

COMMITTEE AS A WHOLE MEETING

NOVEMBER 7, 2022

Present: Mayor David Velegol, City Manager Joe DiBartolomeo Jr., City Attorney Mike Gaudio and City Clerk Dave Kurcina
Council: Tammy Johnson, Charles McCoy, Alexis Russell, Wendy DeAngelis, John Casinelli and Nick Cekinovich

Also: Police Chief Larry Rea

Place: Council Chamber

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence

The Mayor and Council observed a Moment of Silence for former Mayor Mr. Anthony Paesano. Mr. Paesano also was a Coach for Follansbee St. Anthony Football Team and a long time Principal of Brooke High School. The Mayor stated that he always put Follansbee first.

Mayor

The Mayor announced that during the next Regular Council Meeting, there will be an unveiling of a Bench in front of the City Building in honor of former City Manager John DeStefano.

Public Request

Adrian Ward (Brooke County Coordinator) – She was at the meeting to talk about a proposed project in the empty lot next to the Senior Center to turn it into an outdoor Community Space. She noted that this area can be used for events. This proposed Project is going to be funded through a \$50,000.00 Hometown Grant Program from T-Mobile. The application for the Grant must be submitted by the end of December and she is asking the City for a letter of support. In addition, she is asking if the City will be able to cover the Building Permit Fees for the project.

Jason Courtney – He was at the meeting to ask if Council would reconsider the City's policy of refusing to allow dogs to City events. He has conducted surveys with Municipalities in the State and noted that none of them has this type of Policy.

Christmas in the Park

The Mayor noted that this was successful event and also commended Bill Secrist and his Committee.

Weirton Transit Corporation

Phil Gilcrest, Direct of Weirton Transit Authority, stated that there have been some successes with the Bus Route that was added in Follansbee; however, not enough to sustain 2 buses. Starting Monday, November 14th they will only run 1 bus and the last stop will be at 1:00 p.m. The Mayor stated that the City would help in advertising by placing the Bus Routes on the City's Website.

Light Up Night

Alexis stated that she is trying to get in touch with Monica Rotellini Myers, who stated in a prior meeting that she would spear head this event. The Mayor noted that last year's Budget was \$3,000.00. This item will be on the Agenda for the next Regular Council Meeting.

Street Lights/ Solar Lights

The Mayor said that the City will put the bid out for lights so we can have the numbers back by January. Charles will adjust the settings for the Solar Light that is currently installed in front of the City Building.

Delegation of Duties

This item will be on the next Agenda under Ordinances. The Mayor noted that the City Manager is responsible for the Budget and work schedules in the City. Currently in the Police Department, there is a sense that the City Manager has no authority of these issues. This Ordinance will codify the City Manager's role in these matters.

Trunk or Treat

This year's event was held at the Parking Lot for the City Park. The Mayor noted that this was a successful event with close to 1,000 children participating. It was discussed to possibly have Trick Or Treat on a Saturday night in 2023.

Auditor's Seminar

The Mayor, Joe, Alexis and Tammy attended the Seminar, which was held in Wheeling. The Budget Seminar will be held in February of 2023. Joe is suggesting a workshop in the middle to late November and work through the Budget process.

Financial Software Installation Update

Joe reported that the water bills are on-line. He also said that the Software should be totally complete in a month to 6 weeks.

Water and Sewer Update

The Mayor noted that the Chief Water Operator and his assistant has resigned. The Water Board had a Special Meeting to advertise for the position. He also said that he received a letter from the PSC, that from a procedure standpoint, the City has done everything correct. Lastly, the new water rates will be on the December reading.

Project Updates

The Mayor noted that Ghosh Engineering and the Army Corp of Engineers are still in communication on the Water Project. For the Sewer Project, the City is waiting for money to be received. The matching monies are in place. In addition, the City is waiting to hear in December concerning a Grant for the Firehouse.

Fire Incident Report Update

Larry reported that the State Fire Reports are up to date.

Grass Cutting Update

The grass cutting crew is getting close to finishing. The next payroll will be the last of the year.

Building Enforcement

The Committee opened bids for 6 properties. The cost to tear down these structures is \$70,000.00. Nick wanted to know about and changes to the Building Codes. Joe mentioned that the City is working on updated the Building Codes in the City.

Joe Edmiston's 2023 Contract

His contract is coming to an end in December. The Mayor would like for Council to renew his Contract. This item will be on the Agenda for the next Regular Council Meeting.

Market Street Bridge Signs

The City is working on pricing for 2 signs and working with the State on a permit. This item will be on the Agenda for the next Regular Council Meeting.

Ward Meetings Update

There was nothing to report on this issue.

Front Office Personnel

Motion by John Casinelli/ 2nd by Tammy Johnson to go into Executive Session on a Personnel issue at 7:05 p.m. Motion Carried Unanimous

Motion by Nick Cekinovich/2nd by Alexis Russell to come out of Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. Motion Carried Unanimous

Motion by Nick Cekinovich/ 2nd by Alexis Russell to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Motion Carried Unanimous.

David P. Kurcina, City Clerk