

**LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY MAY 12, 2025
LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA**

Mayor Bartels called to order the Regular Meeting of Latrobe City Council at 6:34 p.m.
Mayor Bartels informed all that an Executive Session was held to discuss a personnel matter.
Mayor Bartels asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.
Mayor Bartels asked all for a moment of silence.
Secretary to Council read Roll Call:

Deputy Mayor Ralph Jenko – present
Jim Kelley – present
Ann Amatucci –present
Bridget DiVittis – present
William Yuhaniak – present
Dawn Vavick – present
Mayor Eric Bartels - present

Also present were the following: Terry Carcella, City Manager; Lee Demosky, Solicitor; Scott Wajdic, Public Works Director; Richard Bosco, Police Chief; Robert Daerr, Captain; John Brasile, Fire Chief; Josh Mayro and Andy Matheny, Code/Zoning Officers and Tim Pisula, Director of Administration and Finance.

Ms. Vavick moved to approve the meeting minutes from the Regular Meeting on April 14, 2025, and the meeting minutes from the Special Voting Meeting on April 28, 2025, seconded by Mr. Yuhaniak. Motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Amatucci moved to approve the Fiscal Department Reports, seconded by Mr. Kelley. Motion carried 7-0.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT

Total Expenses	\$ 704,814.75
Total Payroll	\$ 159,584.98
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 864,399.73

CITIZENS' REQUEST (related to agenda)
None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

Public Works Committee – DiVittis, Vavick and Yuhaniak – No report.

Personnel Committee – Bartels, Amatucci, and Jenko – Mayor Bartels recognized retiree Karen Meholic for her thirty plus years of employment and thanked her for her longevity with The City of Latrobe.

Strategic Planning Committee – Amatucci, Yuhaniak and Jenko – No report.

Events Committee – Amatucci, Yuhaniak and Vavick – Ms. Vavick spoke on Mister Rogers Family Days which will take place on June 2-7, 2025. The event will be a fun family event for everyone.

Mayor Bartels reported a phone call he received from a truck driver who had a complaint on trying to enter downtown Latrobe during Night Market and found the Main Street route was blocked off. Public Works Director Scott Wajdic stated that there are truck route signs posted, and the driver failed to see that Spring Street is the truck route.

GLSD Student Showcase Committee – Bartels, Vavick and DiVittis – Mayor Bartels honored Eva DeSanders as the Spring Showcase Student. Eva is a standout student who is on the National and French Honor Society, a Cheerleader and an active participant in the community.

BOARD AND AUTHORITY REPORTS

LMA – No report.

Zoning and Hearing Board – No report.

Library – Mrs. DiVittis - Mrs. DiVittis stated the library is still looking for an architect for renovations.

Park and Recreation – Mayor Bartels reported that new signs reading “No Dogs Allowed” have been installed at Legion Keener Park. This is to provide comfort and safety for people who have a fear of dogs. The Lincoln Avenue Trail and Creekside Trail are two dog friendly areas residents can use to walk their dogs.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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”

Police Department

Police Chief, Richard Bosco – Chief Bosco reported that the department had 481 calls for service, 200 police interactions via walk ins and phone calls. There were 280 targeted businesses, parks and residential area checks along with 901 police interactions. There were 6 arrest warrants, no overdose investigations and no Narcan incidents. The total for accident

investigations were 6, 25 traffic stops, 21 traffic citations issued, 16 criminal arrests increasing the year-to-date total to 84. There was 1 aggravated assault and no simple assaults. Six non-traffic, 1 theft, 3 DUI's and 2 Narcotics.

Public Works

Public Works Director, Scott Wajdic – Mr. Wajdic reported the spring paving bids were due in on Monday, May 17 by 1 pm. The summer help for the Transfer Station has started and they will be working on cleaning storm grates in catch basins and curb painting. Mr. Wajdic also stated they are getting bids for Avenue D sidewalk repairs. The public works department will be replacing signs that are twisted, faded, rusted or bent and looking into the stormwater projects for the year. With the new sanitation program Mr. Wajdic stated the department is looking at getting equipment lined up and commitments in order before tariffs are put in place.

Fire Department

Fire Chief John Brasile – Chief Brasile spoke how the fire department was busy with the spring storms that moved through the area that caused downed power lines and trees. The Spring Carnival will take place May 20th through May 24th complete with rides and food. Also, the department held an award banquet on May 3rd.

Code/Zoning

Code Enforcement Officers Josh Mayro and Andy Matheny – Josh Mayro stated for the month of April the Code Department issued 12 permits, 4 repair permits, 1 fire pit renewal, 6 zoning permits, 1 UCC building permit and 14 citations were issued. Mr. Mayro stated that he and Mr. Matheny met with Chief Bosco regarding some safety concerns and to get recommendations while walking around town and not having any identification as code officers. Chief Bosco suggested wearing outerwear with the city logo and a dedicated radio so the code officers can contact the police department. It was also recommended to have the clerical truck outfitted with decals and yellow lights. Mr. Mayro and Mr. Matheny have been working closely with the police department to identify nuisance vehicles on the streets and having them removed. ArcGIS is live and housing assessments are being transferred and magistrate letters for violations have been sent out.

