

In Re:

SUMMARY TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Executive Work Session, Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., in City Council Chambers, City Hall, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

PRESENT:

Tony Brooks, Chairperson  
Mike Belusko, Vice Chairperson  
Bill Barrett, Council member  
Beth Gilbert, Council member  
Mike Merritt, Council member

ALSO PRESENT:

Maureen Collins, Assistant City Attorney  
Ron Foy, Police Commander  
Cathy Payne, Assistant City Clerk  
Jim Ryan, City Clerk  
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant  
Ted Wampole, City Administrator

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

**City Clerk Jim Ryan presented the following Resolutions:**

1. Authorizing and directing the Mayor to accept and sign the Street Sweeping Agreement (PennDot).
2. Authorizing the disposition of records from the Health Department.

**City Administrator Ted Wampole appeared before Council relative to the following items:**

1. Resolution appointing Jerry Altavilla to the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Altavilla is replacing Vaughn Koter whose term has expired.
2. Resolution authorizing the proper city officials to enter into a contract and sign any and all necessary documents with the lowest responsible bidder for the demolition of 3 Auburn Street. Payment to be made from the OECD Budget.
3. Resolution authorizing the proper city officials to enter into a contract and sign any and all necessary documents with the lowest responsible bidder for the demolition of 39 South Fulton Street. Payment to be made from OECD Budget.
4. An Ordinance adopting the 2018 Action Plan encompassing the Community Development block Grant Program, and HOME Program Budgets for Program Year Forty-Four and appropriating specific sums estimated to be required to complete program activities. (First Reading – On Title)

Ms. Gilbert asked if 39 Fulton Street was one of the properties that were on fire.

Mr. Wampole informed her that it was.

Mr. Barrett asked if this falls under the program that the fire department has to take care of these properties.

Mr. Wampole responded that ordinarily it would, but there is no insurance on the Auburn Street property; therefore there is no escrow for it.

Mr. Ryan said with no objection from Council the Resolutions will appear on a Consent Agenda (Resolution) at the Regular Session for a vote.

**Council Presentations**

Mr. Barrett asked for an update on the parking study Council passed at the last meeting.

Mr. Wampole replied that Mr. Kittrick supplied them with figures today that they were looking for. It is proceeding, but they are still doing a lot of preliminary work.

Ms. Gilbert reported the following potholes:

1. South Main Street (toward Sunoco Gas Station).
2. Taft and East Northampton Streets.
3. South Meade and East South Street.

Ms. Gilbert asked for an update on the fire damaged property on South Street.

Mr. Wampole said he hasn't heard anything on it lately, but will follow up with Mr. Frati and let her know.

Mr. Merritt asked if the water situation on East Chestnut Street has been taken care of yet.

Mr. Wampole replied that Mr. Frati has been taking care of that particular problem. He said he will follow up on it with him.

Mr. Belusko asked about the property behind Crown Chicken that is set for demolition.

Mr. Wampole said that the city has been citing the property owner. They said it was suppose to be demolished, but Mr. Wampole said he was not sure if any permits were pulled yet.

Mr. Belusko inquired about the status of the former Academy Market.

Mr. Wampole responded that the city is close to being ready to bid that property for demolition. He said there have been some issues with it because it had changed owners, so we had to go back through the whole process again.

Mr. Belusko asked if the Parking Authority agreed to help the city with the cost of the parking study.

Mr. Wampole said that the Parking Authority met today. He said that he will follow up with Mr. Torbik tomorrow morning.

Mr. Brooks reported potholes on South Main Street at South Street, along the front of 10 East South Street (going towards the Wilkes parking garage).

Mr. Barrett asked since the potholes are an on-going issue would it be easier if Council emailed them directly to Mr. Wampole.

Mr. Wampole said that Council can forward them to his email.

Attorney Frank Hoegan appeared before Council to inform them that the Liquor License Transfer hearing scheduled for tonight's meeting is being rescheduled to Council's March 6, 2018 meeting.

Attorney Heogan said he brought handouts to acknowledge the rescheduling for anyone in attendance regarding the transfer.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.