

City Council Meeting Minutes - February 7, 2022

City Council Chambers, City Building, 16 West Scribner Avenue, DuBois, Pennsylvania on Monday, February 7, 2022 @ 6 p.m.; Council convened at their regular City Council Meeting with Mayor Walsh in the Chair. Other Council Members present were: Diane Bernardo, James Aughenbaugh, Shane Dietz, Shannon Gabriel; and City Controller, David Volpe. Also present were: City Manager, John "Herm" Suplizio; City Solicitor, Toni Cherry; City Engineer/Public Works Director, Chris Nasuti; Public Works Superintendent, Scott Farrell; Redevelopment Authority Director/Assistant Public Works Superintendent, Joe Mitchell; Police Chief, Blaine Clark and City Secretary, Bobbie Shaffer.

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Walsh.

Approval of Minutes

City Council Meeting Minutes - January 17, 2022

The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Gabriel that Council approve the minutes of January 17, 2022 as presented by the City Secretary. Roll call vote was as follows: Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Work Session Meeting Minutes - February 3, 2022

The motion was made by Dietz and seconded by Aughenbaugh that Council approve the minutes of February 3, 2022 as presented by the City Secretary. Roll call vote was as follows: Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Approval of Registry of Invoices

The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council approve the Purchase Order Listing by Vendor Name dated February 3, 2022 in the amount of \$598,712.65 and the Check Register by Check ID dated February 3, 2022 in the amount of \$59,828.59 as presented by the Finance Officer. Roll call vote was as follows: Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Public Comments - None

Request from Tom Rubritz/DuBois Area Historical Society

Kathleen Clements - 718 Chestnut Avenue, DuBois

Kathleen Clements came instead of Mr. Rutritz. Ms. Clements told Council about the things that the Historical Society is planning for the Sesquicentennial of DuBois. She stated that on June 3rd they would like to use the Amphitheater, then go over to the Parkside Community Center for a street dance. They are requesting use of the stage; West Park Avenue from Liberty Blvd to N. Jared St. closed to traffic at 5 p.m. for the street dance. Then on Saturday, June 4, they would like to close W. Long Avenue for vendors and a car show.

Councilwoman Bernardo did not feel that Council should approve this item prior to the proper paperwork being filled out.

Mayor Walsh explained to Ms. Clements that the Police need to approve before Council will approve.

Councilwoman Gabriel felt that we could approve the item contingent on the paperwork being approved by the police.

Councilwoman Bernardo felt that it should not be approved tonight. She feels that a policy should be the same across the board. The details should be in writing and the police and public works should receive a copy. She referred to the Street Closure Form that was made up last summer.

Solicitor Cherry stated that there should be consistency. She then asked Ms. Clements if she could wait until the next meeting in two weeks.

Ms. Clements confirmed she could. (The City Secretary gave Ms. Clements Street Closure forms to fill out and return.)

Recommendation - Flocculators Replacement Project

The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council accept the recommendation of Engineering Consultants Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. and award the contract to the lowest bidder J. P. Environmental, LLC in the amount of \$388,100. Roll call vote was as follows: Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

City Council Meeting Minutes - February 7, 2022 (Cont'd.)

Request authorization to advertise for bids for the Water Resource Recovery Facility

City Engineer/Public Works Director Nasuti stated that we will have a total of six bids before it's all said and done. Nasuti said that Water Resource Recovery Facility is just a nice way of saying Sewage Treatment Plant. The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Gabriel that Council approve the request to advertise for bids for the Water Resource Recovery Facility. Roll call vote was as follows: Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

Valerie Kucenski - 107 N. 3rd ST - Conditional Use

City Solicitor Cherry stated that Ms. Kucenski is requesting a Conditional Use in a R-1 Residential District. We do not specify Daycare in our zoning ordinance, so we are treating this as a Home Occupation Use as permitted by conditional use under Section 450-40A. Solicitor Cherry went on to state that the activity is conducted entirely within the dwelling; the amount of floor area used is not more than 25% of the entire dwelling; no more than one resident will be employed, adequate off street parking; nothing will be sold; no exterior signs will be displayed; no potentially dangerous discharges; and a daycare is a secondary to the primary use of the family dwelling. She recommends that Council approve the request for Conditional Use. The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Aughenbaugh that Council accept the recommendation of our City Engineer and our City Solicitor and approve the Conditional Use. Roll call vote was as follows: Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

City Manager, John "Herm" Suplizio

Concerning the new Sewage Treatment Plant, Scott Farrell and Chris Nasuti did a lot of work over the past five years to get us where we are today. The current plant we are working with, was engineered in 1940, but wasn't built until the sixties. That old plant has served our citizens well. The cost for the new plant will be substantial at \$62,000,000 which will be paid by the users of the plant not through tax dollars. Thank you Scott, Chris and Joe who helped with grants. Chris and Joe made numerous trips to State College and it took an enormous amount of work. He estimates it will be another three years until the new plant is put all together, but it is long overdue.

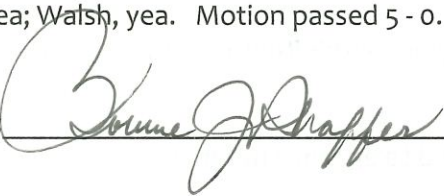
Mayor Edward L Walsh

Expressed his shock at the difference in price from five years ago until today. He believes if we wait it will be even more expensive.

Adjourn

There being no further business to transact; the motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council adjourn. Roll call vote was as follows: Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

ATTEST:



APPROVED:

