

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

Mayor Wolford called to order a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M. Solicitor Kansler stated that the meeting was appropriately noticed in the Latrobe Bulletin. The purpose of this meeting is to get additional information from Council related to the Medical Marijuana Establishments restrictions within the City. Established in 2016 by state law, we are not allowed to exclude the establishments, but can have reasonable restrictions.

Mayor Wolford asked for any public comments.

No public comments offered.

Mayor Wolford closed the public hearing at 6:35 P.M.

Mayor Wolford called to order the Regular Monthly Meeting of Latrobe City Council at 6:36 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 – absent (arrived at 6:38 P.M.)
Mayor Rosemarie Wolford - present

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

Mr. Murtha moved to adopt the February 13, 2017 minutes, second by Mr. Bartels. Vote 6-0.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT

Total Expenses	\$218,397.92
Total Payroll	<u>108,664.17</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$327,062.09

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM FEBRUARY 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. Baldonieri. Vote 6-0.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS (related to agenda)

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee– Bisi, Wolford.

No report.

Public Safety and Public Works Committee– Bartels, Forish

Mr. Bartels reported that he, Chief Bumar, Mike Gray had a good meeting a couple week ago.

Personnel Committee– Murtha, Wolford

None.

Events Committee– Baldonieri, Murtha.

Mr. Baldonieri reported that a Banana Split Committee meeting will be held March 22, 2017.

Parking Committee– Bartels, Baldonieri, Forish.

None.

GLSD Student Showcase Committee - Bisi, Murtha

None.

Council Member Bisi arrived at 6:38 P.M. and was seated.

BOARD/AUTHORITY REPORTS

None.

Mrs. Weller reported that she spoke to Jarod Trunzo of the Revitalization Program and he told her that the Mozart House and Dainty Pastry are in the planning stages. Mrs. Weller said the Farmer's Market is to start soon and Garden Plot registrations are available.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Department - No report.

Police Department– Police Chief Bumar reported that the transfer of the Police Department Quad is on the agenda.

Fire Department– No report.

Code Enforcement - No report.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION 2017-16

Approving the transfer of the Latrobe Police Department All-Terrain Vehicle to Latrobe-GLSD Parks and Recreation Commission. Ms. Bisi moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Bartels. Vote 7-0.

RESOLUTION 2017-17

Establishing two handicap parking spaces for Holy Family Church. Mr. Murtha moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Forish. Vote 7-0.

Ms. Bisi made a motion to authorize the City Manager and Public Works Director to designate four consecutive parking spots in Lot "E", as reserved parking spaces for the use of the McKenna Foundation, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 7-0.

Mr. Murtha made a motion to authorize the Civil Service Commission to implement civil service testing to fill a vacant position in the Police Department, second by Mrs. Weller. Vote 7-0.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Bartels made a motion to authorize the City Manager to terminate the City of Latrobe's line of credit with Commercial Bank, second by Mr. Murtha. Vote 7-0.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Agenda item C.1. requires no formal action at this time.

Mr. Baldonieri made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to submit the Pending Cell Phone Tower Ordinance to the Planning Commission for their review and opportunity to provide comments pursuant to the Municipalities Planning Code, second by Mr. Bartels. Vote 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZENS REQUESTS

Bethany Calabrace of 1610 Virginia Street spoke on behalf of the Dek Hockey that is proposed to go in the location of the Irving Avenue Playground. Ms. Calabrace and others had attended the previous Parks and Recreation meeting. She stated that they have nothing against Park and Recreation or the Dek Hockey. Ms. Calabrace stated they would like to have the Dek Hockey stay in Latrobe, just not where it is planned. She said Parks and Recreation does an excellent job for the residents and kids. She thought that after the Park and Recreation meeting that P & R members thought their main issues were with traffic and parking. She said that is not their only issues. She stated they do not want to lose the playground that is heavily used. She said the basketball court and playground area is the only green space for kids in that neighborhood. She stated that her and her neighbors have always had to clean up the area after events, deal with heavy pedestrian traffic that causes theft, vandalism, and trespassing. Ms. Calabrace handed out to Council a signed petition of 100 signatures of residents that do not want the Dek Hockey to replace the Irving Avenue Playground. She asked how the city is going to enforce speeding and running through stop signs.

Mayor Wolford believes that is a problem in every neighborhood.

