

CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 10, 2022

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

RESOLUTIONS

MINUTES

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 10, 2022
RESOLUTIONS

Authorizing the Mayor to enter into the appropriate agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology and Equipment Program, along with any or all other project documents, related to the equipping of our police department with the latest technology and camera systems, which are synced together with the police officers and their vehicles.

Authorizing the Mayor to enter into the appropriate agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program (CHIP), along with any or all other project documents, related to the hiring of four (4) additional full-time police officers.

Authorizing the proper city officials to sign any and all necessary documents related to awarding the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Troy Mechanical Inc., in the amount of \$743,200.00 (seven hundred forty-three thousand, two hundred dollars and zero cents) for the mechanical renovations to the Wilkes-Barre Intermodal Facility.

Authorizing the proper city officials to sign any and all necessary documents related to awarding the contract to the most qualified service, Draintech Inc. for the City of Wilkes-Barre Sewer and Drain Cleaning/Unclogging Contract to start as of January 1, 2023. Payment will be funded from the general fund.

Authorizing the proper city officials to enter into an agreement with Chuck's Auction Services to auction off certain pieces of city owned vehicles and other equipment no longer useful to various departments. The proceeds from the auction will be deposited into the general fund.

Authorizing the proper city officials to take any and all necessary action related to donating forty (40) Kenwood TK-2312 portable analog radios and twenty-five (25) portable radio chargers to Ukraine.

MINUTES

Of the Planning Commission of September 28, 2022.

CITY COUNCIL

November 10, 2022

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on November 10, 2022, at 6:13 p.m., in City Council Chambers, City Hall, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of general business.

The meeting was organized with Vice Chairperson Mike Belusko in the Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

Councilman Mike Belusko read the prayer.

Roll Call:

Barrett	- present
Brooks	- present
Marconi	- present
Belusko, Vice Chairperson	- present
McBride, Chairperson	- present (via phone)

Also Present:

George C. Brown, Mayor
Joe Coffay, Police Chief
Maureen Collins, Assistant City Attorney
Charles McCormick, City Administrator
Cathy Payne, City Clerk
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant
Tracy Smith, Assistant City Clerk

City Clerk Cathy Payne read a statement relative to Council's Rules and Procedures.

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

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the contract with Draintech and the agreements with the COPS Programs.

Mr. Belusko told Mr. Troy that DRAINTech has nothing to do with the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority. He said that this contract with DRAINTech is per incident.

Mayor Brown explained that the contract with DRAINTech is for unclogging drains, on an as needed basis. The city already has a contract with them, this will extend it.

Angel Mathis, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the agreements with the COPS Programs (match) and the agreement with Chuck's Auction Services (is it open to the public).

Mayor responded that the auction will be open to the public and there is no dollar for dollar match on COPS Programs.

Resolution No. R0093-22 to and including the minutes appeared on the Consent Agenda (Resolutions).

RESOLUTION NO. R0093-22

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre has placed a strong emphasis on improving public safety throughout the city; and

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre has applied and been awarded a grant in the amount of \$2,100,000.00 under the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology and Equipment Program to equip our police department with the latest technology and camera systems, which are synced together with our police officers and their vehicles; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology and Equipment Program, along with any or all other project documents, related to the equipping of our police department with the latest technology and camera systems, which are synced together with the police officers and their vehicles.

RESOLUTION NO. R0094-22

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre has placed a strong emphasis on improving public safety throughout the city; and

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre has applied and been awarded a grant in the amount of \$500,000.00 under the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community

Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program (CHP) to hire four additional full-time police officers; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program (CHP), along with any or all other project documents, related to the hiring of four additional full-time police officers.

RESOLUTION NO. R0095-22

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre advertised for bid on June 1, 2022 and rebid on July 15, 2022 for certain renovations to the Wilkes-Barre Intermodal Facility.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to sign any and all necessary documents related to awarding the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Troy Mechanical Inc. in the amount of \$743,200.00 (seven hundred forty-three thousand, two hundred dollars and zero cents) for the mechanical renovations to the Wilkes-Barre Intermodal Facility:

Be It Further Resolved that payment for the renovations shall be made from American Rescue Plan money and the City's general fund.

RESOLUTION NO. R0096-22

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre advertised for proposals for The City of Wilkes-Barre Sewer & Drain Cleaning/Unclogging for the drain cleaning/unclogging within the boundaries of the City of Wilkes-Barre on September 23 & October 14, 2022.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to sign any and all necessary documents related to awarding the contract to the most qualified service, Draintech Inc. for the City of Wilkes-Barre Sewer & Drain Cleaning/Unclogging Contract to start as of January 1, 2023.

Payment will be funded from the general fund.

RESOLUTION NO. R0097-22

Be It Resolved that the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre hereby authorizes the proper city officials to enter into an agreement with Chuck's Auction Services to auction off certain pieces of city owned vehicles and other equipment no longer useful to various departments.

The proceeds from the auction will be deposited into the general fund.

RESOLUTION NO. R0098-22

Whereas, the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department has forty (40) Kenwood TK-2312 portable analog radios and twenty-five (25) portable radio chargers;

Whereas, the Luzerne County 911 system for emergency services changed recently and no longer supports analog radios;

Whereas, due to this change, the Fire Department's analog radios and portable chargers are obsolete for city purposes;

Whereas, the City wishes to donate the above-referenced equipment to Ukraine;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to take any and all necessary action related to donating the above-referenced radios and chargers to Ukraine.

MINUTES

Of the Planning Commission Meeting of September 28, 2022.

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

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

Yeas Barrett, Brooks, Marconi, Belusko and McBride (Chairperson) - 5 - being all of the members elected to City Council.

Nays none.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to having a second budget hearing, ARP money (given to bars and businesses), new sources of revenue, Historical Preservation Committee, Citizens Advisory Board, climate change and an energy audit.

Mayor Brown discussed how the Administration allocated American Rescue Plan funds to help the residents and businesses in the city. The Mayor added that the price of blue bags and parking meters were also reduced to help the residents.

The Mayor informed Mr. Troy that he reduced the budget this year by \$900,000.

Mr. Troy asked where the city is getting the money to do the renovation to the Thomas C. Thomas building (homeless facility).

Mayor Brown said that it will be opened for the homeless from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. They will be able to get meals and hot showers. After 6:00 p.m. there will be arrangements made for them to sleep at different shelters. Representative Pashinski secured a \$100,000 grant and the city will be utilizing American Rescue Plan money for the renovations.

Molly Fogle, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to parking problems on Pershing Street (with the Meade Street apartments).

Mayor Brown said one option would be for the city to create a permit parking program in that area. The Mayor asked Ms. Fogle to stay a few minutes after the meeting and he will speak with her.


Mr. Marconi asked who left the notes on their cars.

Ms. Fogle said it was from the owners of the Meade Street apartments.

Mrs. McBride said that they can also contact her since she is the Council representative for the area.

Angel Mathis, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council to thank the city for the street cleaning and leaf removal and parking problems on South Franklin Street.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.



Mike Belusko, Vice Chairperson

ATTEST: 

Cathy Payne, City Clerk

