

**LATROBE CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021  
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. The City Secretary read Roll Call:

Deputy Mayor Eric Bartels –present  
Gerald Baldonieri– present  
Robert Forish – present  
Jim Kelley – present  
Ralph Jenko – present  
Christine Weller – absent  
Mayor Rosemarie Wolford – present

Also present were the following: John Griener, Solicitor; Scott Wajdic, Public Works Director; John Brasile, Fire Chief; Ann Powell, Stormwater Director; Michael Gray, City Manager and Karen Meholic, Acting City Secretary.

Mrs. Weller moved to adopt the June 14, 2021 Regular meeting minutes second by Mr. Bartels Vote 7-0.

**BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT**

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Total Expenses     | \$184,969.48        |
| Total Payroll      | \$127,044.86        |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b> | <b>\$312,014.34</b> |

Mr. Kelley moved to approve the reports and bills for the month of June presented for payment, second by Mr. Forish. 7-0.

**CITIZENS' REQUESTS (related to agenda)**

Tom Wickham at 5 W. Harrison Avenue made a motion on behalf of the residents of W. Harrison Avenue to have the alley to the rear of 5 W. Harrison Avenue paved. Mr. Wickham had advised the alley is in deplorable condition and he has requested the alley to be paved since Joe Bush was the Director of Public Works. Mr. Wickham further advised that the alley is listed as a street on the County's map, furthermore, the residents along 5 W. Harrison Avenue have no on street parking. Mr. Wickham had also requested that the alley be plowed during the winter months as the residents have no other available means to park on the street.

Mr. Gray reported that he will have our Public Works look into to determine if the alley is listed as a street, furthermore, Mr. Gray stated that he will look into the possibility of paving that section as it presents an issue with stormwater run-off.

**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 - No report.

GLSD Student Showcase Committee – Bartels – No Report.

## **BOARD AND AUTHORITY REPORTS**

Revitalization – Mr. Jenko reported that Jarod has been working on planting more trees along the Lincoln Avenue walking trail, he had also purchased and installed a solar power light which will help illuminate the area near Weiss Furniture. Mr. Jenko advised that if the lights work, there will be plans to purchase and install additional solar power lights at various locations along the walking trail.

Mr. Jenko further reported that the construction of the Welcome to Latrobe sign will take place this fall. Plans are to use local suppliers for the construction materials to help the local economy.

## **REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM MAY 2021**

**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”

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### Public Works Department

Public Works Director, Scott Wajdic reported that this Wednesday and Thursday PennDot will be coordinating the Traffic Signal timing of the lights. He reported that there is still some clean-up that needs completed and all the crosswalks should be done by this Friday. Mr. Wajdic also reported that the Brewery Bridge is on schedule and is scheduled to be completed by Thanksgiving. Mayor Wolford asked per a complaint that she received about the possibility to install a red light at the Bridge to help direct traffic. Mr. Wajdic reported that the red light was not factored into the project and would cost an additional \$20,000.00.

### Police Department

Police Chief, John Sleasman reminded that there has been a lot of scams lately, mostly with Unemployment and Social Security Claims. He reminded residents to never give information over the phone and to call the Police if there is ever any question on a possible scam. Mr. Sleasman had also reported that on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week he will be conducting training on the Body Worn Cameras as well as setting up the service and all equipment. Mr. Sleasman also thanked Lowes for donated PPE equipment to the City of Latrobe.

Fire Department – Fire Chief, John Brasile reported that he received a complaint on the “Chimney Tree”, Code Enforcement Officer, Shannon Hart stated the owner is preparing to do work on the Chimney and will remove the tree growing out of it this fall. Mr. Brasile also reported that the Pine trees to the rear of the Building needs cut down as they are a possible fire hazard with individuals smoking while sitting at the picnic table. Mr. Gray

reported that he will have the picnic table removed and we will look into trimming the tree to reduce any potential fire hazard. Furthermore, Mr. Brasile reported that the Church on Latonzio Road has a tarp blowing off with people living within that's a possible fire hazard, Mrs. Hart advised that a notice was sent and they have thirty-days to correct the code violations.

Planning/Development/Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement Officer, Shannon Hart reported that violations doubled this month with eighteen vacant properties that she had to have the grass cut. Mrs. Hart reported that she attend three hearings in June for Code violations at 32 E. Monroe, 415 Walnut Street, and 6 and 8 W. Harrison Avenue.

Stormwater Management Department – Stormwater Director, Ann Powell – No Report.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **RESOLUTION 2021-50**

A Resolution approving a Handicap Parking Space at 114 Wagner Street. Mr. Bartels moved to adopt this resolution seconded by Mr. Jenko. Approved 6-0.

## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

### **MOTION**

A Motion was made approving Gibson-Thomas Engineering to complete the 2021 ARLE Grant application. Mr. Jenko moved to adopt this motion seconded by Mrs. Weller. Approved 6-0.

## **ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

### **RESOLUTION 2021-51**

A Resolution approving the Preliminary and Construction Engineering Service Agreement with Norfolk Southern. Mr. Forish moved to adopt this resolution seconded by Mr. Kelley. Approved 6-0.

### **MOTION**

A Motion was made approving the donation of asphalt to Derry Township for the Latrobe-Derry Area Teener League Parking Lot improvement. Mr. Kelley moved to adopt this motion seconded by Mr. Baldonieri. Approved 6-0.

## **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

### **ORDINANCE 2021-13**

An Ordinance approving the easement for the construction of steps at 323 Spring Street. Mr. Forish moved to adopt this ordinance seconded by Mr. Baldonieri. Approved 6-0.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – Mr. Forish asked if there has been any progress or if bids were received for the Jefferson Street pipe replacement. Mr. Gray reported Public Works Director, Mr. Wajdic is working on developing a plan for that project.

Mr. Bartels asked the status of the Camper Ordinance for enforcement. Mr. Sleasman advised they are close to the thirty-day notice to those who are in violation of this ordinance. Once the thirty-days are up enforcement

actions can take place.

Mr. Kelley asked the status of the Covid 19 Recovery Funds. Mr. Gray reported that the City received the first payment in the amount of \$409,779.79 and he will within the next week or two start to prepare a project list to determine the eligible usage of the funds. Mr. Gray reported that he needs to “make sure” the projects qualify as acceptable projects per the Interim Rule provided by the U.S. Treasury.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Mayor Wolford by motion created a Code Enforcement Board to hear appeals for any Code Violations. Mrs. Weller moved to adopt such motion seconded by Mr. Baldonieri. Approved 6-0. The Board members are as followed: Mr. Kelley, Mr. Bartels, and Mr. Jenko.

Mayor Wolford read a Proclamation proclaiming August 2<sup>nd</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup> as Steelers Week. This proclamation is to support the local restaurants and businesses that will be affected due to the Pittsburgh Steelers Training Camp suspended for the second year because of Covid19.

### **OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZENS’ REQUEST**

None.

### **CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

Mr. Gray thanked the Fourth of July Committee for a job well done. The car show was a huge success and the firework display was spectacular.

### **MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Wolford as well thanked the Fourth of July Committee and all those who participated in making the event happen given the unknown with the Covid19 pandemic. Mayor Wolford also reported she is very grateful to hear that there will be a one-day Banana Split Festival this year which it to take place on Saturday August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Regular Meeting of Council adjourned at 7:20 P.M with a motion by Mr. Kelley, seconded by Mr. Bartels. Approved 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Gray, City Manager