

LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JULY 11, 2011
LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA

Mayor Griffin called the Regular Monthly Meeting of Latrobe City Council to order at 6:32 P.M.

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

The City Secretary read Roll Call:

Fabian Giovannagelo - present

Richard Jim - present

Rosemarie Wolford – present

Michael Skapura - absent

Deputy Mayor Kenneth Baldonieri - present

Robert Forish – present

Mayor Barbara Griffin - present

Also present were the following: James E. Kelley, Solicitor; Joseph Bush, Public Works Director; James R. Bumar, Police Chief; John Brasile, Fire Chief.

Mr. Jim moved to adopt the June 13, 2011 minutes, second by Mrs. Wolford. Vote 6-0.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT

Total Expenses \$513,116.93

Total Payroll 85,843.70

GRAND TOTAL \$598,960.63

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM JUNE 2011

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.

CITIZENS REQUESTS

Monica Gray of 104 Forbes Drive stated the condition of 149 Laurel Lane that she complained about at last month's meeting has become worse. She stated that water was drained from under the foundation of this property out onto the street and it is her guess that they have unleashed bacteria into the neighborhood. Ms. Gray asked at what point does someone fine the property owner.

Mayor Griffin said she spoke to Code Officer last week who was to go up and check the property again.

Mr. Giovannagelo stated the person in question puts bags of garbage out ahead of time each week.

Ms. Gray said a complaint was filed with CIS, and according to Police Chief Bumar, CIS found no violation and the children are fine.

Mr. Baldonieri stated the Code Officer should issue a fine if a letter of violation was sent and the property owner has not complied after certain time limits.

Solicitor Kelley said the Code Officer could take them to the Magistrate if they do not comply.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Deputy Mayor Baldonieri reported that the search for a new City Manager is going swimmingly and has received thirty-five applicants. He commented that the depth and breadth of experience is overwhelming. Mr. Baldonieri said the committee would begin the interview process tomorrow.

Mr. Jim reported on the meeting that was held with the Mayor, himself, Rick Stadler, Joe Bush, and the Executive Director of PA Cleanways Ellen Keefe, concerning the garbage contract. Mr. Jim stated that it is obvious that Latrobe as a vendor should be out of the process. He wants to have single stream recycling and has put this type of recycling in the proposal. Mr. Jim said the first bag of garbage will not require a sticker and subsequent bags will be a on a pay-to-throw process.

Mr. Jim made a motion to amend the agenda under Public Works, Item #3, to authorize Solicitor to advertise for proposals for the garbage contract, second by Mrs. Wolford. Vote 6-0

BOARD/AUTHORITY REPORTS

Deputy Mayor Baldonieri asked Mr. Giovannagelo, who is a member of Park & Recreation Commission, if there was any discussion over the sale of the 6th Ward Playground property.

Mr. Giovannagelo said there was discussion and all members are fine with it.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Chief Bumar reported that an Officer resigned, and asked Council if they would amend the agenda to replace this Officer.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to amend the agenda, to include under Police Department, Item #2, to commence proceeding with Civil Service list to hire new officer, second by Mr. Giovannagelo. Vote 6-0.

Fire Chief Brasile reported that he had complaints over the 4th of July from residents saying their neighbors were setting off fireworks. Mr. Brasile investigated and found

the claims to be substantiated, and informed the perpetrators it is illegal and violates city ordinances to set off fireworks in town.

Mrs. Wolford suggested advertising next year before the Fourth to remind all city residents that it is illegal.

Chief Brasile also reported that he was asked to inspect property at 506 Alexander Street and he discovered numerous violations of the Fire and City Code. He stated someone has recently moved in and he will get together with the Code Officer to further investigate the violations.

Mr. Jim made a motion to designate Deputy Mayor Baldonieri as designee for City Manager upon failure of Manager to choose not to act.

Deputy Mayor Baldonieri stated we need to follow the City Charter and the responsibility should fall to the Mayor.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to amend the agenda under Planning and Development, Item #3, to obtain a written report from the Code Officer in regards to 149 Laurel Lane and 506 Alexander Street by Wednesday, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 6-0.

Mayor Griffin adjourned Council to an Executive Session at 7:15 TO discuss Real Estate and Personnel issues.

