. Marshall moved to approve on first reading Bill No. 1, "Revised Fee Schedule." Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The changes include:

- The addition of a \$25/week fee for an on-street storage pod permit
- The addition of a \$25/per hour fee to the vehicle schedule for an ultra-terrain vehicle to be purchased by the Franklin General Authority. That fee also includes a charge of 130 percent of the applicable wage rate of the City operator, similar to that for use of other vehicles.
- An increase of the rental fee for the Miller-Sibley pavilion to \$50
- An increase of several of the charges for services relating to downtown parks and the addition of a \$150 per park fee for bagging up trash after an event

FIRST READING – BILL NO. 2 – TRAFFIC CODE – BRADY WAY – Resolution No. 6

Mr. Marshall moved to approve Bill No. 2, "Traffic Code – Brady Way," upon first reading. The ordinance modifies the traffic code to make Brady Way one-way from the Sheetz parking lot to Buffalo Street. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

AWARD OF ENGINEERING CONTRACT – SASSAFRAS STREET PROJECT – Resolution No. 7

Ms. Boughner said that three proposals were received for the engineering of the Sassafras Street Project and recommended the contract be awarded to EADS Group of Clarion, based upon comparison of the proposals. Ms. Jamieson noted that EADS did the engineering for the Myrtle Street project, which was very similar to the Sassafras project. She pointed to the overall quality of the work and said she would not hesitate to recommend the firm.

Mr. Lyons moved that the contract for engineering of the Sassafras Project be awarded to EADS Group in an amount not to exceed \$32,000, contingent upon agreement by the Franklin General Authority to pay for the engineering associated with the water and sewer improvements and upon final approval from DCED. Mr. Rudegear seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF LEASE AGREEMENT – Resolution No. 8

Mayor Baker moved to approve a resolution authorizing City officials to enter into a lease agreement with APC towers for the possible construction of a new cell tower on the City's Bully Hill property.

Under the terms of the agreement, APC will pay a \$1,000 option fee for the first year and a \$1,500 extended option fee for each of the two subsequent years. If it builds the tower, it will pay the City a rental fee of \$900 per month for 10 years. The agreement includes up to three additional five-year periods, with the rent increasing by 15 percent per period. Under the agreement the City would be permitted to install an antenna for public use on the tower and would retain the right to timber the site.

Mr. Rudegear seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PARADE & PARK REQUESTS – Resolution No. 9

Mr. Rudegear moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to approve the following requests:

- Feb. 2-4, 2017 • Fountain Park • City of Franklin and Franklin Fine Arts Council • Franklin On Ice
 - June 4, 2017 • Bandstand Park • Franklin Area High School • Graduation
 - July 15, 2017 • Riverfront Park • Amy Tarr • Wedding
- Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Manager

- Ms. Jamieson advised the council that Mackin Engineering of Pittsburgh will present the draft recommendations and take public comment for the Franklin Bike/Ped Connection Master Plan in an open house beginning at 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at City Hall. She said a steering committee has been working with Mackin on the recommendations and that a meeting was held with PennDOT officials to be sure that the proposed plan raises no red flags. She urged members of council and the public to attend the meeting and share their views.
- **Resolution No. 10** – Ms. Jamieson presented an agreement with Zito Media permitting the company to use the City's conduit on 13th Street Bridge for the fiber optic line that will run from the Professional Building at 150 Propsect Ave., make a loop around downtown and connect to City Hall. Under the agreement Zito will pay nothing for the first 10 years (except for a one-time fee of \$500) and will pay an annual fee of approximately \$2,000 in the 11th year for crossing the bridge. After that, the fee will have to be negotiated for the subsequent years. In exchange for the 10-year free conduit occupancy license, the County of Venango will pay the fiber optic line installation costs for the line to City Hall. Mr. Marshall moved to approve the agreement. Mr. Rudegear seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Ms. Jamieson said she would need time in executive session to discuss personnel, litigation and negotiations.

Solicitor

- **Resolution No. 11** – Mr. Spaid summarized a resolution authorizing City officials to obtain a tax anticipation note in the amount of \$450,000 from First United National Bank at an interest rate of .98%. Mr. Rudegear moved to approve the resolution, and Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Mr. Spaid said he would need time in executive session to discuss litigation and contract negotiations.

Mayor • Appointments

- **Resolution No. 12** -- Mayor Baker moved to reappoint Mathew Beith, Michael Frederick and Dale Wilson to the Historic & Architectural Review Board. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 13** – Mayor Baker moved and Mr. Rudegear seconded a motion to reappoint Walt Donaldson to the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 14** -- Mayor Baker moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to reappoint Michael Graham to the UCC Appeals Board.
- **Resolution No. 15** – Mayor Baker made a motion to appoint Peter O'Polka to the Franklin General Authority to fill the seat vacated by Robert Hoffman. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 16** – Mayor Baker moved to appoint Michael Swatzler to the Shade Tree Commission. Ms. Dlugos seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Mayor Baker said he plans to run for a third term as mayor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

James Johnson

- Said he plans to run for election to the seat he was appointed to fill.

Donna Fletcher

- Said she also plans to run for re-election.

Sam Lyons

- Said he will run for a fourth term.

Jane Dlugos

- Said she will also run for election to the seat City Council chose her to fill.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Resolution No. 17

Mr. Rudegear moved to go into executive session for personnel, litigation and negotiations at 7:42 p.m. Mrs. Fletcher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The executive session ended at 8:42 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Boughner, Recording Secretary