

CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

Formally support Senate Bill 625 and recommend that it be passed and made law. (SB625 allows political subdivisions to regulate the possession of firearms on property owned, operated or maintained by political subdivisions)

Authorizing the proper city officials to enter into an agreement with Witmer Public Safety Group for the purchase of Fire Turnout Gear in the amount of \$40,202.00 (Payment will come from the Community Development Office).

MINUTES

Of the Traffic Committee Meeting of August 22, 2019.

Of the Planning Commission of August 21, 2019.

Of the Zoning Hearing Board of July 17, 2019.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of August 15, 2019.

RESOLUTIONS

Reappointing Barry A. Payne to the Planning Commission.

Reappointing Francis "Thomas" Collis to the Traffic Committee.

ORDINANCE

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 11 OF 2019 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5 OF THE WILKES-BARRE CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "ANIMALS AND FOWL". (SECOND AND FINAL READING)

CITY COUNCIL

September 12, 2019

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on September 12, 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	- present
Gilbert-McBride	- present
Merritt	- present
Barrett, Vice Chairperson	- present
Belusko, Chairperson	- present

Also Present:

Rick Gazenski, City Administrator
Maureen Collins, Assistant City Attorney
Cathy Payne, Assistant City Clerk
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant
Jim Ryan, City Clerk

Mr. Belusko offered an apology for allowing a resident to make personal attacks on other residents at last month's meeting and for his lack of action to stop it.

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

Mr. Ryan asked if there was anyone wishing to address Council on pending legislation.

Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to File of Council No. 11 of 2019 (Animals & Fowl), the Resolutions authorizing the purchase of Fire Turnout Gear (RFP's) and Supporting Senate Bill 625.

Angel Mathis, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the Resolution authorizing the purchase of Fire Turnout Gear.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. R0070-19 to and including the minutes appeared on the Consent Agenda (Resolutions).

RESOLUTION NO. R0070-19

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre believes municipalities should be allowed to regulate the possession of firearms on property it owns or maintains if they so choose;

Whereas, regulating firearms would help to protect city employees, city officials and members of the public who use city property for various purposes;

Whereas, Senate Bill 625 of 2019 ("SB625") was introduced by Senator Maria Collet earlier this year;

Whereas, SB625 would allow political subdivisions to regulate the possession of firearms on property owned, operated or maintained by political subdivisions;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre hereby formally supports SB625 and recommends that it be passed and made law.

RESOLUTION NO. R0071-19

Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous to purchase Fire Fighter Turnout Gear from Witmer Public Safety Group, Inc. through the PA COSTARS contract #012-013 for the Bureau of Fire.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre, that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Witmer Public Safety Group, Inc., 104 Independence Way, Coatesville, PA 19320 for the purchase of Fire Turnout Gear in the amount of \$40,202.00.

Payment will come from the Community Development Office.

MINUTES

Of the Traffic Committee Meeting of August 22, 2019.

Of the Planning Commission of August 21, 2019.

Of the Zoning Hearing Board of July 17, 2019.

Of the Regular Session of City Council of August 15, 2019.

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, Gilbert-McBride, Merritt, Barrett and Belusko (Chairperson) – 5 – being all of the members elected to City Council.

Nays none.

RESOLUTION NO. R0072-19

Whereas, Section 5:08 of the City Charter of the City of Wilkes-Barre authorizes the Mayor, with the advice and consent of City Council, to appoint members of Boards, Commissions and Authorities served by the City;

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

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby reappointed for the term referenced below as a member to the Planning Commission of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Begins</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Barry A. Payne 126 Crescent Avenue Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	January 1, 2020	December 31, 2023

Mr. Belusko moved to adopt the Resolution.

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

Yeas Brooks, Barrett, and Belusko (Chairperson) – 3 – being a majority of the members elected to City Council.

Nays Gilbert-McBride and Merritt – 2.

RESOLUTION NO. R0073-19

Whereas, it is the desire of the City of Wilkes-Barre to reappoint the person referenced below to an additional term on the Traffic Committee;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following person is hereby reappointed as a member of the Wilkes-Barre City Traffic Committee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Francis "Thomas" Collis 70 Grove Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	September 10, 2023

Mr. Brooks moved to adopt the Resolution.

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

Yeas Brooks, Barrett and Belusko (Chairperson) – 3 – being a majority of members elected to City Council.

Nays Gilbert-McBride and Merritt – 2.

ORDINANCE

FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 11 OF 2019 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5 OF THE WILKES-BARRE CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED “ANIMALS AND FOWL”. (SECOND AND FINAL READING)

Mr. Belusko moved to adopt the Ordinance.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gilbert-McBride and adopted by the following yea and nay vote:

Yeas Brooks, Gilbert-McBride, Merritt, Barrett and Belusko (Chairperson) – 5 – being all of the member elected to City Council.

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mrs. Gilbert-McBride asked that the crosswalk in front of Head Start on Beekman Street be painted.

Mrs. Gilbert-McBride told Mr. Gazenski that there have been a lot of issues lately on East Northampton Street with tractor trailers speeding. She requested an officer at the corner of East Northampton and South Sherman Street to monitor it.

Mr. Merritt requested Mr. Frati's attendance at the next City Council meeting.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mary Ellen Jones, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the Quality of Life Ordinance (overgrown vines on a house).

John Suchoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the Hotel Sterling project (grants, zoning application, terms for property, reverter clause, contributions from George Albert) and downtown business delivery times not being enforced.

Mr. Gazenski said that in late November early December, the Administration met on the site and were told that it would be 19 months before the site would start to be developed.

Mrs. Gilbert-McBride said she voted against the project because she didn't believe it when they said they wouldn't seek any grant money. She said she asked that a reverter clause be put in the agreement, but doesn't know if it was ever done.

Mrs. Gilbert-McBride agreed that the downtown deliveries are becoming more of a problem. She said they may be getting fined, but it is not enough. She said the City needs to look into raising that fine.

Mr. Gazenski said it was discussed that deliveries should be made between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. or no later than 10 a.m. to anyone downtown and then after 6:00 p.m., so if they are receiving deliveries during the off hours the Administration will have Parking Enforcement look into it.

Mrs. Gilbert-McBride asked if they are allowed to block traffic completely when making deliveries.

Mr. Gazenski said he doesn't think they are allowed to block traffic.

Angel Mathis, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to motorized bikes and scooters on sidewalks, Kings' College students (noise) and cars parking too close to the corner.

Jason Carr, Saylorsburg, PA appeared before Council relative to the Sterling Hotel Project, Sphere International (South Main Street Project), clean streets, safe neighborhoods, fiscal responsibility and purchasing a property in Mrs. Gilbert-McBride's district for a police sub-station.

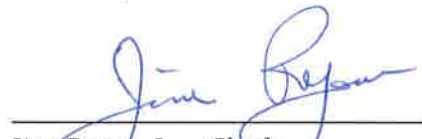
James Walsh, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the American Flag not being displayed downtown.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



Mike Belusko, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Jim Ryan, City Clerk