

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Council Chambers, City Hall
May 2, 2022

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor
James Johnson
Ryan Rudegear
Christian Marshall
Fred Mays
Samuel Lyons

Members Excused: None

In Attendance: Tracy Jamieson, City Manager
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor
James Wetzel, Fire Chief
Kevin Anundson, Police Chief
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary
Brad Lena, The Derrick
Ashley Smith, 1346 Elk Street
Bev Hart, 1333 Elk Street
Jean Rankin, Franklin Resident
Speedy and Chris Ewing, Landscape Connections
Jami DeGroat, Casey's Restaurant and Lounge
Kim Simons, ABC Life Center
Ally-Karen Miller, Franklin YMCA

Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Resolution No. 66

Mrs. Fletcher moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Rudegear. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Resolution No. 67

Mr. Johnson motioned and Mr. Mays seconded the motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 4, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

PAY THE BILLS – Resolution No. 68

Mr. Lyons moved to pay the bills as presented. Mr. Rudegear seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CITIZENS' INQUIRIES

- Mr. Speedy Ewing, who owns the property of the former Airways Bar, would like to sell it to Jami DeGroat, who currently owns Casey's Restaurant and Lounge in Oil City. Ms. DeGroat would like to move her restaurant to the building and transfer her liquor license to the new location. In order to do this, the PLCB requires that the municipality in which the property is located give approval. Mr. Spaid stated that he is not sure of the process that is required, but will look into it and notify all the involved parties as soon as possible.
- Ms. Jean Rankin expressed concern that the alley she lives on is deteriorated and cracking around the storm drain. The alley is in the 800 block, between Liberty and Buffalo Streets. She states that it is not feasible to walk or drive on because of the potholes, and requested to have it placed on a schedule to be routinely checked for any maintenance issues.

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

- **Resolution No. 69** – 321-323 13th Street – Window wraps, awnings, painting
 - This request was tabled from last month's meeting because the applicant was unable to attend. Ms. Simons, Director of the ABC Life Center, presented a sample of what the window wraps will look like. She wanted to emphasize that they will not be as brightly colored as they appear in the in the picture that was presented with her HARB application. Mrs. Jamieson also asked for clarification for what parts of the building will be painted. Ms. Simons responded that the brickwork will be painted gray, the protrusions will be white and black and the door frame will be yellow.
 - Mr. Rudegeair motioned to approve the awnings and paint as presented, and the following conditions for the window wraps, as set forth by HARB: they must be translucent on both sides, with the images covering no more than 30% of the window panes and the other 70% being neutral-colored matting surrounding the images. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 70** – 421 12th Street – Replace exterior door on Buffalo Street side
 - Mrs. Jamieson explained that HARB recommended to deny the application because a photo of the proposed door was not submitted and the applicant was not present at the meeting. It was speculated that they would paint the outside of the new door the same color as the existing door.
 - Mr. Lyons motioned to deny the request and recommend that the applicant return to HARB with a complete application. Mrs. Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MILLER-SIBLEY POOL PRESENTATION

Ms. Ally-Karen Miller, from the YMCA and manager of the Miller-Sibley pool, started the presentation by announcing that there will be free swimming lessons and exercise classes as they have done in the past. She mentioned that passes went on sale April 15, and that the season will run starting June 11 through August 20. The pool team is currently developing ideas for activities that would attract children and families. Ms. Miller also mentioned that she is working on a detailed instruction manual to operate the equipment and conduct routine maintenance procedures.

REQUEST TO SWITCH FUNDING SOURCE FOR EAGLE STREET PAVING – Resolution No. 71

Mrs. Jamieson explained that funding for paving the 1200 block of Eagle Street has already been approved to be covered under the CDBG program for FY-2020. Paving was originally set to occur as part of the General Authority's 10th and Eagle Street Utility Replacement Project. She explained that intermixing CDBG funds with other project funding sources causes the entire project to be intensely monitored under HUD regulations.

Mrs. Jamieson requested that Council approve using approximately \$15,015 in Liquid Fuels funds instead of CDBG funds. Those CDBG funds could then be used to extend the Elk Street paving up to Washington Crossing from South Park Street, once the General Authority's waterline replacement project is complete in that area. She added, however, that paving costs have increased significantly and additional funds may be necessary to pave the entire portion of Elk Street.

Mrs. Fletcher motioned to approve using Liquid Fuels funds to pave the 1200 block of Eagle Street. Mr. Rudegeair seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

SECOND READING – BILL NO. 6 – PACIFIC STREET TRAFFIC CODE UPDATE – Resolution No. 72

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 6, "Pacific Street Traffic Code Update" into the record.

Mr. Rudegeair moved and Mr. Marshall seconded the motion to pass on Second Reading Bill No. 6. Motion passed unanimously.

SECOND READING – BILL NO. 7 – AMENDMENT OF ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF 2022 – Resolution No. 73

Mr. Spaid read Bill No. 7, "Amendment of Ordinance No. 2 of 2022" into the record.

Mr. Rudegeair moved and Mr. Lyons seconded the motion to pass on First Reading Bill No. 7. Motion passed unanimously.

