

CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 25, 2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

MINUTES

ORDINANCES

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBER

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 25, 2021

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

Authorizing the proper city officials to enter into an agreement with DeAngelo Contracting Services, LLC for the 2021-2022 Line Painting and Pavement Markings Contract. The total base bid for the two-year contract is \$149,500.00. The funds for this purchase will come from the 2021/2022 Liquid Fuels Budget.

MINUTES

Of the Zoning Hearing Board of February 17, 2021.

Of the Wilkes-Barre City Traffic Committee of February 25, 2021.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of March 11, 2021.

ORDINANCES

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 8 OF 2021 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 29 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILKES-BARRE ENTITLED “TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES.” (3 PERMANENT STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF MAPLE AND NORTH MAIN STREETS) (SECOND AND FINAL READING)

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 9 OF 2021 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2021 ACTION PLAN ENCOMPASSING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AND HOME PROGRAM BUDGETS FOR PROGRAM YEAR FORTY-SEVEN AND APPROPRIATING SPECIFIC SUMS ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES. (FIRST READING)

CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 25, 2021

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on March 25, 2021, at 6:42 p.m. (immediately following the Work Session), in City Council Chambers, City Hall, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. for the purpose of general business. (The meeting was conducted and streamed on YouTube for public viewing due to COVID-19)

The meeting was organized with Chairperson Tony Brooks in the Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

Roll Call:

Barrett	- present
Belusko	- present
Marconi	- present
McBride, Vice Chairperson	- present
Brooks, Chairperson	- present

Also Present:

George Brown, Mayor
Maureen Collins, Assistant City Attorney
Jay Delaney, Fire Chief
Butch Frati, Director of Operations/Deputy Administrator
Frank Hershberger, IT Director
Charles McCormick, City Administrator
Cathy Payne, Assistant City Clerk
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Brooks announced that the phone line was open for anyone wishing to address Council on pending legislation.

Walter Griffiths, Trucksville, PA phoned in and congratulated City Clerk Jim Ryan on his retirement.

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA, phoned in relative to the CDBG Budget Ordinance (Utility Relief Fund) and new items being added to the agenda.

Mr. Brooks told Mr. Troy that the CDBG Budget and the parameters for the Utility Relief Fund are on the city's website. He encouraged the Administration to do another round of public relations on the Utility Relief Fund.

Mr. Brooks said he agreed with Mr. Troy about last minute items on the agenda and he hopes to go back to Council's regularly scheduled meetings (Tuesday Work Sessions and Thursday Regular Sessions) in June, but it will depend on the CDC and the City Health Department.

Bob Kadluboski, Wilkes-Barre, PA, phoned in to wish City Clerk Jim Ryan a happy retirement.

MINUTES

Of the Zoning Hearing Board of February 17, 2021.

Of the Wilkes-Barre City Traffic Committee of February 25, 2021.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of March 11, 2021.

Mr. Marconi moved to adopt the Minutes.

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

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

Nays none.

ORDINANCES

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 8 OF 2021 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TRAFFIC CONTROL MAP PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 29 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILKES-BARRE ENTITLED "TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES." (3 PERMANENT STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF MAPLE AND NORTH MAIN STREETS) (SECOND AND FINAL READING)

Mrs. McBride moved to adopt the Ordinance.

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

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

Nays none.

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 9 OF 2021 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2021 ACTION PLAN ENCOMPASSING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AND HOME PROGRAM BUDGETS FOR PROGRAM YEAR FORTY-SEVEN AND APPROPRIATING SPECIFIC SUMS ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES. (FIRST READING)

Mr. Belusko moved to adopt the Ordinance.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. McBride and adopted by the following yeas and nays vote:

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

Nays none.

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Barrett congratulated Ms. Payne on her appointment to City Clerk.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Bob Kadluboski, Wilkes-Barre, PA phoned in relative to the Mayor's staff not speaking in the microphone during the meeting and Mr. Belusko publicly apologizing to Mr. Carr for comments at a previous Council meeting.

Walter Griffith, County Councilman, Trucksville, PA phoned in relative to the train station on Wilkes-Barre Boulevard (concerns about the RCAP money and a lease brought to County Council from George Albert and his comments about razing the building).

Mr. Brooks told Mr. Griffith that the building is protected on the National Historical Register Site. It would take a lot of effort to have it razed at all and City Council would vigorously oppose that.

Jason Carr, Mt. Bethel, PA, phoned in relative to the Call Center, Murray Complex and Sterling property and the train station on Wilkes-Barre Boulevard (Developer George Albert comments about razing the building) and Mr. Marconi's request for a quarterly statement.

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA, phoned in relative to the five-minute time limit for people calling into Council meetings, grant money given to George Albert for the train station, donation of 50 trees to the Shade Tree Commission (looking for a place to plant them) and a donation of a tree from the Lion's Club for Public Square.

Mr. Brooks urged Mr. Troy to let the public know when the Shade Tree Commission meets, so they can give input as to where these trees can be planted.

Mr. Brooks told Mr. Troy that in order for Mr. Albert to demolish the train station, he would have to go through Harrisburg. There would be rigorous demands to meet and he would have to go through the State Preservation Office, but he would get a lot of resistance from Council.

Mayor Brown said that the million dollar RCAP went through the state and Mr. Albert has to match those funds. The Mayor added that as far as the First National Bank Building, Mr. Albert paid over appraised value by about \$150,000.

Mayor Brown said he spoke with Mr. Troy for an hour yesterday about the trees that are being donated, and told him that after talking to Mr. Frati, the trees are not suitable for tree lawns. He told Mr. Troy to take a look at the parks within the city and the city will help plant the trees.

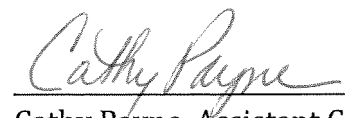
Mr. Brooks thanked Mr. Ryan for his service and wished him well in his retirement.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Tony Brooks, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Cathy Payne, Assistant City Clerk