

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 2, 2016

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

Members Excused: None.

In Attendance: Tracy Jamieson, City Manager
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor
Ronnie Beith, Recording Secretary
Terry Ruditis, Street Department Supervisor
Chuck Gibbons, Code Enforcement
Sheila Boughner, Community Development Director
Harmony Motter, Finance Director
Rina Irwin, Child Development Centers
Mike Fornoff, Clarion Community Bank
James Kifer, Clarion Community Bank
John Haag, Venango Newspapers, Inc.

Prior to the meeting, Chief Mark London introduced newly promoted Detective Kevin Saragian, and Lieutenant Aaron Campbell. Chief London also introduced recent hires Patrolman Ismael Lopez and Patrolman Andrew Johnson to the Council.

Mayor Baker read a proclamation making the week of May 1-7 Public Service Recognition Week. He recognized and thanked the public employees, board & commission members, and volunteers that provide services for the City of Franklin.

Mayor Baker then called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Resolution No. 63

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Resolution No. 64

Mr. Lyons moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 4, 2016, as presented. Mr. Rudegeair seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PAY THE BILLS - Resolution No. 65

Mrs. Fletcher moved to pay the bills as presented. Mrs. Dlugos seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CITIZENS' INQUIRIES

Mrs. Irwin updated the Council on the status of the planned pavilions at the 11th St. Playground and the Atlantic Ave. Playground. She stated that Snyder Electric will donate all the labor and parts for the electric service at one playground and the labor for the second. Penelec has waived its fees for any additional poles which may be needed and a boot will be placed on the services, so that power can be turned off and on as necessary. Mrs. Jamieson noted the City is checking to see if Penelec would be agreeable to just adding electric to the existing poles. The City will be responsible for the electric bills.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

Resolution No. 66 - Mrs. Fletcher moved and Mr. Rudegear seconded a motion to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the painting request at 1259 Liberty Street, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 67 - Mr. Rudegear moved and Mrs. Fletcher seconded a motion to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the signs request at 307 Thirteenth Street, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 68 - Mr. Kifer, President & CEO of Clarion Community Bank addressed the Council noting that the following changes had been made to the site plan that had been presented at the last meeting. They had moved the building to the left side of the property and the parking area to the side of the building in lieu of parking in front of the building. There will be parking at the rear, where the current video store is and a through lane will be placed in front of the building so that vehicles coming in from Otter Street won't need to exit onto Elk Street and then re-enter off Elk Street 75 feet down. There will be 3 feet of landscaping to separate this lane from the sidewalk on Elk Street. They have changed to diagonal parking on the east side and added 11 feet of greenspace behind it for water run-off. Mr. Marshall questioned if they would be placing any fencing. Mr. Kifer advised that they could consider fencing between their property and the residential properties, if it was necessary. Mr. Kifer anticipates demolition to begin as soon as possible with Harrisburg's approval. Mayor Baker suggested placing a speed bump for public safety when walking between the sidewalk and the front door. The building's exterior features were also discussed.

Mrs. Fletcher thanked Mr. Kifer for "sprucing up" the 1200 block of Elk Street and moved to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for new construction at 1272 Elk Street, as presented. Mr. Rudegear seconded a motion, which passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 69 - Mr. Rudegear moved and Mrs. Dlugos seconded a motion to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the sign at 1236 Liberty Street, as presented. Motion passed unanimously

