

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 2, 2015

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor via FaceTime video conference
Samuel Lyons
James Marshall
Jennifer Morris
Ryan Rudegear
Garnet Wood

Members Excused: None.

In Attendance: Tracy Jamieson, Acting City Manager
James Greenfield, Esquire
Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary
Mr. Jeffrey Hall, 1109 Elk Street
Mrs. Dianne Hall, HFPA President
Ms. Ava Rumpler, Bella Cucina owner
Mrs. Jenn Lyons, 112 Laurel Drive
David R. Lord, 407 Forest Lane
Russ Campbell, 1235 Chestnut Street
Sheila Boughner, Venango Newspapers, Inc.

Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Resolution No. 20

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Resolution No. 21 - Mr. Lyons moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 5, 2015, as presented. Mr. Wood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PAY THE BILLS - Resolution No. 22

Mr. Wood moved to pay the bills as presented. Mr. Rudegear seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CITIZENS' INQUIRIES

Mrs. Jennifer Lyons, Registered Dietitian, advised the members that this year's National Nutrition Month (March) Campaign is called "*Bite Into a Healthy Lifestyle.*" She explained that this is a national event to promote healthier eating and that several local restaurants are already on-board to help support the campaign by featuring healthier options. Those choosing featured menu options from participating restaurants will once again be entered into a drawing for the end of March. Council thanked Mrs. Lyons for her efforts and the update.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

Resolution No. 23 - Mr. Rudegear moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to approve a certificate of appropriateness for the sign request at 1258 Elk Street, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 24 - Noting that the Historic & Architectural Review Board (HARB) had denied this sign request, due to no one being present at the meeting to address any questions, Mr. Marshall moved and Mr. Wood seconded a motion to deny a certificate of appropriateness for 1243 Liberty Street. Motion passed unanimously.

HISTORIC FRANKLIN PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (HFPA) REQUEST - Resolution No. 25

Mrs. Hall was in attendance to request Council's support of the HFPA's Keystone Grant application for funds to the PA Historical and Museum Commission to rehabilitate the Civil War Monument in South Park. The HFPA has raised the necessary match, so they are only requesting the City provide a letter of support and agree to sign a Covenant Agreement that acknowledges the City will maintain the Civil War Monument for a period of 15 years. Under the covenant, the City would agree to ensure the maintenance and preservation of the architectural and historical characteristics that qualify the property as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Mayor Baker so moved and Mr. Marshall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

BELLA CUCINA REQUEST

Ms. Rumpler, owner of Bella Cucina Restaurant, was in attendance to request the City vacate additional width of West Park Street's right-of-way to accommodate a wider deck that she would like to have built alongside the West Park Street building face. In a memo, prepared by Mrs. Jamieson, Council was advised that, in 2003 Bella's former owners had asked the City for a strip to be vacated and transferred to the building's owner, West Park Building Associates, so that a deck could be constructed. This was done by ordinance and an 8' x 60' deck was constructed. Ms. Rumpler is proposing an additional width of 3', which will leave a 6' walkway on West Park Street. If granted, her plan indicates that she will build out toward West Park Street 3' more and add a 91' deck between Liberty and Elk Streets. Mr. Gibbons, Code Enforcement Officer, has reviewed the proposed plan and is comfortable that enough sidewalk will remain to accommodate pedestrian traffic. It was noted that design plans for the deck addition would have to be presented to the Historic & Architectural Review Board (HARB) and then once again to Council.

FIRST READING - BILL NO. 1 - VACATION OF A PORTION OF WEST PARK STREET

Resolution No. 26 - Mr. Greenfield read Bill No. 1, "Vacation of a portion of West Park Street," in its entirety. Mrs. Fletcher moved and Ms. Morris seconded a motion to approve on First Reading, Bill No. 1, "Vacation of a portion of West Park Street." Motion passed 6-0, with Mr. Rudegear abstaining from the vote, due to a possible financial conflict of interest.

FIRST READING - BILL NO. 2 - DOGS IN PARKS - Resolution No. 27

Mr. Greenfield read Bill No. 2, "Dogs in Parks," in its entirety. Mr. Marshall moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to approve on First Reading, Bill No. 2, "Dogs in Parks." Motion passed unanimously.

PARKING FEES DISCUSSION - Resolution No. 28

Mrs. Jamieson reported that presently the meters are calibrated to give 12 minutes/nickel; 24 minutes/dime; and 1 hour/quarter. The fines currently charged for overtime parking are \$1/first ticket and \$5/every ticket received thereafter until the car is moved. If the fine is not paid within 72 hours, the fines increase by \$5. All other parking violations are \$5. She advised that staff recommendation would be to increase the parking meter fees to 25¢ as a minimum; to increase the parking meter fines from \$1 to \$5 with 2nd notice violations to \$10; and increasing all other parking violations from \$5 to \$15.

Mrs. Fletcher noted that her concerns were with store owners taking advantage of the 2-hour free parking in the 1200 block of Liberty Street. Mr. Marshall also noted there were problems with vehicles being parked in the fire lanes in this block, as well, and vehicles not adhering to the 18-minute zone next to the Barrow-Civic Theatre.

After much discussion, Mr. Rudegear moved to request the City Solicitor prepare an ordinance increasing the parking meter fines from \$1 to \$3 and to change the time allotments to 25¢/hour, only. [This will eliminate the nickel & dime time allotments.] Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Marshall requested Council re-visit this decision in one year.

AWARD BID - SALE OF STREET SWEEPER - Resolution No. 29

Mrs. Jamieson reported that only one bid was received for the old street sweeper. The bid was received from Clark Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$2,000. (\$500 higher than the bid received from Municibid.) Mrs. Fletcher moved to accept the bid from Clark Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$2,000. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PARADE & PARK REQUESTS - Resolution No. 30

Mr. Marshall moved and Mr. Wood seconded a motion to approve the following requests:

- February 7-8, 2015 • Franklin on Ice • Fountain Park • City of Franklin/FFAC
- May 2-3, 2015 • May Garden Mart • Fountain Park • Gardeners Association
- June 7, 2015 • FHS Graduation • Bandstand Park • Franklin Area School District
- August 1-2, 2015 • Organ Grinders Rally • Fountain Park & surrounding sidewalks • DeBence Antique Music World
- September 29-October 4, 2015 • Applefest® • Various downtown locations • Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce

Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Manager

- Resolution No. 31 - Requested authorization to pay \$46,820.23 from the Capital Fund for the December 2014 legal fees. Mr. Lyons so moved and Mrs. Fletcher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Marshall ascertained that this was the final bill.
- Reported that a couple of changes need to be made to the present Fee Schedule and hopes to have it ready for the next meeting.
- Will need an executive session to discuss personnel.

Solicitor - none.

Mayor • Appointments - none.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Wood

- Noted the City street department has done a great job keeping the streets plowed.
- Reminded the public that this Saturday, February 7, is Franklin on Ice.

Mr. Rudegear

- Reported that a committee meeting has been scheduled with members from the General Authority and Sugarcreek Borough for Thursday, February 5 @ 8:30 AM.
- Announced he would be running for another term of Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 32

Mayor Baker moved to enter into executive session at 8 PM to discuss personnel. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The executive session ended at 8:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT - Resolution No. 33

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Mayor Baker moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM. Mr. Rudegear seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary