

CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 23, 2017

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 23, 2017

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

Authorizing and directing the Mayor to accept and sign the Street Sweeping Agreement and Exhibits.

Proclaiming April 2017 as "Fair Housing Month" in the City of Wilkes-Barre.

Ratify the agreements for Franchelli Enterprises, Stell Enterprises, Popple Construction, James T. O'Hara, Tse Inc., American Landscaping and Kriger Construction to assist in the City's snow removal efforts.

Authorizing the proper city officials to open a disaster recovery fund with PNC Bank.

Reappoint Joseph Thomas Sr., Karen Collins, Sue Strassman and appoint Larry Singleton to the Planning Commission.

Reappoint James O'Boyle, Larry Newman, Susan Mengerlinghausen, Robert Loftus and appoint Carl Naessig and Patricia Unvasky to the Industrial Development Authority.

Direct that the provisions of Section 20-4 of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to the open consumption of alcoholic beverages be temporarily suspended and not enforced for the Cherry Blossom Festival (Hidden Creek Vineyard and Winery Inc.)

MINUTES

Of the Regular Session of City Council of March 9, 2017.

CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 23, 2017

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on March 23, 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	- present
Brooks, Vice Chairperson	- present
Gilbert, Chairperson	- present

Also Present:

Darren Snyder, Controller
Butch Frati, Director of Operations
Tim Henry, City Attorney/Deputy Administrator
Alan Klapat, Deputy Fire Chief
Marcella Lendacky, Police Chief
Cathy Payne, Assistant City Clerk
Jim Ryan, City Clerk
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant
Joyce Zaykowski, Capital Projects Program Manager

Attorney Henry made the following announcement:

While it's not on Council's agenda this evening, they may consider the Bond Ordinance, which was File of Council No. 5 of 2017, originally passed on first reading on February 23, 2017, at the next regularly scheduled meeting on April 6, 2017.

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.

Larry Singleton, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to his appointment to the Planning Commission.

Karen Collins, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to her reappointment to the Planning Commission.

Carl Naessig, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to his appointment to the Industrial Development Authority.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. R0043-17 to and including the minutes appeared on the Consent Agenda (Resolutions).

RESOLUTION NO. R0043-17

Be It Resolved, by authority of Wilkes-Barre City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, that the Mayor of said Municipality is authorized and directed to accept and sign the attached Street Sweeping Agreement and Exhibits on its behalf.

RESOLUTION NO. R0044-17

Whereas, Fair Housing is a right emphasized by the U.S. Congress beginning with the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and most recently the Amendments of 1988 to the Fair Housing Act; and

Whereas, this is the 49th anniversary of the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended and strengthened in 1988; Title VIII of which guarantees the right to be free from housing discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability (including AIDS/HIV).

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved That The City Council Of Wilkes-Barre hereby proclaims the month of April 2017 as “Fair Housing Month” in the City of Wilkes-Barre and encourages its citizens and organizations to celebrate diversity and value the harmonious communities of neighbors to support the goal of equal housing opportunities for all people.

RESOLUTION NO. R0045-17

Whereas, Mayor Anthony George declared a State of Emergency in the City of Wilkes-Barre by Proclamation dated March 14, 2017, due to the heavy snow storm; and

Whereas, the severity of the snow required the services of private contractors to assist in the storm recovery.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the City Council of Wilkes-Barre ratifies the agreements for the following contractors to assist in the City’s snow removal efforts:

Franchelli Enterprises
Stell Enterprises
Poppo Construction
James T. O'Hara
Tse Inc.
American Landscaping
Kriger Construction

RESOLUTION NO. R0046-17

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre experienced a sever weather event during the month of March, 2017, and

Whereas, the Mayor of the City of Wilkes-Barre has declared a state of emergency as a result of the weather event, and

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre desires to maintain a separate disaster recovery fund: and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to open an account at PNC Bank, transfer funds into and pay storm related costs out of said account.

RESOLUTION NO. R0047-17

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 appoint members of the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre;

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

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following persons are hereby re-appointed as members to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Begins</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Joseph Thomas, Sr. 34 S. Main Street Apt. 511 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701	March 24, 2017	February 23, 2021
Karen Collins 74 W. Ross Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	March 24, 2017	February 23, 2021

Sue Strassman March 24, 2017 February 23, 2021
151 New Mallery Place
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

*Larry Singleton March 24, 2017 February 23, 2021
29 Edison Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

* Replaces Suanne Moses (expired 5-26-15)

RESOLUTION NO. R0048-17

Whereas, File of Council No. 17 of 1967 of the City of Wilkes-Barre authorizes the Mayor, with the approval of City Council, to appoint members of the City of Wilkes-Barre Industrial Development Authority;

Whereas, File of Council No. 11 of 1976 of the City of Wilkes-Barre amended file of Council No. 17 of 1967 by changing the number of board members from five (5) to eleven (11);

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to re-appoint and/or appoint the persons referenced below to the City of Wilkes-Barre Industrial Development Authority;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following persons are hereby appointed or reappointed as members to the City of Wilkes-Barre Industrial Development Authority;