Police Chief Bumar stated he has two Officers on a shift and would be difficult to put an Officer there for speed checks. Chief Bumar said this needs to be seriously looked at.

Speed bumps were discussed but concluded they would cause issues with plowing and with taking them in and out.

Ms. Calabrace asked whose job it is to patrol the parks; Police or Parks and Recreation?

Chief Bumar said it is private property and although the Department has in the past we should not be patrolling. He said the Police Department was advised as such by the Fraternal Order of Police.

Ms. Calabrace said there will be parking issues as they already have a problem when there are events. With Dek Hockey they may not have a spot to park when coming home with groceries. She asked about the possibility of permit parking and how it is enforced.

Mayor Wolford said that is enforced by a phone call to 911. Mayor said two permits per family.

Ms. Calabrace stated she hopes that if the Dek Hockey is installed at this location the city will not make Memorial Drive one-way again, as that did not work in the past.

Craig Shevchik, Park and Recreation Director, stated that there are plans for the future to have an additional play area and ½ basketball court.

John Clark of 1614 Virginia Street stated he has lived in Latrobe all his life, and growing up there were many playgrounds, and now there is no Athletic Field, and now this one.

Marcy Pavlik of 1603 Virginia Street who lives adjacent to the playground cited Zoning Code 166-35, Buffer yard requirements, and said if developing a non-residential property use is being put adjacent to or around homes it requires a buffer yard or screening to block noise and lights from coming into their homes.

Mayor Wolford stated it is a question for Parks and Recreation.

Ms. Pavlik questioned what it will do to the value of her home, and she feels they did not look into all these things before making a decision.

Rita Traker of 1303 Wood Street said her son has played Dek Hockey since he was three and is now involved in Ice Hockey. She said her daughter is now playing Dek Hockey. She questioned if they cared about buffers when the Stadium went in, and that you choose to live near a public park. She said she would like the Dek Hockey and would volunteer her backyard.

Samantha Vukas of 1607 Virginia Street believes speeding will increase and is concerned as she has a child with disabilities that uses the non-paying playground.

Trisha Kaufman of 1611 Virginia Street said she went to the Park & Recreation meeting and wondered if it was advertised.

Mayor Wolford said the regular meetings are advertised and the special meeting was advertised.

Tammy Bailey of 11 Irving Avenue said she has lived here since 2009 and purchased her house because of the playground for her one and three-year old's. She said that Cardinal Park will now house the soccer fields since the Athletic Field is gone to Greater Latrobe School District for the new elementary school, and the Dek Hockey that was on the Athletic Fields has to stay in Latrobe to receive the \$200,000 in proceeds from the City's sale of the Athletic Field. She stated she does not want the Dek Hockey in front of her home. Two ideal sites she said would be on the other side of the playground or at Baggaley Elementary. She questioned if the \$25,000 for the Athletic Field went to Third Ward Playground, and if that park is owned by the school and leased to Parks and Recreation.

Amy McIntyre of Unity Township asked council to please find a solution.

Deann Shine of 310 Allegheny Avenue in Unity Township said her son plays Dek Hockey and she can see both sides, but feels we need to keep it at a central location as Twin Lakes is too far and she is afraid enrollment will go down.

Doug Harvey of 721 Chestnut Street see's both sides. He said he has eleven and thirteen-year old's that have to cross multiple streets to get to a park.

Larry Fanny of 721 Walnut Street also sees both sides and said the parking issue needs addressed and asked how it works that the FOP directs policing at the park.

Mayor Wolford said we can't answer that question at this time.

Mayor Wolford, speaking as a member of the Park and Recreation Commission, stated that they looked at a lot of options. She said over 1,000 kids participate in the Dek Hockey. She stated that people move into communities for what they have to offer. She said this is not a City issue, although if the decision is made that the Dek Hockey goes in at the Irving Avenue Playground location, the City Council, Police and Public Works Department can work on things to make it safer. Mayor Wolford asked Park and Recreation Commission Chair Sue Mains if there was a timeframe for a new playground.

Sue Mains stated they can apply for grants in the Spring to DCNR, with award of these grants in the fall. She said they will apply next Spring, although these grants require a match. Mrs. Mains said there are lots of playgrounds around the city, and the school is putting a new playground on the Athletic Field.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wolford thanked everyone for coming tonight and hopes whatever is decided, the City will help however we can to make sure that it is safe.

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

Regular Meeting of Council adjourned at 7:54 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara J. Buck, Secretary