

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Nov. 13, 2017

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor
Michael Dulaney
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor (via FaceTime)
James Johnson
Samuel Lyons
James Marshall
Fred Mays

Members Excused: None.

In Attendance: Tracy Jamieson, City Manager
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor
Harmony Motter, City Finance Director
Jim Wetzel, Fire Chief
Kevin Anundson, Police Chief
Chuck Gibbons, Code Enforcement Officer
Sheila Boughner, Recording Secretary & Community Development
Jim Williams, Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce
Jodi Lewis, Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce
Gary Vanderpool, Tri-County Industries
Robert Cerro, 1316 Otter St.
Marissa Dechant, Venango Newspapers

Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Resolution No. 150

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

Mr. Spaid asked the Mayor to allow Mr. Gibbons to start the computer reading of Bill No. 9 – “Traffic & Parking Meter Codes.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Resolution No. 151

Mr. Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the Final CDBG Public Hearing on Oct. 2, 2017, the regular meeting of Oct. 2, 2017, and the special meeting of Oct. 30, 2017, as presented. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PAY THE BILLS - Resolution No. 152

Mr. Lyons moved to pay the bills as presented. Mr. Mays seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

FRANKLIN CHAMBER PRESENTATION

Mr. Williams presented Council with a check to help defray the City's costs related to Applefest. Mr. Williams praised the work of City departments that helped to make for another very successful Applefest weekend.

CITIZENS INQUIRIES

Robert Cerro of 1316 Otter Street raised concerns about increased traffic volume and traffic speeds on the 1300 block of Otter Street following the recent conversion of nearby Franklin Avenue to a one-way street going east toward 13th Street. The 1300 block of Otter is one-way going west. Mr. Cerro said the speeding traffic poses a safety hazard to residents, especially the 11 children who live on the block, and he asked Council to take steps to slow the traffic down. Mr. Marshall and Mayor Baker indicated that Council members are aware of the issue and are considering ways to address it.

Mr. Gibbons noted the computer stopped reading Bill No. 9 at 7:17 p.m.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS -- None

AWARD TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE - Resolution No. 153

Mr. Marshall moved to award the bid for a six-month tax anticipation note in the amount of \$450,000 to First United National Bank, the lowest of five bidders, at .98% interest. Mr. Dulaney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

AWARD SALE OF 1424 OTTER STREET - Resolution No. 154

Mr. Dulaney moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to approve the sale of the property located at 1424 Otter Street to Alan Sheehan of Cochran in the amount of \$1,200. The City received the property from Wells Fargo Bank and demolished a deteriorated duplex on the lot. The bid was the only one received, and it exceeded the minimum bid amount of \$1,000. Mr. Sheehan owns a neighboring property. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE 2017 CDBG PROGRAM APPLICATION - Resolution No. 155

Mr. Marshall moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to approve the FY-2017 CDBG grant application in the amount of \$269,615. The proposed allocation of funds includes \$117,300 for street improvements on the 1400 blocks of New and Chestnut Streets, Railroad Street and Elm Street (10th to 11th); \$103,785 for sidewalk improvements and curb ramps in the 1300 blocks of Otter Street and Franklin Avenue and the east side of the connecting block on 14th Street; and \$48,530 for administration. Motion passed unanimously.

BIDS FOR BATHHOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

Ms. Boughner reported that two bids were received on Nov. 7 for the accessible renovations to the Miller-Sibley bathhouse: one from JM Clark Construction of Titusville in the amount of \$77,600 and another from Salmon Construction, LLC, of Grove City in the amount of \$83,500. The bids came in over the project budget, which includes approximately \$62,000 for construction. The City and Sugar Creek Borough are jointly funding the project with FY-2015 CDBG funds, and both entities are reviewing their CDBG budgets for possible budget transfers.

to cover the additional costs. Ms. Boughner said she will seek approval of a revision of the City's FY-2015 CDBG budget and ask for approval of the contract award at Council's Dec. 4 meeting.

