

CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 20, 2020

SPECIAL MEETING

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

RESOLUTION – Extending the State of Emergency issued by Mayor Brown for a period of thirty days or until the same is formally lifted by Executive Order by of the Mayor.

PRESENTATIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL

March 20, 2020

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Special Session on March 20, 2020 at 11:00 a.m., at the City Hall Parking Lot, rear of 40 East Market Street, Wilkes-Barre, 18711, for the sole purpose of consideration of a Resolution extending Mayor George C. Brown's Proclamation of a State of Emergency.

The meeting was organized with Chairperson Bill Barrett in the Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

Roll Call:

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

Also Present:

George Brown, Mayor
Jay Delaney, Fire Chief
Butch Frati, Deputy Administrator/Director of Operations
Charles McCormick, City Administrator
Tim Henry, City Attorney
Cathy Payne, Assistant City Clerk
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant
Jim Ryan, City Clerk

Mayor Brown discussed the following:

1. The City will be relaxing parking meter enforcement around businesses that are providing takeout and/or delivery service.
2. Encourage city employees to frequent local businesses.
3. Requesting Council's approval to support his recommendation regarding changing the scheduled tax payments. Each payment will be due 30 days later than the original date. (New dates – May 3rd, June 4th and July 3rd). Anyone paying taxes in full the new date will also be extended by 30 days (June 4th).
4. The city has given local hospitals over 1,000 masks (W-B General Hospital and Geisinger South Wilkes-Barre).

The City Clerk asked if there was anyone wishing to address Council on pending legislation. There being no one the meeting continued with general business.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. R0024-20

A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF WILKES-BARRE

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Mayor George C. Brown issued an Executive Order and Proclamation of State of Emergency in the City of Wilkes-Barre to mitigate the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, 11 Pa.C.S.A. Sect. 11203(e)(1) provides that a “state of emergency shall not exceed five (5) days, unless extended by council.”;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre believes an extension of the Executive Order and Proclamation of State of Emergency issued by Mayor Brown is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of city residents, visitors, and people who are employed in the city;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre that the above-referenced *STATE OF EMERGENCY* is hereby extended for a period of thirty (30) days or until the same is formally lifted by Executive Order of the Mayor.

Mr. Brooks moved to adopt the Resolution.

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

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

Nays none.

COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Belusko asked the residents of Wilkes-Barre to adhere to the Federal, State, County and Local government guidelines and practice social distancing.

Mr. Marconi said the residents of the city need to stay safe and follow the guidelines so that we can all get through this.

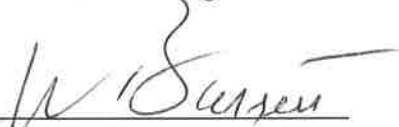
Mrs. McBride stressed the importance of practicing social distancing and added that the quicker the residents adhere to these guidelines the quicker we can get through this.

Mr. Barrett announced that we will be altering the City Council meeting schedule. The new dates will be announced once Council decides what works best for everyone. He added that Work Sessions and Regular Sessions will most likely be combined until the emergency ends.

Steve Mocarsky, Citizens Voice Reporter, asked if the Health Department has the authority to release information about people in Wilkes-Barre that have contracted the virus, such as age, sex and how they caught it.

Mr. McCormick said they will have to check into it and talk with Mr. Radulski, Director of the Health Department.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.



Bill Barrett, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Jim Ryan, City Clerk

