

COMMITTEE AS A WHOLE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

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

Also: Police Chief Larry Rea, Police Captain Rick Reinard and Public Works Director

Place: Council Chamber

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Public Request

Todd Cruny – He is the Branch Manager for Mackin Engineering. They recently opened an Office in Follansbee. Mackin was founded in 1960 in Pennsylvania. They offer various types of Engineering. The Follansbee Office will be fully staffed. They are hoping to get projects in West Virginia.

Dan Casto – He is the Brooke County PRO Officer. He wants the City to extend the red line in front of Jefferson Primary School from the current 148 feet to 266 feet. The 2 Handicap Parking spots will be removed. This item will be on the Agenda for the next Regular Council Meeting.

Paul DiGiacinto - He stated that the City will have more problems if the Stop Sign, at the bottom of Parkview Hill, is changed to a full stop. There will be more accidents if the Stop Sign is changed. He would like for Council to vote against a full Stop.

Jeanmarie Byrge – She stated that when there are rules in place for Parking, a lot of people get angry. She was referencing the proposed Parking Ordinance on Highland Hills. She also thanked Council for their action against the proposed Medical Waste Facility by Empire Diversified. There is currently nothing in place to prevent this type of facility to be constructed in Follansbee in the future.

Tyler Madden

Mr. Madden was a former WTOV9 News Anchor, who recently moved to Cincinnati. The Mayor and Council thanked him for what he did for the City of Follansbee and for the Ohio Valley by giving him gifts and a key to the City at a prior Council Meeting. The Mayor read a letter from Mr. Madden thanking the City of Follansbee and the Ohio Valley.

Thank You and Congratulations

Stephanie Verner - Mrs. Verner, a resident of Mark Avenue in the 3rd Ward, painted a portion of a fence along Mark Avenue. She had all of the neighborhood children put their hand prints and names on the fence. There are 20 children on the west side of Main Street. Council wanted to Thank her for doing this project.

911 Ceremony

The 911 Ceremony will take place on Monday at 5:30 p.m. The Council Meeting will take place at the Community House.

Project Updates

The Mayor gave information on the following Projects:

Community House – It has been laser scanned. The Engineering Firm will put their changes on the images that were scanned. They will be there on September 13th to come up with ideas. Once this is done, it will be presented to Council.

Allegheny Park – The survey has been completed. The information should be available to the City early next week, then it will go to M&G Engineering.

Street Lights – The west side of Main Street has been surveyed. The area has also been scanned. May Engineering will take that scan and come up with ideas. The project will go out to bid in October with a possible start date for construction in November.

Waste Water Project – An Environmental Study is now needed for the Project. There may be a delay on having the money's transferred to the City's Account due to this Study.

Water Project – The Project will start in the Spring of 2024.

Building Permits

Joe stated that Gumby's are waiting on their Engineers and Attorneys. There may have to be a Special Meeting between Council Meetings to approve the Building Permit if they get it filed. This item will be on the Agenda for the next Regular Council Meeting.

Web Site & App

The Mayor noted that the App is not always on line and the web site needs improvement. Joe stated that there are miss understandings on what Mobilize 360 is supposed to provide. Joe and Mike Casini will look for other companies who develop web sites.

Mark Avenue Stop Sign Guard Rail

Nick stated that the 3 residents living on top of Mark Avenue are affected. They have had their fences broken by vehicles. He is trying to find a solution to the problem. There was a discussion on installing Ballards. Nick will get with Joe, Larry, John and Bill and talk to the residents. This item will be on the Agenda for the next Regular Council Meeting.

Parking Ordinance on Highland Hills

The Mayor had no information on this subject. He would like to have it moved to the October Agenda.

PFAS Grant

Mike stated that there is a carcinogenic that is used in household cleaning products that is being released into the water and sewer system. There is a Class Action Lawsuit that has been filed and the Hooverson Heights Plant may qualify. He is asking if the City would want to join this Law Suit. He also noted that this is a Water and Sewer Board issue.

Yellow Curb at 324 Marquette Avenue

Larry stated that this issue is already covered by Ordinance. He would like to go an extra 12 to 12 ½ feet to go around the bend. This would help with the school bus problem. He will get with Bill and mark the area. This item will be on the Agenda for the next Regular Council Meeting.

Christmas in the Park

Co-Chairman Bill Secrist would like to thank Council for the use of the City Park and the Community House. He stated that this year's event will take place on Saturday October 14th from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm and Sunday October 15th from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. He also stated that the Steubenville Nutcrackers will be at the event again this year. This is the 21st year for the event.

Light Up Night

The Mayor said that a meeting will be set up with the Committee. The Budget will be \$3,000.00, which is the same as last year.

Fire Incident Report

Larry reported that the Reports are up to date.

Police Hire

Chief Rea would like for Council to at least hire 1 Officer to replace Dan Casto. This item will be on the Agenda for the next Regular Council Meeting.

Building Enforcement

John handed out a list of structures to be torn down.

City Manager Comments

Bill stated that he is cross training the employees with other Departments. He noted that the moral is better in the Departments. It will cost \$130,000.00 to fix the street cleaner and a new will cost \$300,000.00. Joe is going to have a meeting with a Company out of Pittsburgh, who wants to use our waste water plant starting at 50,000 gallons per day with a possible increase to 600,000 gallons per day. This will mean added revenue into the Waste Water Department. He also talked about restructuring the Dumpster Ordinance.

Motion by John Casinelli/ 2nd by John Casinelli to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.

Motion Carried Unanimous.

David P. Kurcina, City Clerk

