

City Council

Workshop Minutes/Notes

September 28, 2022

6:30 pm

**CALL TO ORDER (PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONES)
MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL**

Councilperson Caldwell - Absent
Councilperson A. Adams - Present
Councilperson Washington - Present
Councilperson Artim - Present
Mayor R. Scott Adams - Present

Consent Agenda:

Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to approve the consent agenda for the September 28, 2022 workshop meeting.

(Motion passed 4/0)

New Business:

1. Public Safety – Report by Mayor Scott Adams
 - a. Grant for sidewalk repair and match – will be discussed in more detail at the next council meeting.
 - b. City Manager interviews – the mayor, members of council, and Act 47 will schedule a time to begin reviewing resumes and scheduling interviews for the City Manager position
 - c. To ratify the return of officer Spangler we will need a motion(s) at the council meeting**
 - d. We will read the Proclamation for Tim Petrisko at the next council meeting
 - e. We will be scheduling a meeting with the city manager and Act 47 to discuss police salaries and hiring part-time officers. **A motion will be needed.**
 - f. Mayor’s office is working on a grant from Sen. Brewster’s office for \$100K to be split between the police and the public works dept.

2. Public Works – Report by Councilperson Elaine Washington

- a. Talked about how overtime works in the department for those who volunteer and for those who may get called out
- b. Talked about the Custodian position- there is currently a cleaning contract in place until May 2023. Can't do anything until contract expires.
- c. Wants the position (Custodian) to be allocated into the budget for next year
- d. Salt contract is in place and ready for orders
- e. Truck fleet is good but are looking to upgrade with smaller truck with plow to get through alley ways (possibly finance options)
- f. The PW Dept is made up of 7 people including a Director and a Mechanic. There are 2 additional person who are responsible for the water. This makes a total of 9 persons.
- g. Deadline date for the new meter reader to be trained is November 1, 2022.
- h. Garbage continues to be a major issue throughout the city.

3. Water Dept. – Report by Councilperson Aaron Adams

- a. Reviewing the garbage contract – constant weekly complaints. May determine if there is enough evidence to get out of contract earlier than signed for.
- b. Our Solicitor Myron Sainovich stated he would have some ideas to share during our executive session concerning the garbage contract
- c. Started dialogue about water rates and the engineers doing a study of what we can offer to match inflation. i.e. water rates could increase
- d. Working in team with engineers on storm water basin cost and stages of completion.
- e. ***A motion will be needed to use insurance money to repair wall at Library Court.***

4. Community & Economic Development – Report by Councilperson Timothy Caldwell
 - a. LaFranz from Glenn Engineering reported meeting with RDA about the vacant home acquisition program. Trying to bring all people together to discuss locations for demolitions and finding funding.
 - b. ***A motion will be needed to accept donated property.***
 - c. ***A motion will be needed to accept proposal from PRIDE for Halloween event. (Ms. Pat B.)***
 - d. ***A motion will be needed to allow Prayer Vigil @ Memorial Park.***
 - e. \$100k grant to upgrade sidewalks but city would have to pay \$30K. No motion needed just approval from council for engineers to apply.
 - f. Denied gov't Trails grant.
 - g. Still need a name for the connector road to the incoming expressway.
5. Accounts & Finances. – Report by Councilperson Derek Artim
 - a. Upcoming Budget
6. Treasurer Dept. – Report by Maureen Strahl
7. Solicitor – Report by Myron Sainovich
 - a. Confirmed that normally public doesn't comment during workshops but it can be determined for them to have input
 - b. Confirmed that any grants concerning demolition should have wording that states house is not fit for habitation.
 - c. Myron sent notice of violation letter to 1036 Lincoln which is a structure set for demolition but still has electricity. Also sent notice to last known address.
 - d. Myron is to investigate CIM our investors for pensions. The city is not satisfied with their practices. RFP's were completed by the former manager and we need to determine who has the best fit for our needs. Some of the issues with CIM was not having reports received in a timely manner, employees not getting reports, and employees could not call them directly. Myron stated he may ask them to join us at the next council meeting.

e. Confirmed that we can adapt an Ordinance requiring curb to curb pavement.

8. City Manager – Report by George Newsome

- a. Audit & Financials for 2021
- b. MMOs for 2023 – Labor Contracts for PW & Clerical

9. Police Dept. – Report by Acting Chief William Shaw

10. Act 47 Coordinator – Report by George Dougherty

- a. Home Rule presentation next workshop (10/25/2022)
- b. Reviewing resumes
- c. Will review budget to determine if matching grant for sidewalks is available.
- d. Set up meeting with mayor and manager about police salaries.
- e. Working on date to begin organizing/codifying records/files/Ordinances.

11. Fire Dept. – Report by Chief Frank Cobb

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Old Business:

1. Public Safety (Mayor Adams)

- a. Library Court wall
- b. Postponed proclamation reading
- c. Met with Lia Plumbing RE: Garage water issue
- d. RIDC donation of land meeting
- e. Meeting RE: Great Allegheny Passage
- f. Resignations
- g. Propose date and time of Workshops/Council meetings

2. Public Works (Councilperson Elaine Washington)
 - a. Center Street cleaned
 - b. Sprayed various sections of the city
 - c. Addressing overgrowths in alley ways for trucks to have easier access
 - d. Custodian employment

3. Water Dept. (Councilperson Aaron Adams)
 - a. Garbage complaints
 - b. LIHWAP updates
 - c. Water system updates

4. Community & Economic Development (Councilperson Timothy Caldwell)
 - a. Vacant home program
 - b. Glenn Engineering report submitted

5. Accounts & Finances (Councilperson Derek Artim)
 - a. Meeting with Act 47
 - b. Met to change signees on accounts
 - c. Discussed changing CC names and being more accountable for CC receipts

6. Treasurer Dept. (Maureen Strahl)
 - a. Report submitted.

7. Solicitor (Myron Sainovich)
 - a. Ordinance adopting ad for City Manager position
 - b. Passed out Ordinance for sale of city vehicles

8. City manager (George Newsome)
 - a. Library Court wall
 - b. Police Light
 - c. Workman's Comp audit
 - d. A/C units in chambers
 - e. Black phone

9. Police Dept. (Acting Chief W. Shaw)
 - a. Resignations & Hires
 - b. Part-time officers
 - c. Purchasing vehicles

10. Act 47 Coordinator (George Dougherty)
 - a. Mid-year financials
 - b. Possible Home Rule presentation
 - c. Meeting with labor negotiations
 - d. Procedure Manual update

11. Fire Dept. (Chief Frank Cobb)

Adjournment:

Mayor R. Scott Adams

George Newsome – Interim City Manager