

CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

AUGUST 17, 2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

RESOLUTIONS

MINUTES

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTIONS
AUGUST 17, 2021

Appointing Jessica McClay to the Planning Commission.

Authorizing the Mayor to accept and sign the 2021-2022 Winter Services Agreement and Exhibits.

Authorizing the proper city officials to take any and all necessary actions related to accepting the insurance package submitted by Joyce Insurance Group which includes, but is not limited to, property, equipment, general liability, auto, fidelity bond crime, public officials, law enforcement, firefighters, paramedics, professional fiduciary cyber liability, and professional liability for the Health Department.

Authorizing the proper city officials to take any and all necessary actions related to the purchase of five (5) Police Interceptor SUV's and one (1) Police Interceptor for a price not to exceed \$295,000.00. The vehicles are being purchased through Pennsylvania's cooperative purchasing program (Costars).

Reappointing Bernard Mengerhausen to the Wilkes-Barre Finance Authority.

Reappointing Susan Mengerhausen to the Industrial Development Authority.

Reappointing Larry Newman to the Industrial Development Authority.

Reappointing Sue Strassman to the Planning Commission.

Reappointing Jean Brodie to the Planning Commission.

Reappointing Larry Singleton to the Planning Commission.

Reappointing Joseph Thomas to the Planning Commission.

Appointing Anthony Thomas to the Planning Commission.

Appointing Harry Cropp II to the Shade Tree Commission.

Appointing Denise Acosta to the Human Relations Commission.

Appointing Samantha Chichetti to the Human Relations Commission.

MINUTES

Of the Wilkes-Barre Planning Commission of July 21, 2021.

Of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority of May 18, 2021.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of July 15, 2021.



CITY COUNCIL

August 17, 2021

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on August 17, 2021, at 6:21 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 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 C. Brown, Mayor
Darren Snyder, Controller
Butch Frati, Director of Operations/Deputy Administrator
Tim Henry, City Attorney
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 to support the Resolution appointing Mr. Cropp to the Shade Tree Commission and the Resolution relative to accepting the insurance package and purchasing police cars.

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

RESOLUTION NO. R0048-21

Whereas, Article II, Section 22-17 of Chapter 22 of the City of Wilkes-Barre Code of Ordinances provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the approval of City Council, members to the Planning Commission.

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to appoint a person to complete the unexpired term of former Planning Commission member Barry Payne;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby appointed to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre to complete the unexpired term of former Planning Commission member Barry Payne:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Begins</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Jessica McClay 463 N. Pennsylvania Ave Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	August 17, 2021	December 31, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. R0049-21

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 2021-2022 Winter Services Agreement and Exhibits on its behalf. (Contract #3900038250, Year 5 of 5)

RESOLUTION NO. R0050-21

That, the proper city officials are hereby authorized to take any and all necessary actions related to the purchase of five (5) Police Interceptor SUV's and one (1) Police Interceptor for a price not to exceed \$295,000.00 The vehicles are being purchased through Pennsylvania's cooperative purchasing program (COSTARS).

RESOLUTION NO. R0051-21

Whereas, Article V, Section 5:08 of the City's Home Rule Charter provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of City Council, members to Boards and Authorities:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre, that the City Council hereby accepts the recommendation of Mayor George C. Brown for the following reappointment:

Wilkes-Barre Finance Authority

Term Expiration

Bernard Mengerlinghausen
139 S. Hancock Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

08-17-23

RESOLUTION NO. R0052-21

Whereas, Article V, Section 5:08 of the City's Home Rule Charter provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of City Council, members to Boards and Authorities:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre, that the City Council hereby accepts the recommendation of Mayor George C. Brown for the following appointment:

Industrial Development Authority

Term Expiration

Susan Mengerlinghausen
139 S. Hancock Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

12-31-25

RESOLUTION NO. R0053-21

Whereas, Article V, Section 5:08 of the City's Home Rule Charter provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of City Council members to Boards and Authorities:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre, that the City Council hereby accepts the recommendation of Mayor George C. Brown for the following reappointment:

Industrial Development Authority

Term Expiration

Larry Newman
228 S. Franklin Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

12-31-25

RESOLUTION NO. R0054-21

Whereas, Article II, Section 22-17 of Chapter 22 of the City of Wilkes-Barre Code of Ordinances provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the approval of City Council, members to the Planning Commission:

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to re-appoint the person named below to the Planning Commission;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby reappointed to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Sue Strassman 151 New Mallory Place Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	December 31, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. R0055-21

Whereas, Article III, Section 22-17 of Chapter 22 of the City of Wilkes-Barre Code of the Ordinances provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the approval of City Council, members to the Planning Commission:

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to re-appoint the person named below to the Planning Commission;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby reappointed to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Jean Brodie-Druby 282 Parrish Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	December 31, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. R0056-21

Whereas, Article II, Section 22-17 of Chapter 22 of the City of Wilkes-Barre Code of Ordinances provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the approval of City Council, members to the Planning Commission:

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to re-appoint the person named below to the Planning Commission;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby reappointed to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Larry Singleton 407 E. Northampton Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	December 31, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. R0057-21

Whereas, Article II, Section 22-17 of Chapter 22 of the City of Wilkes-Barre Code of Ordinances provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the approval of City Council, members to the Planning Commission:

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to re-appoint the person named below to the Planning Commission;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby reappointed to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Joseph Thomas 34 S. Main Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	December 31, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. R0058-21

Whereas, Article II, Section 22-17 of Chapter 22 of the City of Wilkes-Barre Code of Ordinances provides that the Mayor shall appoint with the approval of City Council, members to the Planning Commission.

