

CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 12, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS/MINUTES)

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 12, 2023

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS/MINUTES)

Authorizing the proper city officials to sign any and all necessary documents related to awarding the contract to the lowest responsible bidder for 2023 various street paving project to Pennsy Supply in the amount of \$960,463.00. Streets (or portions thereof) being paved are: McClean to Poplar to Arch Streets, Caffery from Solomon to cul-de-sac, Cumiskey from Solomon to Nicholson Streets, North Main from Hollenback to Linden Streets, North Main from Linden to Chase Lane. Payment to be made from the CDBG and Liquid Fuels.

Acknowledging the city's Emergency Operations Plan ("EOP") and Notification and Resource Manual ("NARMS") that will be updated to include Standard Operating Procedures for Solomon's Creek High Water Surveillance and Flood Gate Operations.

Authorizing the proper city officials to sign any and all necessary documents related to the purchase of computers for the Health Department from CDW-G for a purchase price of \$35,100.00. This purchase is being made through a Pennsylvania Cooperative Purchasing Program ("COSTARS") using Public Health Emergency Preparedness ("PHEP") grant funds.

MINUTES

Of the Parking Authority of the City of Wilkes-Barre meeting of August 15, 2023.

Of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority meeting of July 18, 2023.

Of the Planning Commission meeting of August 16, 2023.

Of the Traffic Committee meeting of August 24, 2023.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of September 14, 2023.

Of the Board of Revision of Taxes and Appeals of September 14, 2023.

CITY COUNCIL

October 12, 2023

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on October 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.

Council member Bill Barrett read the opening prayer.

Roll Call:

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

Also Present:

George Brown, Mayor
Tim Henry, City Attorney
Charles McCormick, City Administrator
Cathy Payne, City Clerk
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant

City Clerk Cathy Payne read a statement relative to Council's rules and procedures.

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

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to purchasing computers for the Health Department and the 2023 street paving project.

Mr. Belusko said that Council is very happy that the city is spending almost a million dollars on paving streets.

Linda Joseph, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before council to thank the city for the 2023 street paving project and purchasing computers for the Health Department.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. R0072-23 to and including the minutes appeared on the Consent Agenda (Resolutions/Minutes).

RESOLUTION NO. R0072-23

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre advertised for bid 2023 various street paving project.

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 for 2023 various street paving projects to Pennsy Supply in the amount of \$960,463.00, (nine hundred sixty thousand, four hundred sixty-three dollars and zero cents).

Streets (or portions thereof) being paved are:

- McLean from Poplar to Arch
- Caffrey from Solomon to the cul-de-sac
- Cumiskey from Solomon to Nicholson
- North Main from Hollenback to Linden
- North Main from Linden to Chase Lane

Payment to be made from CDBG and Liquid Fuels.

RESOLUTION NO. R0073-23

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre remains prepared for natural and/or man-made disasters affecting the city through its Emergency Operations Plan ("EOP") as well as its Notification and Resources Manual ("NARMS");

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre hereby acknowledges that the city's Emergency Operations Plan will be updated to include Standard Operating Procedures for Solomon's Creek High Water Surveillance and Flood Gate Operations.

Be It Further Resolved, that the City Clerk's office shall retain an updated copy of the city's EOP and NARMS.

RESOLUTION NO. R0074-23

Be It Resolved, that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to sign any and all necessary documents related to the purchase of computers for the Health Department from CDW-G for a purchase price of \$35,100.00. This purchase is being made through a Pennsylvania Cooperative Purchasing Program ("COSTARS") using Public Health Workforce Development Grant.

MINUTES

Of the Parking Authority of the City of Wilkes-Barre meeting of August 15, 2023.

Of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority meeting of July 18, 2023.

Of the Planning Commission meeting of August 16, 2023.

Of the Traffic Committee meeting of August 24, 2023.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of September 14, 2023.

Of the Board of Revision of Taxes and Appeals of September 14, 2023.

Mr. Brooks moved to adopt the Consent Agenda (Resolutions/Minutes).

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

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

Nays none.

Absent - Gilbert - 1.

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Brooks thanked the reporters for the newspaper articles written he discussed on Tuesday regarding the Zebulon Butler House. The next morning, he received an apology from Wilkes University, and they replaced the flowers that were stolen. A volunteer in the neighborhood replaced the sign that was stolen, and the Dean of Students called the girls that live next door in and reprimanded them.

Mr. Marconi asked if the city will be picking up leaves this year and if so, is there a schedule.

Mayor Brown asked Council members to provide the Administration with a list of the streets in their districts that need leaves picked up. He said the leaf vacuum truck will be going out into the neighborhoods in about 2 weeks.

Mr. Barrett said the problem with the leaves is that they are blocking up the storm drains already. He said he likes to see residents cleaning drains in front of their homes and added that the city picks up the leaves, so it wouldn't be an expense for anyone.

Mr. Belusko agreed with Mr. Barrett about residents cleaning storm drains in front of their homes.

Eugene Wallace, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the city roads, trash cans and sidewalks.

Attorney Henry told Mr. Wallace that sidewalks are the responsibility of the abutting property owner.

Mr. McCormick said the city has spent over seven million dollars over the last three years on street repairs and that doesn't include the streets the utility companies paved. He added that Washington Street is a water company project; they are replacing a 130-year-old line that is going down the street. He said they are about 75% finished, but the street will be paved from Union to South Street.

John Suchoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the Special meeting held regarding LSA Grants.

Mr. Belusko said the LSA grant applications came in too late for the Regular meeting of Council, so a Special meeting was held to approve them. The grant applications were done by the end of September.

Mr. Brooks added that the reason it was held at noon was because it was the best time for all Council members.

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the Special meeting held regarding LSA grants, committing ARP funding to the Sterling Hotel project, employees' pensions (including overtime) and a controller's report at every other meeting.

Mayor Brown confirmed that the city has not made any financial commitment to the Sterling project.

Mayor Brown explained the way that overtime is distributed in the different unions is part of the collective bargaining agreements. The city has to adhere to those agreements; any changes have to be negotiated.

Mr. Troy asked if the city could renegotiate the collective bargaining agreements.

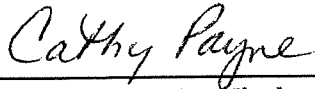
Mayor Brown replied that this year there are four union contracts that are either in the process or have been completed.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.



Mike Belusko, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Cathy Payne, City Clerk