Mayor Griffin reconvened the Regular Meeting of Council at 7:27 P.M.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Resolution to grant a variance to properties at 807 and 810-12 Ligonier Street from Code of Ordinances requiring incombustible material for awnings put back on table from June 13, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Giovannagelo made a motion to table this resolution until next month's meeting, to allow time to observe a demonstration of non-burning material from a company he spoke to, second by Mrs. Wolford. Vote 6-0.

Mr. Baldonieri made a motion to table motion authorizing Solicitor to prepare and advertise an ordinance amendment to accept combustible awnings, second by Mrs. Wolford. Vote 6-0.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to request the Code Enforcement Officer to issue reports, on 506 Alexander and 149 laurel Lane, to Council listing violations determined and action taken by Wednesday, July 13, 2011, second by Mr. Giovannagelo. Vote 6-0.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

ORDINANCE 2011-6

An ordinance to authorize and require the vacating and closing of the northerly one-half of a twenty-foot alley situate in the third ward of the City of Latrobe bounded on the north by property of John Klosnick et. ux. And property of Ralph Jenko et. ux.; on the west by the center line of Westminster Avenue, a paper street; on the south by the boundary line between the City of Latrobe and Derry Township; and on the east by the easterly property line extended of John Klosnick et. ux. Mr. Baldonieri moved to enact this ordinance, second by Mr. Forish. Vote 6-0.

Mr. Giovannagelo made a motion to reject all bids submitted for 2011 Street Paving Program, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 6-0.

Mr. Baldonieri made a motion to amend the agenda under Public Works Department to direct the City Manager vis a vis Public Works Director to hire two summer employees, second by Mr. Jim. Vote 6-0.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to hire two summer employees in Public Works Department; full-time, forty hours a week at \$10.00 hour, and no benefits, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 6-0.

Mr. Jim made a motion to advertise the sanitation contract, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 6-0.

Mr. Giovannagelo made a motion to amend the agenda to include reconsidering a request for vacation of an alley, second by Mr. Jim.

Mr. Jim made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to prepare and advertise an ordinance for vacation of alley requested by the Nut House and Ordinance for vacation of an alley requested by Carlo Garbeglio, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2011-34

Approving the sale of a parcel of ground known and designated as the Sixth Ward Playground. Mrs. Wolford moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Giovannagelo. Vote 5-Yes, 1-No (Jim).

Mr. Baldonieri requested that the bulk of the money be set aside for Capital improvements in the Police and Public Works Department.

Mrs. Wolford asked for \$10,000.00 to be set aside for future green space development.

Mr. Jim stated the city is not receiving enough money for the property. He said we should be getting \$45,000 per acre as the property has water/sewage and we are losing the ground to a non-taxable organization.

Mr. Jim made a motion to amend the agenda for the funds received from sale of the property to be allocated to capital improvements and not general fund expenses, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 6-0.

Mr. Jim made a motion not to include the sale of property funds in the General Fund, but to distribute the proceeds to the Capital Fund, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 6-0.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to amend the agenda to direct the City Manager to add additional hours to the Code Officer position, second by Mr. Giovannagelo. Vote 6-0.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to authorize the City Manager to add additional hours to the Code Officer position to deal with various code enforcement issues, not to exceed ten hours a week, and not to exceed two months, second by Mr. Baldonieri. Vote 5-Yes, 1-No (Forish).

POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION 2011-35

Accepting \$2,000.00 from District Attorney's Office. Mr. Forish moved to adopt this resolution, second by Mr. Givoannagelo. Vote 6-0.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to commence through the Civil Service process proceedings to hire a new Police Officer due to the resignation of a current officer, second by Mr. Giovannagelo. Vote 6-0.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to amend the agenda to authorize the hiring of Citizens Police Assistant, second by Mr. Giovannagelo. Vote 6-0.

Mrs. Wolford made a motion to authorize Chief Bumar to seek applications for the position of Citizen Police Assistant, second by Mr. Giovannagelo. Vote 6-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Griffin reported on the Fourth of July Celebration. Mayor thanked Police, Fire Department, Fire Police and the Fourth of July Committee for all their hard work and said that she heard many compliments about the celebration.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara J. Buck, Secretary
