

**LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
TUESDAY OCTOBER 15, 2024
LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA**

Mayor Bartels called to order the Public Hearing of Latrobe City Council at 6:30 p.m.
**Amending Chapter 132, Amendments to City Code Abandoned and Vacant Property.
Blighted Property Tax Abatement for Section 51-64 of the Code of Latrobe**

Citizens Request - None

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:32 P.M. with a motion by Mr. Yuhaniak seconded by Mr. Jenko. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Bartels informed the public that the council had an Executive Session before the meeting to discuss personnel.

Mayor Bartels called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Mayor Bartels asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Bartels asked all for a moment of silence.

Janina Hall read Roll Call:

Deputy Mayor Ralph Jenko – present

Jim Kelley – present

Ann Amatucci –absent

Bridget DiVittis – absent

William Yuhaniak – present

Dawn Vavick – present

Mayor Eric Bartels - present

Also present were the following: Lee Demosky, Solicitor; Richard Bosco, Police Chief; John Brasile, Fire Chief; Terry Carcella, City Manager; Scott Wajdic, Public Works Director; Robert Daerr, Police Captain and Dan Weimer, Code/Zoning Officer.

Ms. Vavick moved to approve the meeting minutes from September 9, 2024, seconded by Mr. Jenko. Approved 5-0.

Mr. Kelly moved to approve the Fiscal Department Reports seconded by Mr. Yuhaniak. Mr. Jenko questioned The Payroll Report. Mr. Kelly made a motion to amend the motion on the floor confirming activity.

CITIZENS' REQUEST (related to agenda)

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – Bartels, Jenko, and Kelley - No report.

Public Safety and Fire Committee – Kelley, Vavick – No report.

Public Works Committee – DiVittis, Vavick – No report.
Personnel Committee – Bartels and Jenko – No report.

Renovation Committee – Jenko, Yuhaniak, Amatucci – No report.

Events Committee – Amatucci, Yuhaniak, Vavick – Ms. Vavick reported that The Farmers Market ended on October 8th. On Thursday, November 28th the Turkey Trot will be held, and The Holly Jolly will take place on Saturday, December 7th.

GLSD Student Showcase Committee – Mayor Bartels, DiVittis – No report. Mayor Bartels reached out to the School District.

BOARD AND AUTHORITY REPORTS

LMA - No report

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM SEPTEMBER 2024

Treasurer's Report See attachment "A"

Police Report See attachment "B"

Public Works Report See attachment "C"

Fire Report See attachment "D"

Code Report See attachment "E"

Tax Collector's Report See attachment "F"

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Department

Police Chief, Richard Bosco – Chief Bosco reported that the department had 385 calls for service, in addition to 200 walk-ins. 624 total police interactions, eleven arrest warrants were served, two overdose investigations were initiated, eight accident investigations, 100 traffic stops, 23 traffic citations issued, 37 criminal arrests increasing the year-to-date total to 252 and two search warrants. Two new cases were opened with the Westmoreland County Drug Task Force.

Public Works Department

Public Works Director, Scott Wajdic – Mr. Wajdic reported that the fall paving is complete, Tudi had started on the HVAC system, Public Works completed the re-painting for crosswalks and yellow caution lights were installed. Public Works is gearing up for leaf-collecting season. Staff will be following residents' garbage pickup cycle to collect leaves. Workers will just follow the garbage truck for the leaf pickup.

Fire Department

Fire Chief, John Brasile – Chief Brasile reported that the fire department had a slow month. A meter socket malfunctioned on Lloyd Avenue and 2 main connects were pulled, power was restored within a day or two. No storm calls. The department will patrol during Trick or Treat. In addition, the department is getting ready for Veteran's Day Parade, Turkey Trot and Holly Jolly.

Code/Zoning Department

Code Enforcement Officer, Dan Weimer reported code office received ninety-eight calls, twelve complaints, issued 50 QC tickets, twenty -two of the calls were unfounded, twenty-five pending corrections for previous months, twenty-five corrections pending month of September and two referred to the Police Department.

Permits issued: two new buildings, five repair/remodeling, one demolition, five zoning letters, three requests for rat poison, two firepits, and eight zoning permits.

Mr. Weimer stated that the implementation of new permitting software continues, and stormwater management billing will be added on schedule. Also reported one demolition permit for Sheetz on Route 982 for future teardown and rebuilding of the business. Most of the work will be weather dependent. Smart Gov Code Software is going slower than normal. Masonic building getting updated AT & T towers.

