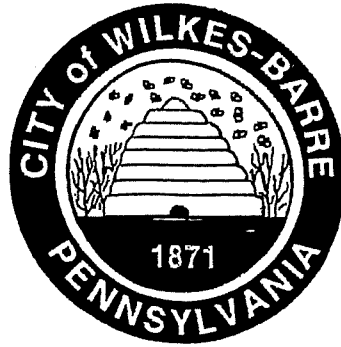


CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

JANUARY 12, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 12, 2023

RESOLUTIONS

Authorizing the proper city officials to sign any and all necessary documents related to awarding the contract with the lowest responsible bidder, Brdaric Excavating Inc., in the amount of \$79,000 (seventy-nine thousand dollars and zero cents) for the demolition of 440-442-444-446-448-450 South Franklin Street properties. The payment related thereto be made from a grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

Authorizing the proper city officials sign any and all necessary documents related to awarding the contract for fuel supply (and related services) to PSC for a three (3) year period beginning in 2023.

MINUTES

Of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority of November 15, 2022.

Of the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre of November 16, 2022.

Of the Zoning Hearing Board of the City of Wilkes-Barre of November 16, 2022.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of December 20, 2022.

CITY COUNCIL

January 12, 2023

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on January 12, 2023, 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.

Councilman Bill Barrett read the opening prayer.

Roll Call:

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

Also Present:

George C. Brown, Mayor
Tim Henry, City Attorney
Charles McCormick, City Administrator
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 relative to the contract for fuel supply (PSC) and the demolition of 440-450 South Franklin Street.

Mayor Brown explained that the properties on South Franklin Street have been deemed a danger by a structural engineer.

Mayor Brown told Mr. Troy that PSC was the only bidder for the fuel supply.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. R0003-23 to and including the minutes appeared on the Consent Agenda (Resolutions).

RESOLUTION NO. R0003-23

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre has publicly advertised for bidders related to the demolition of 440-442, 444-446, 448-450 South Franklin Street properties; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to sign any and all necessary documents related to awarding the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Brdaric Excavating Inc. in the amount of \$79,000.000 (Seventy-nine thousand dollars and zero cents) for the demolition of 440-442, 444-446, 448-450 South Franklin Street properties; and

Be It Further Resolved that the payment related thereto be made from a grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

RESOLUTION NO. R0004-23

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre has publicly advertised for bidders for fuel supply (and related services) for a three (3) year period beginning in 2023;

Whereas, Petroleum Service Company ("PSC") was the only entity to submit a bid:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre the proper City officials are hereby authorized to sign any and all necessary documents related to awarding the contract to fuel supply (and related services) to PSC for a three (3) year period beginning in 2023.

MINUTES

Of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority of November 15, 2022.

Of the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre of November 16, 2022.

Of the Zoning Hearing Board of the City of Wilkes-Barre of November 16, 2022.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of December 20, 2022.

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

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

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

Nays none.

COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Marconi asked if someone could look into the car driving on the sidewalk on North Main Street. Mr. Marconi said that he sent a video to the Administration.

Mr. Marconi asked for updates on the following (at the next Council meeting):

- North Washington Street Bridge
- Sterling Hotel Project
- Sphere Hotel Project
- ARP balance

Mr. Barrett asked about the recent pave cuts on Scott Street that were done under an emergency situation and others that were done in the fall that are falling apart. He asked if the utility companies can be made to make permanent repairs this time of year or do we have to wait until April or May. He said he doesn't agree with the companies leaving main streets in the condition that they are. Mr. Barrett added that he has a list of cuts that he will send to the Administration.

Mayor Brown said that the city is having several issues with some of the utility companies. He said that the Administration has been in contact with them multiple times and we told them if it they don't repair the cuts the right way, the city will do it and bill them for the work.

Mr. Belusko asked if the potholes he submitted on New Alexander Street are on the Administration's list.

Ms. Sanfilippo replied that they are still on the list for repair.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Ronald Felton, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the Wilkes-Barre Police Advisory Committee (is it active, staffed and do they meet).

Mayor Brown said the committee is still active and there are openings on it. The Mayor said he is trying to put people on the committee that represent all the diversities in the city.

Greg Griffen, Swoyersville, PA appeared before Council to give an update on the Citizens Blight Committee.

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to adopting the Homestead Act, giving more time to pay property taxes and offering a discount to senior citizens and people on fixed incomes, budget cuts, Sterling property project and the Northampton Street project (Sphere).

Mayor Brown explained that the Sphere project is in litigation. The construction was halted because of a law suit that is going on. The Mayor also explained that the city has been meeting on the Sterling property regarding funding. He said the Administration is continuing to work on it.

John Suchoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the City hiring African Americans and Hispanic people to work in City Hall, the Sterling property project, police department being on a National TV Show and the Washington Street Bridge.

Mr. Marconi said for the record, he was not on Council when the Sterling Hotel property project was voted on.

Mayor Brown said that people need to apply for the jobs that are open. The positions are listed on the city's website.

Mayor Brown said the Administration has a meeting tomorrow with PennDOT relative to the Washington Street Bridge.

Mr. Barrett said he is hopeful to see the Sterling property move forward. He said he believes the \$10,000 change in funding was due to an issue with the Parking Authority and use of the land for parking.

Bob Kadluboski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council to play an audio recording of a police call.

Mr. Belusko told Mr. Kadluboski that he could not play the recording due to the obscene language.

Mr. Belusko asked the police officer to remove Mr. Kadluboski from the meeting.

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



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Belusko", written over a horizontal line.

Mike Belusko, Chairperson

ATTEST:



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cathy Payne", written over a horizontal line.

Cathy Payne, City Clerk