REVISED MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION

Mrs. Jamieson updated council on the Minimum Municipal Obligation figures for 2018. She indicated that after the presentation on the topic at the September Council meeting, the City met with its actuary and pension investment company and was advised to adjust one of its actuarial assumptions. The change will result in slightly higher costs but should help to smooth out the impact of any future market fluctuations.

The revised numbers are as follows: Police - \$188,013 • Firemen – \$181,046 • Non-Uniformed – \$176,717 for a total of \$545,776.

AWARD GARBAGE AND RECYCLING BID - Resolution No. 156

Mrs. Jamieson provided Council members with a chart detailing the two bids received for the City's three-year garbage and recycling collection contract. The bids -- from Tri-County Industries of Grove City, the low bidder, and Advanced Disposal Services of Shipperville -- included several options relating to the provision of trash carts and/or recycling carts and the frequency of recycling pick-up (weekly or bi-weekly). Mr. Lyons raised concerns about whether one 95-gallon trash cart per week would provide sufficient capacity for a larger family. Mayor Baker worried that reducing recycling pick-up to every other week might lead to less recycling. After some discussion, Mr. Lyons moved to approve a contract with Tri-County Industries at a cost of \$13.80 per month per resident for Option C, which includes once-a-week garbage collection as it currently exists, with residents providing their own trash receptacles, and once a week recycling pick-up using 35- or 95-gallon recycling carts provided by Tri-County. Mr. Dulaney seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4 to 3, with Mr. Lyons, Mr. Mays, Mr. Dulaney and Mr. Johnson voting in favor and Mayor Baker, Mr. Marshall and Mrs. Fletcher voting against.

FINAL READING – Bill No. 8 – Parades and Public Assemblies Code - Resolution No. 157

Mr. Spaid read the title of Bill No. 8, "Parades and Public Assemblies," into the record. Mr. Marshall objected to the inclusion of language relating to the possible sale or service of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a parade or event. Mr. Spaid indicated that the language, which had always been in the ordinance, was there to help the Chief of Police determine the level of police services needed for a parade or event. Chief Anundson said the information is useful as he makes his decision on the amount of police presence needed. Mr. Marshall moved and Mr. Dulaney seconded a motion to pass on Bill No. 8, "Parades and Public Assemblies," on final reading. Motion passed unanimously.

FIRST READING – Bill No. 9 – Traffic & Parking Meter Codes – Resolution No. 158

Mr. Spaid indicated that Bill No. 9, "Traffic & Parking Meter Codes," in its entirety, had been read by the computer into the record. Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Mays seconded a motion to adopt Bill No. 9, "Traffic & Parking Meter Codes," on First Reading. Motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET MESSAGE

Mrs. Jamieson presented a proposed 2018 budget totaling \$5,193,192. The budget maintains services at their current levels and includes no increase in the millage rate of 11.3 mills. It reflects an increase of approximately \$83,000 over the 2017 budget. The difference is largely due to an increase in the City's retirement obligation, the addition of a laborer position with the Street Department (which will be shared by FICDA) and the setting aside of \$25,000 toward a future fire engine replacement.

FIRST READING – Bill No. 10 – Budget – Resolution No. 159

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 10, "Budget," in its entirety, into the record. Mr. Dulaney moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to adopt on First Reading, Bill No. 10, "Budget." Motion passed unanimously.

Prior to the vote council members praised Mrs. Jamieson and Mrs. Motter for their work on the budget.

FIRST READING – Bill No. 11 – Real Estate Tax – Resolution No. 160

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 11, "Real Estate Tax," in its entirety, into the record. Mr. Spaid noted one correction that would be needed changing the date in one reference to 2018. Mr. Johnson moved to adopt on First Reading, Bill No. 11, "Real Estate Tax," as amended with the date change. Mr. Dulaney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

FIRST READING – Bill No. 12 – Earned Income Tax – Resolution No. 161

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 12, "Earned Income Tax," in its entirety, into the record. Mrs. Fletcher moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to adopt on First Reading, Bill No. 12, "Earned Income Tax." Motion passed unanimously.

