

**LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2017
LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA**

Mayor Wolford called to order the Regular Monthly Meeting of Latrobe City Council at 6:50 P.M.

Mayor Wolford asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Wolford asked all for a moment of silence.

The City Secretary read Roll Call:

Eric Bartels - present
John Murtha – present
Christine Weller - present
Robert Forish - present
Deputy Mayor Gerald Baldonieri - present
Julie Bisi - present
Mayor Rosemarie Wolford - present

Also present were the following: Wayne B. Jones, City Manager; Claire Throckmorton for Zachary Kansler, Solicitor; James Bumar, Police Chief; Michael Gray, Public Works Director; John Brasile, Fire Chief; Ann Powell, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer.

Mr. Baldonieri moved to adopt the January 9, 2017 minutes, second by Ms. Bisi. Vote 7-0.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT

Total Expenses	\$348,212.98
Total Payroll	<u>162,064.02</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$510,277.00

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM JANUARY 2017

Treasurer's Report

See attachment "A"

Police Report

See attachment "B"

Public Works Report

See attachment "C"

Fire Report

See attachment's "D"

Code Report

See attachment's "E"

Tax Collector's Report

See attachment "F"

Mr. Forish moved to approve the reports and bills presented for payment, second by Mr. Murtha. Vote 7-0.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS (related to agenda)

Ron Mickinak of 159 Easy Street stated he has lived here fifty-years and no one has been up there to pave his street. He said they have fixed the holes and a week later they are just as bad. Public Works Director Mike Gray said he can try to fix the potholes.

Ed Showalter of 737 St. Clair Street is opposed to the burning issue. He said it is too much of a danger. He stated his neighbors' years ago, burned and he would sit on his porch all night watching to make sure his house did not burn down. He thinks having fires in a town is not a good idea.

Police Chief Bumar said he has been beat up over the last six months by people telling him he is stupid for not allowing burning.

Chief Bumar stated he still says there should be no open burning regardless of whether it is propane or any burning fuel. He dreads what could happen.

Mayor Wolford said we are going to give it a try like other municipalities that have done it with no issues.

Fire Chief Brasile stated he has the same answer as Police Chief Bumar.

James Miller of 127 E. 4th Avenue is concerned about the burning. He stated the Police and Fire Chiefs disagree and yet most of council voted it in. Mr. Miller said burning should not be allowed in Latrobe.

Debbie Hauser of 1920 Sylvan Avenue asked if burning is allowed anytime of the day and every day.

Mayor Wolford said there is no time specified.

Discussion ensued regarding if a temperature regulation exists for outdoor burning. It was concluded that indoor wood burning has an outside temperature regulation in the city code, but may not apply to outdoor burning.

Danielle Repko of 116 Wagner Street wanted to know what the \$15 registration fee was going to.

City Manager Jones stated it is to cover costs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee– Bisi, Wolford.

No report.

Public Safety and Public Works Committee– Bartels, Forish

Mr. Bartels reported that he has sent an email out establish a meeting time before the next Agenda Prep. Meeting.

Personnel Committee– Murtha, Wolford

Mayor reported that Mr. Murtha and she held a meeting.

Events Committee– Baldonieri, Murtha.

City Manager Jones reported that a Banana Split Committee meeting will be held February 22, 2017, at 4:00 P.M.

Parking Committee– Bartels, Baldonieri, Forish.

City Manager reported that we are waiting for state approval to terminate the Parking Authority and then we will transfer property.

GLSD Student Showcase Committee - Bisi, Murtha

Ms. Bisi reported that she has not received a reply yet from Judith Swigart from the GLSD.

BOARD/AUTHORITY REPORTS

Mayor Wolford reported that the topic of sharing the Police ATV was discussed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Department - No report.

Police Department– Police Chief Bumar reported that the new vehicle is on the road. Chief Bumar addressed two new issues, one being the State charging for State Police coverage in non-police municipalities, and the other Regionalizing. Chief Bumar said that here in Latrobe we have the centralized Drug Task Force, the DUI Force, and Central Booking. The Latrobe Department has a lot of assets and budgeting parameters. He is thankful for his ability to have these assets for his Department.

Mayor Wolford said “Thank you”. Mayor said the city is fortunate to have the Police Department that we do, and maybe down the road Latrobe could be the Hub for regionalization.

Chief Bumar said he tries to get as much as he can with his budget. He also reported that the School District loves the Latrobe Police School Resource Officer.

Fire Department– Fire Chief Brasile reported that the Fire Department has added an F550 Service Truck that was purchased with volunteer fund-raising such as the Street Fair.

Mayor Wolford said it is great that their fundraising takes a burden off of the City.

Code Enforcement - No report.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Designating a twenty-five-foot portion of the East-bound side of Unity Street as non-parking. Mr. Murtha moved to enact this ordinance, second by Ms. Bisi. Vote 7-0.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Bartels made a motion to authorize the City to offer to provide tax collection services for the Greater Latrobe School District over the next four years, requiring the School District to pay their proportional share of the costs of real estate tax collection, second by Ms. Bisi. Vote 7-0.

RESOLUTION 2017-14

Setting the registration fee for having small recreational fires. Mr. Baldonieri moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Bartels. Vote 5-Yes, 2-No (Murtha, Forish).

Ms. Bisi made a motion to authorize the City of Latrobe to join the G13 organization of nearby municipalities, second by Mr. Murtha. Vote 7-0.

Mr. Forish made a motion to authorize the solicitor to execute the Letter Agreement prepared by the Department of Environmental Protection, which interprets certain provisions of the March 3, 2016, Consent Order and Agreement, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 7-0.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION 2017-15

A resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, declaring its intention to amend the Zoning Code to address medical marijuana establishments and to hold public hearings. Mr. Bartels moved to adopt this resolution, second by Ms. Bisi. Vote 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Baldonieri reported that he was approached by members of the Holy Family Church for handicapped parking spaces. Mayor Wolford said we need a letter submitted.

OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZENS REQUESTS

None.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wolford thanked Mike Gray and his team for the great job with the snowstorm.

City is to look at Wagner Street in the Fifth Ward for a possible No Parking sign at the corner, where it is hard to see to pull out onto Ligonier Street.

Deputy Mayor Baldonieri asked about water going into mines in Cramer Heights causing catch basins to always be full of water.

Public Works Director Mike Gray said he looked at the situation and saw standing water in the basins, so he capped the pipe and eliminated catch basins allowing the water to drain to catch basins further down.

Mr. Bartels made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 7-0.

Regular Meeting of Council adjourned at 7.43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara J. Buck, Secretary