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Begins</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
James O’Boyle 50 E. Lafayette Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701	March 24, 2017	December 31, 2018
Larry Newman 74 W. Ross Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	March 24, 2017	December 31, 2019
Susan Mengeringhausen 139 S. Hancock Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	March 24, 2017	December 31, 2020
Robert Loftus 203 Academy Street Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18702	March 24, 2017	December 31, 2021

*Carl Naessig March 24, 2017 December 31, 2022
33 Diebel Avenue
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

*Patricia Unvarsky March 24, 2017 December 31, 2019
21 Gore Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705

*Replacing Charles Luce (expired 12-31-98) and Ann Marie Manton (10-22-12)

RESOLUTION NO. R0049-17

RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre hereby directs that the provisions of Section 20-4 of the Wilkes-Barre Code of Ordinances pertaining to the open consumption of alcoholic beverages be temporarily suspended and not enforced for the following event:

Event: Cherry Blossom Festival
Sponsor: Hidden Creek Vineyard and Winery Inc.
Designated Area: Kirby Park
Dates: April 22, 2017 & April 23, 2017
Time: 11:00 am. Until 7:00pm
Limitation: The suspension shall only apply to wine and not malted or brewed beverages or liquors.

The within temporary suspension applies only to the above-referenced event and area. All other regulations related to intoxicating beverages in the City of Wilkes-Barre shall remain in full force and effect. A copy of this resolution shall be provided to the Wilkes-Barre Police Department.

MINUTES

Of the Regular Session of City Council of March 9, 2017.

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

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

Yeas Barrett, Belusko, Brooks, Merritt and Gilbert (Chairperson) – 5 – being all of the members elected to City Council.

Nays none.

PRESENTATION BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Barrett pointed out that the state roads in the area of Fridays Restaurant (Kidder /Scott Street) are falling apart. He asked Mr. Frati if he knew what PennDot's plans are for them.

Mr. Frati said that PennDot will have a meeting at the district office in Dunmore and share with the municipalities what their intentions are for the upcoming paving season. He said he will look into it and get back to Council at a later date.

Mr. Belusko asked Mr. Frati how the city's equipment held up during the recent snow storm.

Mr. Frati replied that for the most part it held up very well. He said some equipment was lost during the storm and a few pieces are not going to be put back on the street. He said if the city is fortunate enough to get some of the money reimbursed some of the equipment will be looked at and maybe repaired.

Mr. Belusko asked if Mr. Frati can ask PennDot if Carey Avenue will be on the paving list this year.

Mr. Frati said it was on the plan last year, but at the end of their budget season they determined it couldn't be done. They reallocated money last year to a project that they thought was more in need. He said that he will ask about it at the meeting.

Mr. Merritt said that he was given an article about a group that is into cleaning up the Laurel Run Watershed, which involves the creek running through North End. He said they would be more than willing to work with the city on cleaning up the sediment. He asked Mr. Frati if he would reach out to them and see if they could provide some kind of funding.

Mr. Frati said the city is working with that group right now on a number of projects.

Mr. Merritt asked if any of the work involves removing the sediment.

Ms. Zaykowski replied that going forward the city has some potential plans with this group. The first project that will be under way will be on Ross Street.

Mr. Brooks asked Mr. Frati if he knew how many calls DPW received and how many inquiries were submitted on the website relative to the recent snow storm.

Mr. Frati said he hadn't had a chance to check the website for the number of inquiries, but said DPW took hundreds of calls for snow removal.

Mr. Brooks suggested that the city update the website, so that when a citizen sends an inquiry they receive an automatic response back saying that the city received it. He asked the IT department to look into it.

Ms. Gilbert asked Mr. Frati for an update on the Raymond's Electric building on E. Northampton Street that was hit last year.

Mr. Frati said he has not heard anything on the property lately, but it is time for the city to address it again.

Ms. Gilbert told Mr. Frati that she heard someone is living in the old Park Place Building on the corner of Park Avenue and East South Street. The building is deplorable. She asked if someone would look into it.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Ron Romanelli, Director of Public Works, appeared before Council to discuss the recent snow storm and how his department handled it.

John Rushton, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to a Night at the Races at his church.

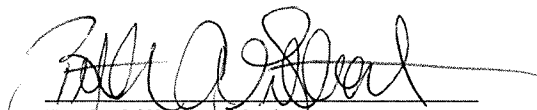
James Walsh, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to extending the time for speakers, report on district happenings, department heads not attending meetings, the American Flag and the 100th Anniversary of World War I.

Bob Kadluboski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to being thrown out of the last meeting, Department of Public Works, refinancing (Cozen & O'Connor being bond counsel), department heads not attending Council meetings, and being a spokesman for Louis Weihbrecht (owner of Outsiders Saloon) at next meeting.


John Suchoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to Martin Luther King Day (becoming a city holiday) and not using PennDot during snow storms.

Elizabeth Britt, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the deterioration of the curbs on Flood Drive.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.


Beth Gilbert, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Jim Ryan, City Clerk