

LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017
LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA

Mayor Wolford called to order the Regular Monthly Meeting of Latrobe City Council at 6:30 P.M.

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

Mayor Wolford asked all for a moment of silence to remember and honor those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

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 Jones, City Manager; Claire E. Throckmorton for Zachary Kansler, Solicitor; Michael Gray, Public Works Director; Ann Powell, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer.

Mr. Murtha moved to adopt the August 14, 2017 minutes, second by Mr. Bartels. Vote 7-0.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT

Total Expenses	\$451,633.58
Total Payroll	<u>95,677.76</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$547,311.34

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM AUGUST 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 7-0.

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 the committee was going to meet before the last meeting but the PennDOT meeting preempted it, so will meet before the next Agenda prep meeting.

Personnel Committee – Murtha, Wolford

No report.

Events Committee – Baldonieri, Murtha.

Mr. Baldonieri reported that the next event is Christmas in the Neighborhood. There will be a close out meeting for the Banana Split Festival in October.

Parking Committee – Bartels, Baldonieri, Forish.

Mr. Forish reported that the Committee is seeking bids for the parking lot property behind 1100 Ligonier Street.

GLSD Student Showcase Committee - Bisi, Murtha

Ms. Bisi reported that they should be getting a nominee for October.

BOARD/AUTHORITY REPORTS

No reports.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Department - No report.

Police Department – No report.

Fire Department – No report.

Code Enforcement – No report.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Forish made a motion to authorize Gibson-Thomas Engineering to apply, on the City's behalf, for the 2018 CDBG Street Paving Program, second by Mr. Bartels. Vote 7-0.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION 2017-27

A resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, providing for the retirement of Police Canine Rocky and authorizing the purchase of a new police canine. Mr. Baldonieri moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Forish. Vote 7-0.

K-9 Handler, Officer Robert Derk, gave a report to Council about the retirement of K-9 Rocky and a replacement dog. Officer Derk said that K-9's are an indispensable part of police work. He said with more than six-hundred deployments under his collar, fifty-four arrests are attributable to Rocky. Rocky also helped in seizing \$234,000.00 worth of illegal drugs, and performed 41 criminal apprehensions of which thirty-eight did not require force. Officer Derk stated that when they see Rocky, they give up. Only three offenders did not stop and were quickly apprehended. Officer Derk said they have made visits to local schools and the children Love Rocky. Officer Derk said now that Rocky's retired he will stay at home and eat whatever he wants.

Officer Derk stated that Rocky has been on patrol with him for six years. Officer Derk said he will be training to work with a new K-9 partner within the next couple of months.

Mayor Wolford thanked Officer Derk and his family for sharing Rocky with every one, and thanked Rocky for his service to the community. Mayor Wolford said Rocky will be missed.

RESOLUTION 2017-28

A resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, authorizing the execution of the agreement for the Laurel Highlands D.U.I. Task Force. Mrs. Weller moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Bartels. Vote 7-0.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Forish made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to advertise the sale of the real property with tax map number 15-03-10-0-228, with the winning bid to be selected during the October

9, 2017, Council Meeting, by way of an Ordinance to be prepared by the Solicitor, second by Ms. Bisi. Vote 7-0.

RESOLUTION 2017-29

A resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, amending Resolution 2016-5 to authorize the reallocation of funds designated for the Latrobe-GLSD Parks and Recreation. Mr. Baldonieri moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mrs. Weller. Vote 7-0.

Before the vote Mr. Murtha asked if this was being handled by invoices.

City Manager Jones said, yes, that was the agreement.

Mr. Murtha stated he did not agree with paving the parking lot in Legion Keener as it is private property.

Mayor Wolford said her position is, the park benefits all residents of the community even though it is private property and belongs to the Latrobe Foundation. Mayor Wolford said the Foundation spends a lot of money in the parks and the City would not be able to afford it on our own.

Mr. Murtha asked for this parking lot matter to come back up to Council for discussion.

Mayor Wolford said she has no problem with a discussion when it gets to that point.

Ms. Bisi asked for a comprehensive list with cost amounts ahead of time, before purchases are made.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Wolford announced that Halloween Trick or Treating will be Saturday, October 28th, from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. Mayor Wolford said she has not heard from the Lion's Club yet about the Halloween Parade.

OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZENS REQUESTS

Ralph Jenko of 921 Walnut Street wanted to remind the City and Police force that we appreciate having a K-9 Officer in town. Mr. Jenko stated there is external help we could look at such as the Roethlisberger Foundation that has grants we could apply for.

Officer Derk said a replacement is in the works, and the funds are already procured. Officer Derk said the individual wants to wait before revealing their name. The new K-9 is being acquired from Shallow Creek Kennels of Sharpsville, which is the same facility that helped find Rocky. The new K-9 should be on the force around the middle of November.

Lori Jones of Herminie thanked Officer Derk for bringing Rocky to the NHS school to visit the children there. They loved Rocky.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Jones reported that he is working with Revitalization on the new streets lights. He stated that sixty-one of the lights will be decorative and not LED.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wolford stated we should recognize, on this very somber day, our First Responders. Mayor thanked the Police Department for their service every day and for keeping us safe. She thanked our Firefighters, and EMTs that keep us safe and help keep our community a safe place to live. Mayor Wolford said we thank you all for your service.

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

Regular Meeting of Council adjourned at 6:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara J. Buck, Secretary