PROPOSED LIQUID FUELS PAVING – Resolution No. 70

Because of the vast amount of streets that need resurfacing and the relatively small amount of funds to do the work, Mrs. Jamieson noted that Mr. Ruditis has been exploring other options of street repairs versus the traditional bituminous base and wearing courses. Mr. Ruditis presented to Council his findings on that matter. He explained that there are 3 street sections that he would like to address this year, if funds allow - Evergreen Drive, (Edgewood to Woodland); 1100 block of Otter Street (11th Street to South Park); and 900 block of Buffalo Street (9th to 10th). Mr. Ruditis explained that there are other possible ways to make street repairs, such as tar and chip, cold patch overlay, and warm mix asphalt with a slurry seal. Mostly, these alternate options are best used on roadways with limited traffic. Because of the high volume of vehicles that use the 1100 Block of Otter St. and the 900 Block of Buffalo St., Mr. Ruditis recommended that the City employ the usual milling, bituminous base and wearing course that the City has in the past (with the exception that we use the warm mix asphalt as opposed to the hot mix, as is being done now regularly with PennDOT. For the Evergreen Drive section, Mr. Ruditis suggested the City try a 2" warm mix asphalt base with a slurry seal mix added over it next year. Mr. Ruditis shared pictures of streets in Sandy Lake and Stoneboro where this has been used and noted they are very happy with the results. Mr. Marshall motioned to approve the Liquid Fuels paving plan, as recommended. Mr. Rudegear seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

FY-12 AND FY-13 CDBG BUDGET TRANSFERS

Resolution No. 71 - Mrs. Jamieson explained that moving \$10,945.17 from the FY-2012 CDBG "Demolition Activity," into "Myrtle Street Engineering/Inspection" will zero out the Demolition activity and allow the City to have resident inspection services performed on the Myrtle Street Infrastructure Project, which will be taking place this summer. Mr. Rudegear moved to approve the transfer of \$10,945.17 from the FY-2012 CDBG "Demolition Activity," into "Myrtle Street Engineering/Inspection," as outlined above. Mrs. Fletcher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 72 - Mrs. Jamieson requested moving \$2,742.40 from FY-2013 CDBG "Miller-Sibley Bathhouse Roof Improvement Project" into "Street Improvements Project." She explained this action will zero out the Roof Improvement Project and allow the City to expend the leftover monies when the bid is awarded for street paving later this season. Mr. Lyons approved the transfer of \$2,742.40 from the FY-2013 CDBG "Miller-Sibley Bathhouse Roof Improvement Project," into "Street Improvements Project," as outlined above. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MYRTLE STREET PROJECT INSPECTION SERVICES - Resolution No. 73

At Mrs. Jamieson's request, The EADS Group put together a proposal to add Resident Inspection Services to the existing consulting contract for the Myrtle Street Infrastructure Project. The proposed cost of those additional services is not to exceed \$15,680. She advised this addition would make sure the utility connections are being made properly and will assist in the coordination of the parking situation that will be encountered in that project area, will help to keep residents apprised; and will help to expend all the FY-2012 monies in a timely manner.

Mr. Rudegeair moved and Mrs. Dlugos seconded a motion to amend the contract with The EADS Group, in an amount not to exceed \$15,680, to provide resident inspection services. Motion passed unanimously.

SET FIRST PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY-2016 CDBG PROGRAM - Resolution No. 74

Ms. Boughner informed City Council of the City's upcoming 2016 CDBG Program and that its allocation will be \$272,958, which is down from last year's allocation by \$1,542. She noted that, after the administration percent of 18% is taken out, it will leave \$223,826 for projects. Applications are due on September 23rd. With that in mind, Ms. Boughner asked that Council set the first of two required public hearings on June 6th, the date of Council's next meeting. Mayor Baker moved to schedule the first Public Hearing for the FY-2016 CDBG Program beginning at 7:00 P.M. on June 6, 2016. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PARADE & PARK REQUESTS – Resolution No. 75

Mrs. Fletcher moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to approve the following requests:

- June 6, 2016 • 11th Street Playground • YWCA Summer Playground Program • Oil City YWCA
- June 14, 2016 • Bandstand Park • Gardinier Funeral Home & Franklin Elks Lodge • Flag Day Ceremony
- July 3, 2016 • 12th Street Island • City of Franklin & Franklin Fine Arts Council • LibertyFest Outhouse Race
- July 30, 2016 • Fountain Park • Laura Moore • Graham Wedding Vow Renewal

Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Manager

- Advised the Council that the Request for Proposals (RFP) was recently put out for the Franklin Bike/Pedestrian Connection Master Plan. Several consultants have requested RFP packets, and proposals are due back by May 18. She plans to have the Bike Study Committee review them and bring a recommendation of award to the June Council meeting.
- Reminded the Council that on Monday, May 16, Rob Brady, from the PA DCED Local Government Services office, will be holding an informational meeting to discuss the problems faced by the Fire Service today. She noted that all of Council should have received an invitation to attend, and while this meeting will not solve anything, hopefully, it will start the ball rolling on how to provide protective fire service with today's realities of lower volunteerism and higher costs.
- **Resolution No. 76** - Noted that the PA Municipal League is asking that municipalities consider passing a resolution voicing "strong opposition to PA House Bill 340," which

would amend the Sunshine Law concerning Executive Session. According to information provided by the PML, the amendments would require that all executive sessions be audio-taped or video-taped and those tapes be held for one year, in the event they needed to be made public. Concerns are that: it would be an added expense to the City; would squelch necessary discussions concerning city business due to privacy concerns; and may jeopardize attorney-client privilege. Additionally, there is a concern with some of the proposed language that would muddy the waters, should a majority of Council members attend the same gathering where fact finding may occur, such as at a Chamber breakfast. Mayor Baker moved to adopt a resolution to oppose the PA House Bill 340. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- Reported that the preservation contractor, Conservation Solutions, is set to start work on the Civil War Monument on May 9 with the hope to be finished by May 20.

Solicitor

- **Resolution No. 77** - Mr. Spaid informed Council that the PUC has been granting communications companies public utility status, which has led to them placing mini cell towers, in public rights-of-way, on poles approximately 40' high. There is nothing to regulate this at this time which means that these towers could be popping up all over town. Currently, the PUC practices circumvent all municipal ordinances. To prevent this, our legal firm that has assisted us with our cable franchise has urged us to consider sending a letter to PUC. He recommends Council authorize Mrs. Jamieson to send letter. Mayor Baker advised that the Pennsylvania Municipal League is opposed to this practice, as well. Mayor Baker made the motion to approve sending a letter to the PUC. Mrs. Dlugos seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 78** – Mr. Spaid reported that the General Authority wants to make improvements to 15th St. Pump Station. There are 4 parcels of land the City acquired in 2007 and the General Authority has asked the City to transfer the parcels to them. Mr. Rudegeair moved to transfer the land to the General Authority. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mayor • Appointments

- **Resolution No. 79** - Mayor Baker moved to appoint Michael Delaney to both the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Redevelopment Authority. Mr. Rudegeair seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Invited Council to join him in the Memorial Day Parade. Line-up is at 9 AM.

COUNCIL REPORTS

James Johnson

- Mr. Johnson wanted to applaud the yarn art on the 12th Street Island, noting that it looks great.

Jim Marshall

- Asked the other Council members if they want to proceed with Garnet Wood Way. Council answered in the affirmative, so Mr. Spaid will present the ordinance at the June meeting and Council can make final approval at the July meeting.

Donna Fletcher

- Announced that the memorial service for Garnet Wood will be at 11 AM on Saturday, May 7 at First Presbyterian Church.
- May Mart will be Saturday and Sunday, May 7 and 8.

Sam Lyons

- Noted that a resident asked Mr. Lyons to take a look at some streets in Oak Hill, such as Washington and Madison. Mrs. Jamieson noted that she hoped some of the streets could be approved through the 2016 CDBG process.

Jane Dlugos

- The Franklin Library will sponsor Garnet Wood Day on May 7.
- Snyder Electric has installed LED lights at the Franklin Library.
- Friday, June 3, Saturday, June 4, Spring Books & More Sale will be held at Christ United Methodist Church for the Franklin Library.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronnie Beith, Recording Secretary