

**LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2023
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA**

Mayor Bartels called to order the Regular Meeting of Latrobe City Council at 6:30 P.M.

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

Mayor Bartels asked all for a moment of silence.

The City Secretary read Roll Call:

Deputy Mayor Ralph Jenko – present
Robert Forish – present
Jim Kelley – absent
Ann Amatucci – present
Bridget DiVittis – present
William Yuhaniak – absent
Mayor Eric Bartels – present

Also present were the following: Lee Demosky, Solicitor; Richard Bosco, Police Chief; John Brasile, Fire Chief; Scott Wajdic, Public Works Director; Terry Carcella, City Manager; Jim Nieuwsma, Code/Zoning Officer

Mr. Forish moved to approve the August 14, 2023 regular meeting minutes seconded by Mrs. Amatucci. Approved 5-0.

Mr. Forish moved to approve the paid bills/payroll for August 2023 seconded by Mr. Jenko. Approved 5-0.

CITIZENS' REQUEST (related to agenda)

None.

Chief Bosco introduced Representative Rossi which presented a citation from the State of PA to Ofc. Lukon for his heroic actions for protecting the citizens of the City of Latrobe. Rep. Rossi then introduced her staffer, Lisa Davis, and the aunt of Ofc. Zachary Lukon. Miss Davis read the citation to Ofc. Lukon from the state for his bravery and quick action while at a public event, when a food vendor truck started moving without anyone being in the driver's seat. Without hesitation, Ofc. Lukon leaped into action stopping what could have been a catastrophic incident and stopped the truck from going any further.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – Bartels, Jenko, and Kelley – Mayor Bartels stated that all are very optimistic regarding the 2024 budget with a possible vote at the October 2023 regular meeting.

Public Safety and Fire Committee – Forish, Kelley - No report.

Public Works Committee – Forish, DiVittis – No report.

Personnel Committee – Bartels and Jenko – New appointment tonight for Code/Zoning officer later in the meeting.

Renovation Committee – Jenko, Yuhaniak – No report.

Events Committee – Mrs. Amatucci – Mrs. Amatucci reported that the Italian Festival was well attended. Latrobe Night Market was Wednesday September 13, 2023, and the Center for Active Adults is having their open house.

GLSD Student Showcase Committee – Mayor Bartels – No report.

BOARD AND AUTHORITY REPORTS

LMA – No Report.

Library – No report.

Parks & Recreation – No report.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS FROM SEPTEMBER 2023

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

Public Works Department

Public Works Director, Scott Wajdic – Scott Wajdic asked council if they had any questions regarding his report. No questions were asked.

Police Department

Police Chief, Richard Bosco – Chief Bosco reported that the department had the following for the month of September; 382 calls for service, 7 criminal arrests, 5 overdoses with Narcan being administered in all 5, and 1 natural death. Mayor Bartels thanked the chief for the public statements that he is putting out to the public.

Fire Department

Fire Chief, John Brasile – Chief Brasile reported that for the month of September they had 61 alarms that were non-critical events. The second week of October is Fire Prevention Week. Mr. Jenko said that he liked the new report format.

Code/Zoning Department

Code Enforcement Officer, James Nieuwma – Mr. Nieuwma asked if the council had any questions regarding his monthly report. Mr. Nieuwma stated that August was a busy month and that he is prepping for the new code officer. It was brought to Mrs. DiVittis’ attention that a smoker was outside of the Wildcat Shop on the sidewalk. Mr. Nieuwma said he would check on the situation.

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION

Motion to approve Tow Truck Operators Service Agreement. Mr. Carcella informed council that there are two applications, one is with Henry's Hauling and the second is with Dave's Service. Rates for both towing services will be the same. Mr. Forish made a motion seconded by Mr. Jenko. Motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION 2023-31

Resolution for Contract Approval for Code/Zoning. Mr. Jenko made a motion seconded by Mr. Forish. Vote 5-0.

RESOLUTION 2023-32

Resolution for Pension Investment Policy. Two representatives from Commercial Bank and Trust Asset Division were at the meeting to answer any questions. Mayor Bartels asked if anything was different about the policy, Mrs. Kristin Grabiak commented that the policy was the same and Chief Bosco said that all his officers agreed. Mrs. Amatucci made a motion seconded by Mr. Forish. Vote 5-0.

RESOLUTION 2023-33

Resolution of the City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, Providing a Schedule of Attorney's Fees, Charges, and expenses as well as Account Servicing Expenses Established in Accordance with Act 1 of 1996 and Act 20 of 2003 to be Charged in Connection with the Collection of Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and Municipal Service Fees. MBM Collections is an agency that would be utilized by the city to collect delinquent property taxes, municipal liens, and stormwater. This is a two-year contract that would begin January 1, 2024. Mayor Bartels and Deputy Mayor Jenko are both pleased with the city being aggressive with this mov. Mr. Jenko made a motion seconded by Mr. Forish. Vote 5-0.

MOTION

Motion to approve MMO (Pension) for the City of Latrobe. No discussion. Mr. Forish made a motion seconded by Mr. Jenko. Motion carried 5-0.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

MOTION

Motion to approve TKL Code Services Contract. Mr. Forish made a motion seconded by Mrs. Amatucci. No discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

MOTION

Motion to Approve Copier Lease for Police Unit. This copier will be replacing another copier in the police department. This will be a 5-year lease with DDB (Doing Better Business) at the rate of \$194.95 per month. The copier unit at the transfer station will be purchased in the amount of \$631.00 with a service contract. Mrs. DiVittis made a motion seconded by Mrs. Amatucci. Motion carried 5-0.

MOTION

Motion to Advertise Adelphoi Ordinance for Public Hearing on October 10, 2023. Mr. Demosky presented to the city council to request two ordinances regarding Adelphoi USA, Inc. One ordinance will be to vacate a portion of the alley and the other one will be to accept a portion of the alley. The motion is to advertise those for a public hearing at the next voting meeting in October. Mr. Jenko made a motion seconded by Mrs. DiVittis. Motion carried 4-1 with Mr. Forish being the no vote.

NEW / UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Halloween hours will be 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday October 28, 2023.

Solicitor's Report – No report.

CITIZEN'S REQUEST

Chris Rodell addressed the city council requesting how he can get a podcast off the ground. He is a writer and has written about Latrobe many times and said he has been lucky to have had access to Arnold Palmer and Fred Rogers over his thirty years of writing.

City Manager's Report

Mr. Carcella said that the agenda meeting will have to moved from the 23rd to the 24th because of the chamber dinner being on the 23rd of October. Mr. Forish made a motion seconded by Mrs. Amatucci. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Carcella told council that the City of Latrobe received the grant for the STMP program. The kickoff meeting will be September 21, 2023 in the Council Chambers. This is an important program for all departments to keep us fiscally sound and will open a lot of doors for us.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Bartels thanked the Events Committee. The Italian Fest went well and grew since last year. Mayor Bartels also thanked all who worked hard and organized the event for the community.

The Regular Meeting of Council adjourned at 7:22 P.M with a motion by Mrs. DiVittis seconded by Mr. Jenko. All in favor. Approved 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Meholic, City Secretary