

**CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA**



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 19, 2017

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 19, 2017

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

Requesting Council's approval to renovate, change the name and use an existing sign for a proposed restaurant at 1287 N. Washington Street.

Appointing Carl Naessig to the Planning Commission.

MINUTES

Of the Regular Session of City Council of October 5, 2017.

Of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority of July 27, 2017.

Of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority of July 18, 2017.

Of the Zoning Hearing Board of September 20, 2017.

CITY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 19, 2017

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on October 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., in City Council Chambers, City Hall, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania for the purpose of general business.

The meeting was organized with Chairperson Beth Gilbert in the Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

Roll Call:

Barrett	- present
Belusko	- present
Merritt	- excused
Brooks, Vice Chairperson	- present
Gilbert, Chairperson	- present

Also Present:

Ted Wampole, Administrator
Maureen Collins, Assistant City Attorney
Ron Foy, Police Commander
Marcella Lendacky, Police Chief
Cathy Payne, Assistant City Clerk
Jim Ryan, City Clerk
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant
Joyce Zaykowski, Capital Projects Program Manager

City Clerk Jim Ryan read a statement relative to Council's Rules and Procedures.

The City Clerk asked if there was anyone wishing to address Council on pending legislation.

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the Resolution appointing Carl Naessig to the Planning Commission and the process of applying for a Board or Authority.

Bob Kadluboski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the Resolution appointing Carl Naessig to the Planning Commission.

John Suchoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the Resolution appointing Carl Naessig to the Planning Commission.

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

Resolution No. R0105-17 to and including the minutes appeared on the Consent Agenda (Resolutions).

RESOLUTION NO. R0105-17

Whereas, Guri LLC d/b/a Buona Sera wishes to renovate, change the name and use an existing sign that overhangs the sidewalk right of way, at the building located at 1287 North Washington Street.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Wilkes-Barre City Council that approval is hereby granted contingent upon satisfaction of the following requirements:

File the following with the City Attorney’s Office:

1. File liability insurance naming the City as an insured for any liability connected with the said request.
2. File a Release and Save Harmless Agreement.
3. The applicant and a successor shall file current liability insurance naming the city as an insured.

RESOLUTION NO. R0106-17

Whereas, Section 22-17 of Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Wilkes-Barre authorizes the Mayor, with the approval of City Council, to appointment members of the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre;

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to appoint the person referenced below to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby appointed as a member to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Begins</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Carl Naessig 33 Diebel Avenue Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	October 20, 2017	February 23, 2021

Mr. Naessig is replacing Rodney Kaiser, Esq. who now serves on the City’s Zoning Board.

MINUTES

Of the Regular Session of City Council of October 5, 2017.

Of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority of July 27, 2017.

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Mr. Belusko moved to adopt the Consent Agenda (Resolutions).

The motion was seconded by Mr. Brooks and adopted by the following yeas and nays:

Yeas Barrett, Belusko, Brooks and Gilbert (Chairperson) – 4 – being a majority of the members elected to City Council.

Nays none.

Absent – Merritt – 1.

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Barrett thanked the Police Department and the Attorney General's Office for the drug operation that they successfully conducted today.

Mr. Belusko recognized the "Taking It to the Streets" program along with the Code Enforcement and Health Department for all their hard work enforcing the Quality of Life Ordinance.

Mr. Wampole mentioned that coming into today 115 Quality of Life tickets were issued.

Mr. Brooks said the majority of the feedback he has been getting on the Quality of Life Ordinance has been positive.

Mr. Brooks discussed the process for applying for Boards and Authorities.

Mr. Brooks asked for an update on the assessment of the Police Department.

Mr. Barrett said there have been on-going discussions with the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police as recent as yesterday. They have agreed to conduct the assessment and will be coming back to the city very shortly with a proposal that the city would need to sign off on.

Mr. Wampole informed Council that the Administration met with the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police yesterday and had some discussion regarding the scope. He said around 4:45 p.m. he received a rough draft of what the scope is going to be. The Administration told them they would like a quick time frame and they have been very attentive.

Mr. Barrett pointed out that their credentials, their background and their experience is quite extensive in this particular field.

Ms. Gilbert asked for an update on the triple block on East Northampton Street.

Mr. Wampole said he will look into it and get back to her.

Mr. Belusko asked Mr. Wampole to check and see if 229 Sambourne Street is on the list for demolition. There was a fire there quite awhile ago and it is boarded up. He said he has been getting some complaints about it.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Jean Magda, Flood Drive, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council to thank Mr. Barrett and Mr. Frati for the curbs that were put in alongside of her home and water being diverted to her property.

John Suchoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to trash in front of Park Place and the police department turning illegal immigrants over to ICE.

Police Chief Lendacky explained that when a police officer comes across someone that they cannot confirm the identity and find out that they are an illegal alien, ICE is called and they make the determination of whether someone will be picked up or not. It is on a case by case basis.

Angel Mathis, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the assessment of the police department, the 2018 budget (increasing trash collection and parking meter fees) and students hanging out in the parkade on South Washington Street.

Ms. Gilbert explained that she worked with Mr. Barrett to find an outside agency that was completely objected to do a complete assessment of the police department. If that agency feels the investigation needs to go further they will recommend that.

Mr. Barrett explained that the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police were chosen to do the assessment because they are the accrediting body in the State of Pennsylvania. They make sure that all of the departments meet accreditation standards, are following proper policies, following procedures, etc. In alliance with that they have a consulting division that comes in and looks at the department from the newest officer to the Chief, facilities, structures, policies, etc. They guaranteed us that they will do an extensive assessment to

ensure that the city is doing everything right. He said it is not a criminal investigation, it is an organizational assessment.

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the police department organizational assessment, the firing of Officer Duffy, Council conducting a pre-investigative hearing of the police department, Boards and Authorities (contributing some of their income to the city), and the Coal Street Authority.

Ms. Gilbert said in regards to Council conducting their own investigation, it has been brought up before; however all members came to a consensus that it is best if Council puts it on an objective agency.

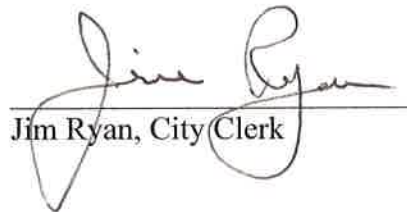
Bob Kadluboski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the police department organizational assessment, the Police Chief, a city employee using a city vehicle to do personal business outside the city and the snow removal bill (audit).

Joseph Mrozoski, Wilkes-Barre Twp., PA appeared before Council relative to problems with abandoned vehicles, overgrown trees/high weeds/grass, and the condition of properties in the Heights section of the city.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.


Beth Gilbert, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Jim Ryan, City Clerk