PUBLIC WORKS / PERSONNEL

MOTION

Mr. Carcella reported that Penn Prime is satisfied with Solicitor Demosky's exemptions. Motion to Approve Latrobe Seat Belt Policy. Mr. Yuhaniak made a motion seconded by Mr. Jenko. Motion carried 5-0

MOTION

Motion to end Snyder Lot Lease Agreement. Ms. Vavick made a motion seconded by Mr. Yuhaniak. Motion carried 5-0.

MOTION

Motion to Advertise for Part Time Code Officer. Mr. Kelly made a motion seconded by Mr. Jenko. Motion carried. 5-0.

RESOLUTION #2024-30

Motion to Approve, Hire and Appointment of Andrw Ong as Full Time Police Officer with the City of Latrobe Police Department. No discussion. Mr. Kelly made a motion seconded by Mr. Yuhaniak. Motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

MOTION

Motion to Approve Christmas Parking starting November 30th. Ms. Vavick made a motion choosing Option D – Leave everything in place and offer no discounts for the season. Motion seconded by Mr. Jenko. Motion failed 3-2.

Option B – Remove the on-street meters and 4 meters in all lots and place a red or green ribbon on the poles for the same dates noted above for recalibration of the meters. Mr. Jenko made a motion seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2024-8

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 132 – Property Maintenance of the City Code of the City of Latrobe, County of Westmoreland, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania” Mr. Jenko was not present for the vote. Mr. Kelly made the motion seconded by Mr. Yuhaniak. Motion carried 4-0.

ORDINANCE 2024-9

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 51-65, Article VI of The City Code of the City of Latrobe, County of Westmoreland, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Mr. Jenko was not present for the vote. Mr. Yuhaniak made the motion seconded by Ms. Vavick. Vote 4-0.

MOTION

Motion to Approve Halloween Trick or Treat on October 26, 2024. Mr. Jenko was not present for the vote. Ms. Vavick made a motion seconded by Mr. Yuhaniak. Motion carried 4-0.

RESOLUTION #2024-31

Resolution Approving Local Share Grant Submittal for Body Cameras. Mr. Bosco stated the equipment that the police department has is almost five years old and minimal retraining involved on the new devices. The car cameras that were installed in the vehicles talk with the body cameras. When an officer is near their vehicle, outside the vehicle talking to somebody and turning on body camera, the car camera automatically starts recording as well. Mayor Bartels asked if there is a procedure in place where an officer immediately turns on body camera as soon as officer steps out of patrol car. Mr. Bosco states if there is an incident-initiated call, public meet or greets, doing community policing, no, because of the amount of video and storage it takes up. Mr. Jenko was absent for the vote. Mr. Yuhaniak made a motion seconded by Mr. Kelly. Vote 4-0.

RESOLUTION #2024-32

Motion Approving Local Share Grant Submittal for Drone for City of Latrobe Police. Mr. Carcella explained even though the city has a drone, we are looking for something to be mounted

on the roof and more available for the fire department to utilize along with the police department. A policy is currently drafted and ready to be reviewed by the police department's solicitor and Captain Daerr has been working on the draft policy. The policy must be constantly modified. Mr. Kelly asked if the drone can be hackable, and Mr. Bosco stated it is encrypted. Mr. Yuhaniak made a motion seconded by Ms. Vavick. Vote 5-0.

RESOLUTION #2024-33

Motion Approving Local Share Grant Submittal for Police Radios. Mr. Carcella reported that the Police Department is seeking grants totaling \$36,900 for police radios. Mr. Kelly made a motion seconded by Mr. Jenko. Vote 5-0.

MOTION

Motion to Approve Replacing Cameras in the Parking Garage. Mr. Carcella reported LV Tech estimates \$9931.45 for the cost. Mr. Jenko made a motion seconded by Mr. Yuhaniak. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW / UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Mr. Jenko had safety concerns for Shop Hop, would like traffic re-routed. Mr. Bosco will have a revised traffic plan in place next year.

Solicitor's Report – No report.

CITIZEN'S REQUEST – Carl Bollinger with Latrobe Municipal Authority stated mitigation act forms were emailed to previous City Secretary Roxanne Shadron and all 911 updates need to be filled out. Joanne Drive flooding. Meeting 1st Thursday every month.

City Manager's Report – No report.

Mayor's Report - No report.

The Regular Meeting of the Council adjourned at 7:52 P.M with a motion by Mr. Jenko seconded by Mr. Yuhaniak. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Meholic, City Secretary