SET DEADLINE FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST – 3RD VOITING DISTRICT – Resolution No. 74

Mr. Mays informed Council of his resignation to take effect at the conclusion of this evening's meeting. Mrs. Jamieson stated that Council has 45 days to find a replacement to carry out the remainder of Mr. Mays's term which ends on December 31, 2023.

Mayor Baker motioned to accept Mr. Mays's resignation and to accept Letters of Interest until May 31, 2022. Mr. Rudegear seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

VEHICLES FOR AUCTION – Resolution No. 75

Mrs. Jamieson stated that the Street Department has two vehicles that will not pass inspection – a 2005 Chevy 2500 and a 2001 9 Ton International dump truck. She requested Council grant permission to dispose of the vehicles through 422 Sales at their June 25, 2022 auction.

Mr. Rudegear moved and Mr. Lyons seconded the request to dispose of the two vehicles as described. The motion passed unanimously.

ENERGY PROCUREMENT SERVICES – SVETZ ENERGY – Resolution No. 76

Gary Svetz of Svetz Energy Services requested that the City extend the energy procurement service contracts with him for natural gas and electric. The current procurement contract with Svetz Energy (for natural gas) expires in 2024, and the procurement contract with Svetz Energy (for electric) expires in 2023. Based on Mr. Svetz's projection on the markets of both energy sources, he indicated that extending each contract now with him allows him to lock in lower pricing for future years, both for the City and the General Authority.

Mr. Rudegear motioned to extend the contracts for procurement services for both natural gas and electric until the end of 2027. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lyons. The motion passed unanimously.

PARK AND PARADE ASSEMBLY REQUESTS –

1. May 30, 2022 • Downtown and Bandstand Park • Memorial Day Parade and Bandstand Park Ceremony • Franklin VFW
2. June 25, 2022 • 12th Street, between Liberty and Buffalo • Trails to Ales 4th of July Kickoff • David Ballard – Trails to Ales
3. July 30, 2022 • Parks and various downtown businesses • Magic's Amazing Scavenger Race • Magic All-Star Cheer
4. September 23, 2022 • Bandstand Park • Celebrate Recovery • Venango Co. Recovery Committee
5. October 2, 2022 • Bandstand Park • Firefighter Memorial/Honor Ceremony • Sandycreek Twp. VFD

Resolution No. 77 – Mrs. Fletcher motioned to approve requests 1, 3, 4, and 5. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 78 – Mrs. Jamieson expressed reservations about the request from Trails to Ales owner, David Ballard, due to a lack of information. He requested to close the portion of 12th Street between Liberty and Buffalo from 7 A.M. to 9 P.M. on June 25th. Concerns that were discussed were: no clarification as to exactly what was to occur on the street; how the length of street closure would affect access to nearby businesses; and how security would be handled with regard to the open container law. The applicant was not present at the meeting to answer any questions or explain how this event provides an overall community benefit.

Mayor Baker motioned to deny the request, seconded by Mrs. Fletcher. The motion to deny the request was passed 4-3, with Mr. Marshall, Mr. Lyons and Mr. Rudegeair voting no, signaling that they would be willing to entertain a revised application that addresses the concerns.

REPORTS

Manager –

- Informed Council that she spoke with Franklin Industries about parking along Atlantic Avenue and they requested that the parking situation remain as it is
- Requested time in Executive Session to discuss matters of negotiations and litigation

Solicitor – Has items to discuss in Executive Session

Mayor Appointments – None

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Baker –

- Announced proclamations for Arbor Day that was on April 29, Public Service Recognition Week for May 1-7, Letter Carriers' Food Drive on May 14, and Traffic Safety Awareness for the month of May.
- Will discuss Council's participation for the 4th of July parade after the meeting with members

Mrs. Fletcher –

- Reported that the storm drain on the Buffalo Street side of the alley near Leonardo's has really bad holes near it
- The temporary sign above the Liberty Building has been up for several years and is advertising businesses that have closed
- Asked Chief Anundson how many openings there are for the Police Department; he replied there are three openings.

- Also asked Chief Anundson if any legislation is being created to control electric bicycles. He stated that there is nothing that specifically mentions electric bicycles that he is able to find, but he is still researching the matter.

Mr. Johnson – Thanked Mrs. Eckelberger for hosting a fantastic gathering for the Historical Advisory Council at FICDA

Mr. Marshall –

- Concerned about the outdoor stage at Trails to Ales II and how it will impact Friday night shows at the Barrow
- Indicated that Franklin Moving Forward hoped to have a Memorial Day cookout from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M., but nothing was submitted in order to close 12th Street

Mr. Lyons – Bid farewell to Mr. Mays

Mr. Rudegear – None

Mr. Mays – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Resolution No. 79

Mr. Rudegear motioned to enter into executive session at 8:12 P.M. for the purposes of negotiation and litigation. Mr. Lyons seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The Executive Session ended at

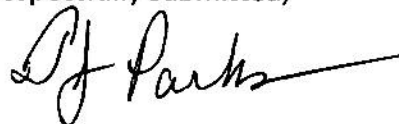
ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Resolution No. 80

Upon review of the negotiated police contract, motion was made by Mr. Mays and seconded by Mr. Rudegear to ratify the collective bargaining agreement between the police union and the City of Franklin, for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary