

ORDER:

The Mayor Called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Michelle Langdon
Ron Smith (By Phone)
Robin Mozley
Chuck Highlands
Curtis Antoniak

ALSO, PRESENT:

Chief Fiscal Officer: *Ethan Keedy*
City Solicitor: *Timothy Witt*
Chief of Police: *Donald Johnston Jr.*
City Engineer: *Edward Antonacci*
Code Enforcement: *Bill Whetzel*
City Foreman: *Ed Cycak III*
Fire Chief: *William Frye*
Controller: *Nancy Peters*

ABSENT WITH CAUSE

City Clerk: *Nathan Benjamin Jay Bish*
City Treasurer: *Jacob Milliron*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Please remain standing for a moment of reflection for the men and women in the armed services.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was performed by Pastor Dawn Sherwood of the First Presbyterian Church.

EXCEPTIONS TO OPEN MEETINGS (65 Pa.C.S.A. § 707):

March 8, 2022 at 12:30 PM for personnel and litigation issues.

AGENDA:

A motion was made by Antoniak and seconded by Mozley to accept the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Mozley and seconded by Highlands to approve the meeting minutes for the January 25, 2022 and February 10, 2022 council meetings as presented.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

CITIZENS:

Retirement of K-9 Arees: Chief of Police Donald Johnston presented K-9 Officer Arees and his handler, Sgt. James Phillips with a plaque to honor his 7 years of service in the City of Jeannette and in the surrounding communities.

Robert McLoughlin: A Penn Township resident and former resident of Jeannette for 61 years, made a request regarding item number 12 on the agenda to change the time of the scheduled meeting to 6:00 PM to be more inclusive

CITIZENS: (Continued)

of the residents in the City. He mentioned that he personally invited businesses and, with the assistance of Councilwoman Mozley and Councilwoman Langdon, to organize the Jeannette Business Forum, in which more people attended said meeting than were present during this Council Meeting. Mr. McLoughlin acknowledged the plights of his patients, who live in the City, in which it is perceived that a 1:00 PM meeting is less inclusive than that of a meeting scheduled at 6:00 PM due to the cost of missing work to attend the meeting. He acknowledged the inconvenience of the City workers and representatives to return to City Hall in the evening but also indicated that the inconvenience to interested residents is greater.

Dan Orange: Lives on Ash Street in Jeannette and is a long-time member of the Jeannette Community Band (JCB). Mr. Orange briefly described the JCB and its history, as well as the donations required to maintain operations. Mr. Orange stated that the fee for use of the Elliott Group Amphitheater is too great for the JCB, being a nonprofit organization, to pay. He requested that Council reconsider the fee to encourage more events meant to draw people into the City.

Sherrie Wood: As the Secretary of the JCB, she stated that the JCB was the dedication band for the Elliott Group Amphitheater and that she was the speaker during the event. She stated that the band was proud to be part of this event and looked forward to performing many concerts at the Amphitheater. Being a 501(c)(3) organization surviving on donations, the JCB cannot afford to pay the \$500.00 fee, in which the band has not paid for performances in 34 years of operation. Concerts performed at the Amphitheater would not require street closures or a police presence, and the performance would likely bring families willing to go to the surrounding restaurants following these events. She requested that the fee for use of the Amphitheater be waived for nonprofit organizations.

Joann Billheimer: A Jeannette resident on Cedar Street addressed Council on the Amphitheater fee for nonprofit organizations, such as the Westmoreland County Band, who also relies on donations to continue operations.

Joe Scarlic: A Monroeville resident whose parents lived in the City for many years and whose brothers and sister currently reside in the City, addressed Council regarding the Amphitheater fee for nonprofit organizations, such as the Jeannette Community Band.

Rob Turner: Vice President of Adamsburg Council wants to learn more about the meeting procedures and operations and possibly collaborate between Councils for mutual benefit.

Linda Washington: A Jeannette resident for 43 years, addressed Council on behalf of the owners of AB Ceramics, Eric and Tom Slack, who could attend the meeting by reading a letter written by the owners. The letter requests that parking be made available on both sides of South 4th Street in order to provide more parking spaces for the business and surrounding businesses in the area.

