

CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 7, 2019

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

CONSENT AGENDA (ORDINANCES)

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 7, 2019

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

Authorizing the temporary stop signs currently located at the intersection of North Main and Maple Streets to remain in place for an additional trial period of ninety (90) days.

MINUTES

Of the Traffic Committee of January 24, 2019.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of January 24, 2019.

CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 7, 2019

CONSENT AGENDA (ORDINANCES)

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 2 OF 2019 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12-27 OF ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 12 OF THE WILKES-BARRE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED “GARBAGE AND REFUSE”. (SECOND AND FINAL READING)

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 3 OF 2019 – VACATING A PORTION OF AN ALLEY KNOWN AS CORBETT LANE IN THE CITY OF WILKES-BARRE. (FIRST READING)

CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 7, 2019

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on February 7, 2019 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 Mike Belusko in the Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

Roll Call:

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

Also Present:

Darren Snyder, Controller
Rick Gazenski, Administrator
Tim Henry, Deputy Administrator/City Attorney
Cathy Payne, Assistant City Clerk
Jim Ryan, City Clerk
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant
Joyce Zaykowski, Director of OCD

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

The City Clerk announced that the Ordinances will be voted on separately as per a request by Council member Gilbert.

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

Bob Kadluboski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to File of Council No. 2 of 2019 (Recycling Fee Increase).

Mr. Barrett said a taxpayer sent Council a letter with some questions regarding the increase in the recycling fee. They asked how the city tracks who pays the recycling fee and what happens to people that don't pay it.

Attorney Henry explained that the collection of the fee is handled by the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority. They produce the cards and are in charge of the mailing. They keep track of who pays and doesn't pay. The WVSA will send a list to the city of those that haven't paid, and liens will be filed against the properties.

Mr. Barrett asked if the city follows through with filing liens.

Attorney Henry said that the city waits until there are enough arrearages so that it makes sense to file the lien (It cost money to file a lien).

Mr. Barrett said he did some research on Corbett Lane (Ordinance to vacate) and found out that it is much larger than he thought.

Attorney Henry said that it is about 12 feet wide and it runs for about 100 feet and it curves. Both sides are owned by the Credit Union and this vacation will simply unify the whole parcel for them. The Credit Union will be constructing a brand-new facility there, that will be on the tax rolls, on a corner that has been historically troublesome for the city.

Attorney Henry added that it hasn't been used as an alley in decades.

Attorney Henry said the Credit Union said they will be submitting plans and going through the Planning & Zoning process within the next two months and construction will begin this spring.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. R0010-19 to and including the minutes appeared on the Consent Agenda (Resolutions).

RESOLUTION NO. R0010-19

That, the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre hereby authorizes that the temporary stop signs currently located at the intersection of North Main and Maple Streets remain in place for an additional trial period of ninety (90) days from the date of this Resolution.

MINUTES

Of the Traffic Committee of January 24, 2019.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of January 24, 2019.

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

The motion was seconded by Mr. Barrett and adopted by the following yea and nay vote:

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

Nays none.

Absent – Brooks – 1.

ORDINANCES

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 2 OF 2019 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12-27 OF ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 12 OF THE WILKES-BARRE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED “GARBAGE AND REFUSE”. (SECOND AND FINAL READING)

Mr. Merritt moved to adopt the Ordinance.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Belusko and **failed** by the following yea and nay vote:

Yeas Merritt and Belusko – 2 -.

Nays Gilbert and Barrett – 2.

Absent Brooks – 1.

Attorney Henry stated for the record that the increase was factored in to the 2019 Budget.

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 3 OF 2019 – VACATING A PORTION OF AN ALLEY KNOWN AS CORBETT LANE IN THE CITY OF WILKES-BARRE. (FIRST READING)

Mr. Belusko moved to adopt the Ordinance.

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

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

Nays none.

Absent Brooks – 1.

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ms. Gilbert reported the following roads in need of repair:

1. East Northampton Street by Taft Street.
2. East Northampton between Park Avenue and South Sherman.

Mr. Barrett told Ms. Zaykowski the cuts made on George Avenue for the Streetscape Project are sinking, especially in the area of Trethaway Street. He asked that the contractor take a look at them and make temporary repairs.

Mr. Belusko asked the status of the property behind Abe's Hotdogs that he reported on Tuesday.

Mr. Gazenski replied that DPW visited the property yesterday.

Mr. Belusko asked if Public Works employees are out filling potholes. He suggested the city try and stay ahead of them now because come spring they will be twice as bad.

Ms. Gilbert agreed with Mr. Belusko about the pothole situation. She added that Mr. Frati has been as proactive as he could be with some of them. She said that she texted him about one on River and Market Streets and it was done by the end of the day.

Ms. Gilbert added that she spoke with Mr. Frati today about the potholes and he said that the problem is with the weather we are having. He said it gets warm and then cold again and it is just getting to the point where they will be unrepairable. She said Mr. Frati assured her that crews are out there, and they are doing their due diligence with them, but they can't keep up with the way the weather has been.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Bob Kadluboski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to Recycling Fee Ordinance, the WVSA bill (stormwater runoff), former Mayor McGroarty threatening members of the Fire Department, Jim Hayward's pension, the Mayor's healthcare and videotaping Work Sessions.

Mr. Belusko told Mr. Kadluboski that the Ordinance relative to recycling will come back up for a vote when all Council members are present.

Attorney Henry mentioned that it passed first reading and deadlocked tonight, so it will go back on the agenda when all Council members are present.

Mr. Belusko said that Council will discuss videotaping Work Sessions.

Mr. Belusko said he agrees with Mr. Kadluboski on the stormwater fee, but Council does not set that.

Mr. Belusko agreed that Tom McGroarty should not be allowed in the firehouse or anyone else for that matter. He said that it should be Chief Delaney's call on who is allowed in there.

Mr. Barrett said there should be a policy on who can and cannot go into a city building and wander around. He said he would think it would be a safety issue. He said the city should look into setting a city-wide policy.

John Suchoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the city's rules for trash and recycling and Almond Lane (recent cuts made / potholes).


Mr. Belusko told Mr. Suchoski that the rules for trash and recycling are in the City Calendar.

Ms. Zaykowski said she will have Joe Rodano follow up on Almond Lane and the pave cuts.

Mr. Suchoski asked the city to look into purchasing a pothole patching machine.

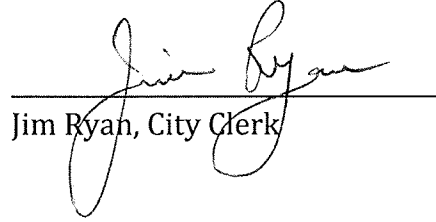
Mr. Belusko informed him that the city already owns one.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



Mike Belusko, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Jim Ryan, City Clerk