

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

December 7, 2015

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

Members Excused: Garnet Wood

Members Absent: Jennifer Morris

In Attendance: Tracy Jamieson, City Manager
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor
Chuck Gibbons, Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer
Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary
Robin & Morgan Vincent, 545 Meadville Pike
Richard & Kay Jardin, 1211 Liberty Street
Robert Heller, 834 Elk Street
Scott & Julie Cartwright, 1608 Keely Road
Russ & Mary Campbell, 1235 Chestnut Street
Sheila Boughner, Venango Newspapers, Inc.

Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Resolution No. 195

After the addition of #12A, "First Reading - Bill #9," Mrs. Fletcher moved to approve the agenda, as amended. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Resolution No. 196

Mr. Lyons moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 9, 2015, as presented. Mrs. Fletcher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously

PAY THE BILLS - Resolution No. 197

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

CITIZENS' INQUIRIES

Resolution No. 198 - Morgan Vincent, a student at Franklin Area High School, requested permission to hold a pole vaulting contest in Fountain Park on Saturday, June, 11, 2016, as part of her Senior Project. After viewing a brief PowerPoint presentation by Ms. Vincent, Mrs. Fletcher moved to approve the request contingent upon Mrs. Jamieson's review of the insurance and the parks department's approval of the setup. Mr. Rudegeair seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Campbell was once again in attendance to discuss the continued parking problems in the 1200 block of Chestnut Street.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

Resolution No. 199 - Mrs. Fletcher moved and Mr. Rudegear seconded a motion to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for a sign at 1135 Buffalo Street, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 200 - Mr. Lyons moved and Mr. Marshall seconded a motion to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for signs at 1215 Liberty Street, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 201 - Mrs. Fletcher moved and Mr. Rudegear seconded a motion to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for signs & a gazebo at 1205 Liberty Street, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

D.U.I. TASK FORCE AGREEMENT - Resolution No. 202

Mr. Spaid reported that Oil City and Sugarcreek Borough had passed the Venango County D.U.I. Task Force Municipal Agreement for fiscal year 2015-2016 and asked that City Council do the same. Mr. Rudegear so moved and Mrs. Fletcher seconded the motion, which passed 4-0, with Mayor Baker abstaining due to monetary reasons.

FINAL READING - BILL NO. 5 - Otter Street "No Parking" - Resolution No. 203

Mr. Spaid read the title of Bill No. 5, "Otter Street 'No Parking,'" into the record. Mr. Rudegear moved and Mr. Marshall seconded a motion to pass on Final Reading Bill No. 5, "Otter Street 'No Parking.'" Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Marshall requested Mrs. Jamieson notify the police department of this action.

FINAL READING - BILL NO. 6 - Budget - Resolution No. 204

Mr. Spaid read the title of Bill No. 6, "Budget," into the record. Mr. Marshall moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to pass on Final Reading Bill No. 6, "Budget." Motion passed unanimously.

FINAL READING - BILL NO. 7 - Real Estate Tax - Resolution No. 205

Mr. Spaid read the title of Bill No. 7, "Real Estate Tax," into the record. Mr. Lyons moved and Mrs. Fletcher seconded a motion to pass on Final Reading Bill No. 7, "Real Estate Tax." Motion passed unanimously.

FINAL READING - BILL NO. 8 - Earned Income Tax - Resolution No. 206

Mr. Spaid read the title of Bill No. 8 "Earned Income Tax," into the record. Mr. Marshall moved and Mrs. Fletcher seconded a motion to pass on Final Reading Bill No. 8, "Earned Income Tax." Motion passed unanimously.

FIRST READING - BILL NO. 9 - PARKING METER FINES & VIOLATIONS - Resolution No. 207

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 9, "Parking Meter Fines & Violations," in its entirety, into the record. Mrs. Fletcher moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to pass on First Reading, Bill No. 9, "Parking Meter Fines & Violations. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Marshall ascertained that the fines will go into effect immediately following Final Reading; however calibration of the meters will take time.

PARADE & PARK REQUESTS - under "Citizens' Inquiries"

REPORTS

Manager

- Resolution No. 208 - After a short discussion, Mrs. Fletcher moved to increase the parking permit fee from \$40 to \$60/quarter, beginning January 1, 2016. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Reported that, in light of attempting to find cost savings for Property/Liability/Workmen's Comp insurance for the City, she had requested proposals. Three proposals were received from 2 insurance carriers: Northwest Insurance/Selective - \$246,281 (which includes an additional \$2 million umbrella liability); Franklin Insurance/Penn PRIME - \$265,316 (the City's current carrier); and going Direct with Penn PRIME - \$253,067. Since the City of Franklin had been a charter member of PennPRIME, when it began in the 1990's, Mrs. Jamieson felt it was important to ascertain that City Council affirmed switching to another carrier. She did note that, should the City not renew with PennPRIME, it would forfeit \$52,091 in future credits. Mrs. Jamieson advised that she is aware of some municipalities that have switched to Northwest Insurance Services and were happy with the service. Northwest Insurance has offices in Meadville and make stops in Franklin twice a week.

The base bid from Northwest Insurance was \$24,608 lower than the PennPRIME Direct quote. An additional \$2 million umbrella policy was recommended by Northwest due to the City covering multiple authorities under its Directors & Officers Liability. This amount would add \$17,822 to the cost, which would still make it the lowest quote by \$6,786. After some discussion, Council agreed with her recommendation to switch the Property/Liability & Worker's Compensation packages, in the final amount of \$246,281, to Northwest Insurance Services for 2016.

- Resolution No. 209 - Reported that both furnaces at the Miller-Sibley bath house need replaced at a cost of \$1,376. Mr. Lyons moved and Mrs. Fletcher seconded the motion to approve the purchase. Motion passed unanimously.
- Advised \$21,637 in Liquid Fuels monies has been approved by the County, which will enable the ADA curb replacements at 12th & Liberty Streets.
- Will need an executive session to discuss personnel, negotiations and possible litigation.

Solicitor

- Advised that, upon researching State law, he will notify Craig Westover, who had won the open Council position during last month's election, that he will not be able to serve as both a constable and councilman since they are both elected positions. Should Mr. Westover choose not to accept the Council position, the process will need to begin in January for another replacement.
- In response to a note in the newspaper's Spray/Overheard column, he wanted to assure the Council that, as City Solicitor, he has not billed the City for any of the hours he has spent working on the settlement process between the City of Franklin and the General Authority.

Mayor • Appointments - none.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Baker

- Thanked the committee for another successful Light-Up Night.
- Thanked Mr. Spaid for his help during the litigation.

Mr. Marshall

- Reiterated his thanks Mr. Spaid; to Mrs. Jamieson for her work over the past year; to Sheila Boughner for her fair and accurate reporting; to Mrs. Hawke for her many years of service; and to members of Council for their continued dedication.

Mrs. Fletcher

- Reported she would be leaving for Florida on Christmas Day and wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas!

Mr. Lyons

- Also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 210

Mr. Marshall moved to enter into executive session at 8:20 PM to discuss personnel, possible litigation and negotiations. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The executive session ended at 8:50 PM.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Resolution No. 211 - Mr. Rudegear moved to ratify the new collective bargaining agreement with the IAFF, as described, for the term of 2016-1018. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary