

LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2010
LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Mayor asked all in attendance to observe a moment of silence in memory of Congressman John P. Murtha who passed away this afternoon.

Mayor Marflak stated for the record that Council met in Executive Session after the January 11, and January 25, 2010 meetings for personnel matters.

The City Secretary read Roll Call:

Fabian Giovannagelo - present

Richard Jim - present

Rosemarie Wolford – present

Michael Skapura - present

Kenneth Baldonieri - present

Robert Forish - present

Mayor Barbara Griffin - present

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

Mr. Baldonieri moved to adopt the January 4, 2010, and January 11, 2010 minutes, second by Mr. Skapura. Vote 7-0.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT

Total Expenses	\$478,908.05
Total Payroll	<u>98,590.04</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$577,498.09

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM JANUARY 2010

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. Giovannagelo. Vote 7-0.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS

Paul Houck of 121 West Tacoma Avenue asked Council if something could be done about the trash in front of the former Choice Store that has been closed since Christmas.

The City Code Officer will be made aware of the situation and will look into resolving the matter.

Curk Fry of 228 Lloyd Avenue stated that Council and the Community have in the past been confused as to who and when they are to abstain from a vote.

Solicitor Kelley explained if there is a personal financial gain involved, a member should abstain from voting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

BOARD/AUTHORITY REPORTS

None.

Director of Public Works Joseph Bush gave a report on the snowstorm that started Friday, February 5, 2010. At 4:00 P.M. on the fifth, the Public Works Crew began their game plan to keep major arteries, emergency routes, Hospital, and Fire station routes salted and plowed. They worked until 8:00 P.M. on Sunday, February 7, 2010, and started again at 4:00 A.M. this morning. The City brought in outside contractors to have snow hauled out of the business district. Mr. Bush commended his eight employees for their hard work and thanked the Police, Fire Police, Fire Department, and the Clerical Staff for their help throughout the storm.

Police Chief Charles Huska commended his officers who worked together with the Attorney General's Office, Police Departments from Ligonier, Derry, Ligonier Township, and the State Police in the apprehension of drug dealers during last week's round-up that took many dealers off the streets.

Fire Chief John Brasile recommended to Council that the Fire Department look into obtaining a Knox-box system for commercial, public, and business buildings. The Fire Department is having trouble gaining access to buildings during emergencies. Chief Brasile requested from Council an Ordinance requiring businesses to participate in the Knox-box system. This system uses one key to gain access to each Knox-box that contains the key to that particular building.

Mayor Griffin stated that she had to declare a State of Emergency due to the snowstorm that began on February 5, 2010. Mayor Griffin asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add a resolution to ratify the action within the required forty-eight hours.

Mr. Jim made a motion to amend the agenda, second by Mrs. Wolford. Vote 7-0.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

ORDINANCE 2010-2

Amending Chapter 256, Vehicles and Traffic; Section 256-17, establishment and/or removal of handicap parking spaces; Section 256-61, usage restrictions on certain streets; and, Section 256-22 (D) (1) identification of metered permit parking and/or special permit parking spaces. Mrs. Wolford moved to adopt this ordinance, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 7-0.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Baldonieri made a motion to amend the proposed salary ordinance to eliminate pay raises for Chief of Police and City Manager, second by Mr. Giovannagelo. Vote 6-Yes, 1-No (Griffin).

ORDINANCE 2010-3

Establishing wages, hours, and fringe benefits of positions of the City of Latrobe for fiscal year 2010. Mr. Skapura moved to adopt this ordinance, second by Mr. Forish. (as amended) Vote 6-Yes, 1-No (Griffin)

RESOLUTION 2010-8

Ratifying action of the Mayor to declare a State of Emergency. Mr. Skapura moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Griffin nominated Warren Marckioni for appointment to the Latrobe Municipal Authority.

RESOLUTION 2010-9

Appointing member to Latrobe Municipal Authority. Vote 4-Yes, 2-No (Forish, Giovannagelo), 1-Abstain (Jim).

Mrs. Wolford thanked the Public Works Department for a good job and said she appreciates all the hard work and long hours they put in during the snow emergency.

Mrs. Wolford stated that the Police Chief and Police Officers are often times not recognized enough. She said she recognizes all the work involved in apprehending drug dealers and thanked the Police for a job well done.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Richard Stadler gave an update to his December's report about the year-end 2009 \$253,000 shortage. Mr. Stadler stated it was based on the inability to collect as much revenue as we projected, and overspending on the expenses. Mr. Stadler reported that the City Auditor was here this past Thursday and Friday and he basically said the audit is due to the State by April 1 and he will complete his schedules by then. The auditor also said the city's shortage will be reduced to under \$200,000.00 dollars. Primarily the money was made up due to various taxes such as earned income and the Local Service Tax. The amount left in the rainy day fund balance is a little over \$300,000.00

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Griffin thanked everybody for their work during the storm and all the time. She stated that since she has been coming into the office everyday she has seen what everyone does and appreciates them more. Mayor Griffin stated we have a wonderful Police Department, Fire Department, and Public Works Department.

Mrs. Wolford requested, for Council only, to adjourn to an Executive Session after the Regular Meeting for personnel matters.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of Council, second by Mr. Giovannagelo. Vote 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara J. Buck, Secretary
