

LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019
LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Deputy Mayor Baldonieri asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Deputy Mayor Baldonieri asked all for a moment of silence.

The City Secretary read Roll Call:

Deputy Mayor Gerald Baldonieri – present

Eric Bartels – present

Robert Forish – present

Ralph Jenko – present

Jim Kelley – present

Christine Weller – present

Mayor Rosemarie Wolford – absent

Also present were the following: Zachary Kansler, Solicitor; Ann Powell, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer; John Sleasman, Chief of Police; and John Brasile, Fire Chief.

Mr. Kelley moved to adopt the December 10, 2018 minutes, second by Mr. Jenko. Vote 6-0.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT

Total Expenses \$239,575.06

Total Payroll 132,221.22

GRAND TOTAL \$371,796.28

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM DECEMBER 2018

Treasurer's Report

See attachment "A"

Police Report

See attachment "B"

Public Works Report

See attachment “C”

Fire Report

See attachment “D”

Code Report

See attachment “E”

Tax Collector’s Report

See attachment “F”

Mr. Forish moved to approve the reports and bills presented for payment, second by Mrs. Weller. Vote 6-0.

CITIZENS’ REQUESTS (related to agenda)

Todd Dalton, 11 West Madison Street

- Mr. Dalton, a resident who is employed by the City of Latrobe Public Works Department, expressed his concern with the garbage contract currently under vote, stating “they” feel the City would make more money under the current arrangement with Public Works performing roll-off services as compared to contracting those services out. Mr. Wayne Jones advised he spoke with the AFSCME union representative and has scheduled a meeting to discuss this issue.

James Miller, 127 East 4th Avenue

- Mr. Miller spoke to the roll-off services at the Transfer Station, stating that prior to the current five-year contract, there were several proposals on how to handle refuse service, including one which would have outsourced roll-off services, therefore eliminating positions within Public Works. Mr. Forish stated Council voted against outsourcing roll-off services at that time.

- Mr. Miller questioned whether the budgeted department head wage increases are advertised in percent or actual salary amounts. He expressed concern that certain department heads may not be making enough for what they do.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – Kelley, Wolford

No report.

Public Safety and Fire Committee – Forish, Kelley

No report.

Public Works Committee – Baldonieri, Bartels

No report.

Personnel Committee – Baldonieri, Wolford

No report.

Events Committee – Weller

Mrs. Weller announced a prayer breakfast through the Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce to be held on Friday, February 25th at 7:00 A.M. at the Ramada Inn in Greensburg. Registration is available through the Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce website.

GLSD Student Showcase Committee – Bartels

No report.

BOARD/AUTHORITY REPORTS

Latrobe Municipal Authority – Skip Bollinger reported the Josephine Street water and sewage line replacement is complete. Water and sewage lines are being replaced on Lloyd Avenue as well.

Library Board – No report.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Baldonieri reminded about the 15th Annual Comedy Night, scheduled for January 26th, 2019 at 6:30 to be held at Huber Hall.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Department – Mike Gray, Director of Public Works

No report.

Police Department – John Sleasman, Chief of Police

- 1) Sean Grosso was offered the vacant police officer position after an extensive testing and interview process.

Fire Department – John Brasile, Fire Chief

- 1) Reported that 2018 had the second highest call total since the incorporation of the Fire Department with 1,018 calls.
- 2) In reference to Mr. Miller's comments regarding department head wages, Chief Brasile wanted to state that he was not a full-time employee with the City and therefore only receives a stipend for his duties as a department head. He stated he is grateful for the stipend and budgetary items the department receives.
- 3) Deputy Mayor Baldonieri questioned the fire route when Lloyd Avenue will be closed. He advised they would run through the alley. Chief Sleasman stated he would communicate any project information he receives to the media and Council.

Code Enforcement – Ann Powell, Code Enforcement Officer

No report.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Kelley made a motion, second by Mr. Forish, to authorize the solicitor to prepare and advertise an ordinance for passage at the February 11, 2019 regularly scheduled meeting of Council regarding the budgeted wage increases for City officials and personnel. Approved 6-0.

Mr. Bartels made a motion, second by Mrs. Weller, to accept the resignation of Ralph Jenko as a member of the City of Latrobe Zoning Hearing Board. Approved 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2019-1

A resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, appointing Gibson-Thomas Engineering as the City Engineer. Mr. Bartels moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Jenko. Vote 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2019-2

A resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, appointing Tremba, Kinney, Greiner and Kerr as the City Solicitor. Mr. Kelley moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Bartels. Vote 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2019-3

A resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, appointing DeBlasio & DeBlasio Associates to perform the annual financial audits for fiscal years 2018, 2019 and 2020. Mr. Forish moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mrs. Weller. Vote 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2019-4

A resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, to support Westmoreland County's Comprehensive Plan "Reimagining Our Westmoreland." Mrs. Weller moved to enact this ordinance, second by Mr. Kelley, to approve this request. Vote 6-0.

Mr. Bartels made a motion, second by Mr. Jenko, to authorize the City Secretary to incorporate the 2018 approved ordinances into the Code of the City of Latrobe. Approved 6-0.

PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION 2019-5

A resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, approving the bid of Allied Republic for the provision of solid waste collection and hauling services and approving a five-year agreement for the same. Mr. Jenko moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Forish. Vote 6-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Mrs. Weller was approached regarding cats in the Highland Avenue area, both strays and pets. Ann Powell advised if they were pets and the owner is known, they can contact her and she can send them a notice, but there is nothing that can be done with strays. Chief Sleasman stated shelters will not take strays if they are caught.
- 2) In regards to revitalization, Mrs. Weller advised that
 - a. Jocelyn's store front has been updated, and Scotty G's will be getting their new store front next;
 - b. There is a new business on Main Street, Paper Heart Creations; and
 - c. There is a new business coming to Depot Street to be announced.
- 3) Mrs. Weller announced that Parks and Recreation will be taking over the Farmers' Market.
- 4) Deputy Mayor Baldonieri reported that First National Bank will be leaving their downtown Latrobe location, consolidating to the Unity location.

OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZENS' REQUEST

None.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- 1) Mr. Jones announced the promotion of the City's solicitor, Zachary Kansler, Esq., to partner in his firm, Tremba, Kinney, Greiner and Kerr.
- 2) A Public Works employee resigned, with the open position offered and filled by a previous applicant, contingent on successfully completing pre-employment testing.

MAYOR'S REPORT

None.

Deputy Mayor Baldonieri advised there would be an executive session regarding personnel after the regular meeting of Council adjourned.

Mr. Bartels made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Kelley. Vote 6-0.

Regular Meeting of Council adjourned at 7:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Holly Peton, City Secretary