Mr. Pisula presented an up-to-date budget versus actual report and was pleased to report that the city's performance was 1 percent over budget during the month of April.

PUBLIC WORKS/PERSONAL

MOTION

Motion to accept the Pennsylvania State Liquid Fuels Audit of 2023. Mr. Kelley made a motion seconded by Mr. Jenko. Motion carried 7-0.

MOTION

Motion to accept road maintenance bids for paving projects for 2025, awarding the bid to Derry Construction. Mr. Yuhaniak made a motion seconded by Mr. Jenko. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion – Mr. Carcella stated there were a couple bids received, one from Derry Construction and the other was Tresco. Derry had the lower bid of \$367,343.95.

MOTION

Motion to accept the resignation of Daniel Weimer as Code Officer effective June 1 and approve an additional 8-week severance pay in exchange for general release. Mr. Kelly made a motion seconded by Mr. Jenko. Motion carried 7-0.

MOTION

Motion to accept the resignation of Tracy Legato. Mr. Yuhaniak made a motion seconded by Mrs. DiVittis. Motion carried 7-0.

MOTION

Motion to approve the purchase of a used sanitation truck and authority to commit between \$100,000 to \$190,000 for Public Works Director Scott Wajdic. Mr. Jenko made a motion seconded by Mrs. Amatucci. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion - Mr. Carcella committed on First Commonwealth Bank giving a loan rate of 5.9 percent for the purchase of a new sanitation truck but Mr. Wadjic had just received a lower rate of 4.7 percent from Commercial Bank and Trust, a difference of 1.2 percent. This motion was decided to be moved to a special voting meeting on May 27.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

MOTION

Motion to approve M O U for with AFSME Local 83. Mr. Kelley made a motion seconded by Mr. Yuhaniak. Motion carried 6-1.

Mayor Bartels spoke on last month's presentation on Chronic Migraine Awareness and made a Proclamation for 2025. June will be Migraine and Headache month, and Mayor Bartels read a statement the organization published giving the recognition. It's estimated that 4 million Americans live with chronic migraines or headache disorders and there is a shortage of headache medicine specialists. Misinformation have historically stifled research, treatment, innovations and public awareness, leaving patients undiagnosed and untreated. Mayor Bartels proclaimed June 2025 as Migraine and Headache Awareness month in the City of Latrobe.

MOTION

Motion to approve Derry Borough and City of Arnold to join the UCC appeals board of Foothills COG. Mr. Jenko made a motion seconded by Ms. Vavick. Motion carried 7-0.

New/Unfinished Business:

Mr. Carcella had a request for a resolution from Land Bank with the City of Latrobe and Latrobe Community Revitalization Program. Mr. Steve Gifford, who represents Latrobe Community Revitalization, explained that Landbank and The City of Latrobe have worked together on several properties and Land Bank has removed structures and either held the properties or sold them to individuals in the city. Latrobe Revitalization has developed new programs. One is, if a structure is on that parcel and it can be saved, funds are secured to stabilize those and then hopefully be able to market them to be purchased by an individual or a small real estate investor that then fixes that property up and then puts it back on the market, making it a productive housing unit or a commercial unit that can be leased. If it is a vacant lot, then Latrobe Revitalization is looking at trying to find an individual that will build a new structure on it and return those tax dollars to the three taxing bodies, the city, the county, and the school district. One of the challenges that Latrobe Revitalization faces is that when an application is submitted for funding, they are asking questions about site control, the Land Bank owns it, but there isn't a partnership agreement between Latrobe Revitalization and Land Bank to be able to secure those funds to invest in a property. Mr. Gifford has been in contact with Brian Lawrence, who is the Executive Director of the Redevelopment Authority and the Land Bank, and asking that a cooperation agreement be developed between the city and the Land Bank for clarification on roles that Latrobe Revitalization plays on behalf of the city, to be able to partner with Land Bank and hopefully move these properties into productive use. A resolution between two entities really isn't legally binding, it's just a statement of intent. Mr. Gifford asked the Mayor and Council to adopt a resolution that clarifies the roles of the city, Land Bank and Latrobe Revitalization.

Solicitor's Report

No report.

CITIZENS REQUEST:

None

City Manager's Report

No report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Bartels was able to attend the fireman's banquet where councilman William Yuhaniak was there as well, but not just as a representative of the city, but a volunteer firefighter. He thanked both Mr. Brasile and Mr. Yuhaniak for their service. Also, Mayor Bartels attended the

Pennsylvania Municipal League conference with Mr. Pisula and Mr. Carcella. This meeting enabled a chance to network with some local municipalities. A plaque was given recognizing the 125 years that the league has been in operation on behalf of municipalities. Mayor Bartels will continue to rely on them going forward for advice, support, advocacy, and support for municipalities.

The Regular Meeting of the Council adjourned at 7:30 P.M. with a motion by Mr. Yuhaniak seconded by Mrs. DiVittis. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Janina Hall, Council Secretary