ESTABLISH BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING – Resolution No. 162

Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to hold a Public Hearing on the budget prior to the next regular Council meeting, beginning at 7 p.m. on Dec. 4, 2017. Motion passed unanimously

PARADE & PARK REQUESTS - Resolution No. 163

Mr. Johnson moved and Mr. Dulaney seconded a motion to approve the following request:

- November 18, 2017 • Various Locations • Light-Up Night • City of Franklin & Franklin Fine Arts Council.

Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Manager

- Reported the advertisement for bids went out for the Slurry Seal treatment of the streets in Franklin Heights that were paved with reclaimed millings. Bids are due Dec. 4.
- **Resolution No. 164** – Advised that three quotes were received for anti-skid for the 2017-2018 winter season. They included: Hasbrouck Sand & Gravel, \$8.99 a ton; Cooperstown Sand & Gravel, \$10.50 a ton; and IA Construction, \$17.45 a ton. Mr. Johnson moved and

Mrs. Fletcher seconded a motion to award the bid for the season's anti-skid to Hasbrouck Sand & Gravel in the amount of \$8.99 a ton. Motion passed unanimously. The purchase will be paid for with Liquid Fuels funds.

- **Resolution No. 165** – Noted that Council members previously received a draft of the City's 2016 audit report from McGill, Power, Bell & Associates. Mrs. Jamieson asked Council members, unless they had concerns with the draft, to authorize the firm to issue the final report, to be presented to Council at the December meeting. Mr. Lyons so moved, seconded by Mr. Mays. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 166** – Indicated that when the Franklin General Authority is ready to proceed with the Miller Hill Tank Transmission Line project, which has long been on the authority's action list, it will require two 30-foot easements from the City. The affected areas would include 1,300 linear feet on Old Mercer Road and 1,600 linear feet on Sibley Avenue. Mrs. Fletcher moved to approve the easement agreement. Mr. Dulaney seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
- Reported the parking kiosks in Lot C are up and running. She distributed samples of key tags that drivers may use to record their license plate numbers, which they will need when they use the kiosks. The key tags will be available at City Hall.

Solicitor

- Reported he again received a letter from the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership requesting payment from the City for its use of the phrase "Light-Up Night," which the group has copyrighted. Franklin's use of the phrase pre-dates the copyright. Mr. Spaid said he would share the letter with Council.
- Mayor Baker advised the City must decide if it wants to be a possible location for mini-casinos under the state's new gambling expansion law and opt in or out by Dec. 31. Mr. Spaid said he would draft a resolution for opting out for Council to consider at its December meeting.

Mayor – Appointments

Resolution No. 167 – Mayor Baker moved to re-appoint Vince Witherup to the Franklin Industrial & Commercial Development Authority board. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 168 – Mayor Baker moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to re-appoint Matt Beith to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 169 – Mayor Baker moved and Mr. Dulaney seconded a motion to re-appoint Jason Peterson and Jeffrey Romanowski to the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 170 – Mayor Baker moved to appoint Amos Rudolph to the Uniform Construction Code Appeals Board. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Baker

- Congratulated those on the panel who, on Nov. 7, were elected to another term.

Mr. Johnson

- Presented an Oil Region Heritage Area flag to the City. Mr. Johnson represents Franklin on the Oil Region Alliance Board.

Mr. Dulaney

- Commended the police department for its professionalism in handling the alleged homicide that occurred in the City in November.

Mr. Marshall – No report

Mrs. Fletcher

- Praised both police department and water department employees for their prompt and conscientious assistance with matters relating to closing up a residence for a temporary absence.

Mr. Lyons

- Expressed his thanks to Mrs. Jamieson and her staff for a budget featuring no tax increase.

Mr. Mays – No report

EXECUTIVE SESSION -- None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS -- None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Boughner, Recording Secretary