Kathy Tanyer: A Jeannette resident living on Laura Street, addressed Council on item 10 for the curb pickup event, and indicated that she had requested a Spring and Fall cleanup. Ms. Tanyer acknowledged the large items as a

CITIZENS: (Continued)

problem and that she feels that cleanups are necessary to remove this waste from the City. She noted that item 11 will not be serviceable, as few people will be willing to take large items to a central location, such as a strategically placed dumpster. Many residents do their part to keep the City clean without assistance from the City, and that the residents require City assistance now to clean the City and its gateways. Ms. Tanyer requested to have large item pickup twice despite overtime accumulation, as the Public Works employees will likely enjoy the overtime hours as “one of the most overlooked departments.” She stated that the wear and tear on the sanitation vehicles is a non-issue, as the wear and tear will occur regardless of the extra cleanup events. Ms. Tanyer further addressed Council on the Amphitheater fee, requesting that Council reduce the fee for nonprofit organizations. She indicated that the amphitheater construction was paid for with tax credit money through the Neighborhood Partnership Program’s (NPP) efforts. She believed that a \$500.00 fee is exclusionary to organizations throughout the City and that the fee should be revisited to become more reasonable.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Letter from Ernie DiMartino
- Letter from Charter Oaks
- Letter from Jeannette Community Band
- Letter from Rebecca Sarring
- Letter from Jodie Caperelli
- Letter from Patty Smith
- Letter from IDC
- Letter from Keystone Collections Group
- Letter from Bill Frye

OFFICERS REPORTS:

A motion was made by Mozley and seconded by Langdon at accept the officers’ reports as presented
Roll Call Vote:
(5) YEA: Langdon, Mozley, Smith, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

BILLS:

A motion was made by Highlands and seconded by Langdon to pay the bills for the month.
Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Ms. Langdon: Gave the City Buildings Report: A termite infestation in the Fire Dept., in which a quote is in hand and the matter is being dealt with; there is a leak in the Ladies Restroom; the City Hall boiler has been experiencing some issues, and Councilwoman Langdon is seeking out a second quote to replace the needed motor.

Mr. Smith: Ed Cycak is doing an outstanding professional job.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: (Continued)

Mrs. Mozley: Robin Mozley read the Streets Department Monthly Report. Robin Mozley read the Sanitation Monthly Report. Fire Chief Bill Frye read the Fire Dept. Monthly Report. Bill Whetzel read the Code Enforcement and Property Maintenance Monthly Reports.

Mr. Highlands: Ethan Keedy gave the monthly Finance Dept. Report: Workman's Compensation Audit still underway; Insurance issue with MEIT still being resolved; Taxes out for collection and are being received with no need to pull from reserves or borrow any money to get through the first couple of months of the year.

Mr. Antoniak: Chief Donald Johnston Jr. gave the Police Dept. Monthly Report and gave special recognition to Officer Chris Mason for apprehending a shoplifting suspect and seized a significant amount of drugs from the individual. Mayor Antoniak explained that the money from the former CARES Act grant formerly meant for housing assistance, food acquisition assistance, hotspots, and other items, is to be modified for the benefit of a business grant program to spend the money before the upcoming deadline. The CFO, Ethan Keedy, will administer the program off the clock from City time with no favors to be issued. This plan came from collaboration between CFO Ethan Keedy and Walter Haglund of Urban Design. The Mayor addressed the concerns regarding the business. The Mayor identified the Community Development Dept. Monthly report and indicated the projects planned for this year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A motion was made by Antoniak and seconded by Highlands to hire Paula Ritson as the Deputy Treasurer for the City of Jeannette with a start date of March 28, 2022.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

2. A motion was made by Mozley and seconded by Langdon to approve the road closure request from Jodie Caperelli for the 700 block of Jefferson Avenue on June 4, 2022 from 8am until 2 pm subject to approval by the Chief of Police and Fire Chief.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

3. A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Mozley to designate Chuck Highlands as the Westmoreland County Tax Collection PSD delegate for the City of Jeannette and Ethan Keedy as the alternate delegate.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)

4. A motion was made by Antoniak and seconded by Highlands to introduce and conduct the first reading of **Bill Number 22-02**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JEANNETTE, WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 17-04, AS AMENDED, TO INCREASE THE VIOLATION TICKET FINE; REPEALING INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Roll Call Vote

(4) YEA: Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(1) NAY: Langdon

Motion Carried

5. A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Mozley to approve the sale and transfer the property of 222 S 5th Street (Tax Map 14-01-16-2-068) from the Jeannette Redevelopment Authority to Ron & Jill Kastner for \$500 plus any associated recording fees, transfer taxes, and closing costs.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

6. A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Mozley to advertise for Supplemental Help in the City of Jeannette Public Works Department.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

7. A motion was made by Langdon and seconded by Antoniak to direct the City Engineer and the City Clerk to advertise for bids related to the Teacher Project.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

8. A motion was made by Langdon and seconded by Smith to approve the bid by Tresco Paving for the 2022 City of Jeannette Road Reconstruction Project for a total of \$174,187.50 to be paid from the Liquid Fuels Fund.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

9. A motion was made by Mozley and seconded by Langdon to hire Jazzmine Girten as a junior firefighter with a start date of March 11, 2022 pending orientation with the Fire Chief and Junior Firefighter Program advisor.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)

- 10.** A motion to approve the Curb Pickup event for the last week of May 2022 (May 23 until May 27, 2022).

A motion was made by Mozley and seconded by Highlands to table Item Number 10.

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Tabled

- 11.** A motion to approve the distribution of dumpsters in locations to be determined by the City Foreman and City Solicitor for one weekend a month.

A motion was made by Mozley and seconded by Highlands to table Item Number 11.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Tabled

- 12.** A motion was made by Antoniak and seconded by Smith to advertise for the CDBG-CV Public Hearing to be held on March 21, 2022 at 1pm.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

- 13.** A motion was made by Highlands and seconded by Smith to increase the Part-Time Property Maintenance Officer Position to a Full Time Property Maintenance Officer Position with an employment contract to be approved by the City Solicitor effective April 3, 2022.

Roll Call Vote
(4) YEA: Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(1) NAY: Langdon
Motion Carried

- 14.** A motion was made by Langdon and seconded by Mozley to authorize the City to request approval from PennDOT to allow parking on both sides of South Fourth Street between Chambers Avenue and Bullitt Avenue and to authorize all City officials and employees to take such actions as are necessary to make such request, including, without limitation, the preparation of any necessary studies, reports, and ordinances.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

- 15.** A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Antoniak to approve the purchase of Danielle Defense PSP SBR 5.56 Patrol Rifles and suppressors for a cost not to exceed \$2,500 per officer to be paid from the General Fund and reimbursed by each officer over a 12- month period.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)

- 16.** A motion was made by Mozley and seconded by Smith to introduce and approve **Resolution 22-05**

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL 30, 2022 AS THE NATIONAL THERAPY ANIMAL DAY IN THE CITY OF JEANNETTE.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

- 17.** A motion was made by Langdon and seconded by Smith to introduce and approve **Resolution 22-06**

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY AS MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF JEANNETTE.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

- 18.** A motion was made by Langdon and seconded by Mozley to introduce and approve **Resolution 22-07**
(Bridge)

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JEANNETTE, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF THE LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT APPLICATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL AUTHORITY.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

- 19.** A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Mozley to introduce and approve **Resolution 22-08**
(Demo)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JEANNETTE, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF THE LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT APPLICATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL AUTHORITY.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

- 20.** A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Langdon to pay Antonacci Design Associates \$3,842.50 from Capital Reserve for work on the LSA and DCNR Grant.

Roll Call Vote

(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak

(0) NAY: None

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS: (Continued)

- 21.** A motion was made by Langdon and seconded by Smith to pay Antonacci Design Associates \$620.00 from Capital Reserve for work on the Phase 2 Flood Project.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

- 22.** A motion was made by Mozley and seconded by Langdon to pay Antonacci Design Associates \$345.00 from Capital Reserve for work on the Tree and Sediment Grant.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mozley and seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM.

Roll Call Vote
(5) YEA: Langdon, Smith, Mozley, Highlands, Antoniak
(0) NAY: None
Motion Carried

Ethan Keedy
ACTING CITY CLERK