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to re-appoint the person named below to the Planning Commission;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby appointed to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
-------------	---------------------

Anthony Thomas
18 Oakley Lane
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

December 31, 2023

Mr. Thomas is replacing Len Cornish whose term expired in 2016.

RESOLUTION NO. R0059-21

Whereas, Section 31-21 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Wilkes-Barre established a Shade Tree Commission for the City of Wilkes-Barre;

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to appoint the person referenced below to the Shade Tree Commission of the City;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby appointed as a member of the Shade Tree Commission:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Harry Cropp 79 Anthracite Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	12-31-24

Mr. Cropp is replacing Michael J. Steinburg who retired.

RESOLUTION NO. R0060-21

Whereas, Article V, Section 5:08 of the City's Home Rule Charter provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of City Council, members to Boards, Commissions, and Authorities:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre, that the City Council hereby accepts the recommendation of Mayor George C. Brown for the following appointment to the Human Relations Commission:

Human Relations Commission	Term Expiration
Denise Acosta 145 N. Sherman Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	02-23-23

Ms. Acosta is replacing Ronald Felton whose term expired on 2-23-20.

RESOLUTION NO. R0061-21

Whereas, Article V, Section 5:08 of the City’s Home Rule Charter provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of City Council, members to Boards, Commissions, and Authorities:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre, that the City Council hereby accepts the recommendation of Mayor George C. Brown for the following appointment to the Human Relations Commission:

Human Relations Commission	Term Expiration
Samantha Chichetti 378 S. River Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	03-03-24

Ms. Chichetti is replacing William V. Lewis, III whose term expired on 03-09-18.

MINUTES

Of the Wilkes-Barre Planning Commission of July 21, 2021.

Of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority of May 18, 2021.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of July 15, 2021.

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

Nays none.

Mr. Brooks recognized Samantha Chichetti, Jean Brody-Druby and Jessica McClay for being present at the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. R0062-21

That, the proper city officials are hereby authorized to take any and all necessary actions related to accepting the insurance package submitted by the Joyce Insurance Group which includes, but is not limited to, property, equipment, general liability, auto, fidelity bond crime, public officials, law enforcement, firefighters, paramedics, professional fiduciary cyber liability, and professional liability for the Health Department.

Mr. Belusko moved to adopt the Resolution.

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

Yeas Barrett, Belusko, Marconi and Brooks (Chairperson) - 4 - being a majority of the members elected to City Council.

Nays none.

Abstain - McBride - 1.

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Barrett said he has received some complaints about the Wilkes-Barre Bears organization leaving equipment, barriers, ropes and trash at Parsons Park after games on Sunday. He said it is great to see the kids there, but they have to remember it is a city park and they have a responsibility to clean up. He mentioned that it also makes it difficult for the Department of Public Works to cut the grass.

Mr. Marconi stated that he thinks with Brian Ferry's experience would be an asset to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Marconi asked the Mayor who the auditor will be for the American Rescue Plan.

Mayor Brown said they have received some applications and are in the process of reviewing them.

Mr. Marconi asked if the Administration could provide informational packets to the landlords, who rent to college students, on garbage pickup and the new recycling program.

Mr. Frati said that information has been sent in the past and Wilkes and Kings' Administrations have schooled their students who live off campus.

Mayor said he would be happy to run another ad in the paper explaining the garbage and recycling pickup.

Mr. Brooks suggested sending the information to the colleges and have them send a separate email to the students.

Mrs. McBride asked to have the weeds and growth cut at the former Mayflower Little League and the wooden benches disposed of.

Mrs. McBride asked if the city makes money on the White Good Pickup and if not, how much does it cost the city.

Mr. Frati responded that historically it wasn't a huge money maker, but it didn't cost the city anything. He added that this time the city received a grant from the county that will offset some of the costs.

Mrs. McBride said she saw the city is advertising for a Human Resource Assistant. She said a similar job was posted a few years ago at a lower salary and asked if it is the same position and if it is in the budget.

Mayor Brown said the job is not in this year's budget and there is a difference between the two positions. The one that is posted now will be a coordinator, it is not a clerical position as previously advertised. The Mayor also pointed out that part of this position is being paid for by a grant.

Mrs. McBride asked if there is an end date for the grant.

Mayor Brown said he didn't have the information. He said they are in the process of applying for the grant now, and it has to be filed by next week. He said the city is going to get the money, but in the grant, we have to determine where the monies are going to go and this is part of it.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

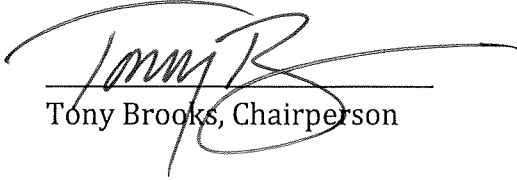
Greg Griffen, Blight Committee, Swoyersville, PA appeared before Council to give an update on the Blight Committee, abandoned/junk vehicles, the new block captain program and the homeless population.

Brian Ferry, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the infrastructure bill and to thank the Fire Department for taking care of an issue in front of his home.

Mr. Brooks suggested that Mr. Ferry attend a Diamond City Partnership meeting.

Martin Dartoe, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council to thank the Mayor for the opportunity to serve on a city board or authority.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



Tony Brooks, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Cathy Payne, City Clerk