

LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009
LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA

Mayor Marflak called the Regular Monthly Meeting of Latrobe City Council to order at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Marflak asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The City Secretary read Roll Call:

Fabian Giovannagelo - absent
Richard Jim - present
Rosemarie Wolford – present
Michael Skapura - present
Kenneth Baldonieri - present
Charles Dominick - present
Thomas Marflak - present

Also present were the following: Richard J. Stadler, City Manager; James E. Kelley, Solicitor; Charles Huska, Police Chief; John Brasile, Fire Chief.

Mr. Baldonieri moved to adopt the July 13, 2009 minutes, second by Mr. Jim.
Vote 6-0.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT

Total Expenses	\$206,537.94
Total Payroll	<u>95,281.21</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$301,819.15

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM JULY 2009

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"

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

Mayor Marflak asked Officer Dupilka to the stage. Mayor Marflak read aloud and presented a Commendation to Officer Dupilka for his outstanding service to the community while investigating a murder case. Officer Dupilka's dedication and vigilance brought about the conviction by a jury of first-degree murder. Officer Dupilka received a standing ovation and was personally congratulated by all council members.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS

Thomas Pope of 415 Lloyd Avenue expressed his concerns over the Phase II Project of the Latrobe Revitalization Project. Mr. Pope stated he was asked to sign a waiver that only addressed the adjoining property owners. Mr. Pope stated that no consideration was given and he is basically asked to gift his property. He said the intended construction is not explained. He also said it is required of him to not construct a swimming pool, shed etc. under the wires and that limits the use of his property. He referred to the accident in Hempfield Township where an electric line fell on a woman. Mr. Pope questioned what the voltage is and where the wires are going. He asked that proper consideration for safety and aesthetic value be maintained.

Mrs. Wolford stated that the waiver for ingress and egress is for overhanging wires only.

Council told Mr. Pope to put in writing his demands and present it to the appropriate people.

Solicitor Kelley told him to give a copy to City Manager Richard Stadler and he will distribute copies to Council.

Jim Bolton of 225 Irving Avenue stated his position on the Lloyd Avenue Project is that taxpayers' money should not be spent to move utility poles to someone's back yards.

Ron Weimer of the Planning Commission stated we are trying to enhance coming into Latrobe. He said residents are talked to first before any pole is erected and stated that electric lines are everywhere and that tax money is not used for this project.

Mayor Marflak stated that it is taxpayers' money.

Mrs. Wolford said someone will get the money and we would rather it come here.

Mayor Marflak stated the City does not have signatures from everyone.

Mr. Weimer said a couple people are unreachable and that he will get all the paperwork together and make sure the Mayor gets copies of everything.

Curk Fry of 228 Lloyd Avenue stated he has a major power line going through his back yard, his children play out there in the rain, and they have never had an issue.

Mr. Fry commended Mr. Weimer for all the work he has done.

Tom Miller of 416 Lloyd Avenue stated he respects Mr. Pope's opinion but he believes the Project is good for everybody on his side of the street.

Mr. Bolton asked how much this project is costing the citizens of Latrobe.

Mr. Stadler stated there was \$300,000.00 of grant money available for Phase I and that we used \$240,000.00. Mr. Stadler said there is another \$295,000.00 available for Phase II. The County required the City to contribute \$100,000.00 and allowed \$10,000.00 for previous plans of design cost. The City has \$85,000.00 of taxpayers' money and \$5,000.00 received from a private contributor, giving a total of \$90,000.00 of City money towards this project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

BOARD/AUTHORITY REPORTS

None.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION 2009-36

Approving and authorizing submission of a grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for Energy Conservation Project. Mr. Baldonieri moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Skapura. Vote 6-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to table the Motion, previously tabled at the July 13, 2009 regular meeting, authorizing the City Manager to send a letter to the Greater Latrobe School District requesting that it keep the administrative offices in the City. This Motion is to be tabled to the September regular meeting, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Marflak presented a Proclamation to Fire Chief John Brasile for the Fire Department raising money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and declared the Month of August 2009 as City of Latrobe Fire Fighter Appreciation Month.

Mrs. Wolford stated we raised \$700.00 for the Welcome Steelers banners and recognized Kenneth Baldonieri, Quatrini & Rafferty Law Firm, James E. Kelley Jr., Attorney at Law, Hotel Loyal, Foothills Architecture, Joe Bleehash and Loyalhanna Care Center for their contributions.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Richard Stadler referred to Council's approval this evening the filing of a grant application for the Pennsylvania Conservation Works Program, which is

Federal stimulus money. Mr. Stadler hopes we are funded. He stated it is difficult to wade through the requirements of these programs. Mr. Stadler said there is 22.2 million dollars available for all of Pennsylvania of which 60% is competitive and 40% is to direct allocation recipients. Westmoreland County is a direct allocation recipient and is eligible for part of the 8.8 million. Mr. Stadler said there are no Boroughs listed as direct recipients. He commented that Hempfield Township is listed as a direct recipient and in the past year they hired a lobbyist to do this type of thing. If that is the case, it seems to be a pay to play type of thing and that does not bode well for towns like ours.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Marflak extended his congratulations to the Fire and Police Departments for doing outstanding jobs.

Mr. Dominick made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of Council, second by Mr. Skapura. Vote 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara J. Buck, Secretary
