

City Council Meeting Minutes - September 13, 2021

City Council Chambers, City Building, 16 West Scribner Avenue, DuBois, Pennsylvania on Monday, September 13, 2021 @ 7 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. Also present were: City Manager, John "Herm" Suplizio; City Solicitor, Toni Cherry; City Engineer/Public Works Director, Chris Nasuti; Police Chief, Blaine Clark and City Secretary, Bobbie Shaffer.

Absent: City Controller, David Volpe

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Walsh.

Approval of Minutes

Public Hearing - CDBG - Needs of the City - August 23, 2021

The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council approve the Public Hearing - CDBG - Needs of the City Minutes of August 23, 2021 as presented by the City Secretary. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

City Council Meeting Minutes - August 23, 2021

The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Gabriel that Council approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of August 23, 2021 as presented by the City Secretary. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Work Session Meeting Minutes - September 9, 2021

The motion was made by Dietz and seconded by Gabriel that Council approve the Work Session Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2021 as presented by the City Secretary. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Approval of Registry of Invoices

The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Dietz that Council approve the Purchase Order Listing by Vendor Name dated September 9, 2021 in the amount of \$1,111,231.51 and the Autodraft Check Register by Check ID dated September 9, 2021 in the amount of \$33,788.72 as presented by the Finance Officer. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Public Comments

Terri Hess - 406 Maple Avenue - Update on Maple Avenue

Ms. Hess reminded Council that at the last meeting she attended Council stated that Roman Excavating would be finished in two weeks; she would like an update.

City Engineer/Public Work Director Nasuti stated that the sidewalks are slated to be done the end of October; the waterline the end of this week; then, we begin the restoration (temporary road, driveways, etc.).

Councilwoman Bernardo said that she has always taken for granted that the work will be done and it will be done correctly; but that is not always the case. This week a man was injured by no fault of his own, this is serious work, we need to pray for the workers. Nasuti stated that the worker is home and doing well.

City Manager Suplizio told Council that another letter will be going out updating residents on the progress. He would like residents to remember that there are several projects going on at one time: Sidewalks, Waterline, Road Work, and the Access Road for the Hospital.

Ms. Hess asked for clarification that Park Avenue would be finished this year. City Manager Suplizio said weather permitting that is the plan. He also wanted to remind residents that HRI will be removing 18" of top coat from the road and then building it back up. Patience, Patience, Patience is what is needed. Things are going to get much worse before they get better; but remember we had to replace the 24" 100-year-old waterline and all the laterals that attached to it. A majority of those services were lead, so we didn't have a choice; they had to be replaced.

City Council Meeting Minutes - September 13, 2021 (Cont'd.)

Public Comments

Terri Hess - 406 Maple Avenue - Update on Maple Avenue

Councilwoman Bernardo said if you don't have a reason to be on Maple Avenue you should consider taking an alternate route. The new waterline is long range planning for the City of DuBois. She proceeded to thank Ms. Hess for attending and asked her to please continue attending. She then had one last question for Hess; do your neighbors ask for updates from Council? Hess stated they do.

City Manager Suplizio said that the finished road will be from Brady to the first hill on Maple Avenue by the dog grooming business.

Nasuti estimates it should be done by Thanksgiving.

Mayor Walsh believes that the construction is giving the residents a sample of what next summer will be like on Maple Avenue.

Mayor Walsh asked City Engineer Nasuti to talk about the Intake Project at the Reservoir since we are on the topic of water. Nasuti stated that the week of September 20th or 27th they will begin the Intake Project at Reservoir. The project will allow the Water Treatment Plant to pull water from multiple location in the reservoir instead of the current one intake. The City Manager stated that a letter went out to all residents concerning the project:



CITY OF DUBOIS, PENNSYLVANIA

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TELEPHONE: (814) 371-2000, Ext. 135
FAX: (814) 371-1290

News Release

To: Residents & Media

From: John "Herm" Suplizio
City Manager

RE: DuBois Reservoir Maintenance

Date: September 1, 2021

The City of DuBois Water Department will be completing a maintenance and rehabilitation project on the main water intake building at the Anderson Creek Reservoir during the months of September and October 2021. In this project we will be replacing two intake and discharge valves that were installed in the 1920's. This project will take approximately thirty (30) days and will enhance the quality of water going into the water plant.

City residents may experience cloudy or discolored water for a period of time as a result of the maintenance work. Please be assured that the water is safe to use and consume.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we complete this project in order to keep our water system operating safely and efficiently.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the City Building at 814-371-2000.

Accept the City Engineers Recommendation for Aggregates - Bucktail Excavators, Inc.

Type 2 - Anti Skid Material

The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Gabriel that Council accept the recommendation of the City Engineer and award the contract to the low bidder, Bucktail Excavators, Inc. in the amount of \$19.97 per ton. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

City Council Meeting Minutes - September 13, 2021 (Cont'd.)

Accept the City Engineers Recommendation for Aggregates - Bucktail Excavators, Inc. (Cont'd.)

Type "A" Sand

The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Gabriel that Council accept the recommendation of the City Engineer and award the contract to the low bidder, Bucktail Excavators, Inc. in the amount of \$14.77 per ton. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Type "A" Limestone 2-A

The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Bernardo that Council accept the recommendation of the City Engineer and award the contract to the low bidder, Bucktail Excavators, Inc. in the amount of \$16.22 per ton. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Resolution No. 2021-0337 - Penn Highlands Financing through Hospital Authority of the City of DuBois

City Solicitor Cherry reviewed points of the resolution with Council stating that the City assumes no financial responsibility in approving this resolution. The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council approve Resolution No. 2021-0337 - Penn Highlands Financing through Hospital Authority of the City of DuBois as presented. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Transfer of Liquor License into City of DuBois (Italian Oven - Sandy to Invictus Defense -DuBois)

City Solicitor Cherry stated that there will have to be a Public Hearing, we will have to advertise, and there will be some fees involved. The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Bernardo that Council turn the request for Transfer of Liquor License into City of DuBois over to our City Solicitor to research, schedule Public Hearing, and advertising. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Halloween in the Park

City Manager Suplizio said he talked to the Glass's and they would like to use the Park the 29th and 30th of October for their Halloween event. He thinks it would be a great thing for the Community and would like to discuss the event with them further. He stated, he just needs Council's approval to allow them to use the park on October 29th and 30th. The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council allow the plan to move forward and engage in conversation. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Vote to Add item to the agenda - Halloween Hours in the City of DuBois

We have received several calls concerning trick or treat hours in the City of DuBois recently. Today Treasure Lake called and would like to know our hours so they can set theirs. Many people are trying to put together parties and children's activities so we would like to vote on this item this evening. The motion was made by Bernardo and seconded by Dietz that Council add Halloween Hours in the City of DuBois to this evenings agenda. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Halloween Hours in the City of DuBois - Sunday, October 31st from 6 - 8 p.m.

The motion was made by Gabriel and seconded by Dietz that Council set Halloween Hours in the City of DuBois for Sunday, October 31, 2021 from 6 to 8 p.m. Roll call vote was as follows: Gabriel, yea; Dietz, yea; Bernardo, yea; Aughenbaugh, yea; Walsh, yea. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Police Chief, Blaine Clark

- Thanked everyone who donated treats to his officers during the standoff; he felt they were better represented than any other law enforcement agency on scene.
- Sunny 106 is having their annual Halloween Parade on the October 31st at 5 p.m.; usually lasts about an hour.

City Engineer/Public Work Director - Chris Nasuti

We will begin our Liquid Fuel paving on September 20th or 27th.

City Council Meeting Minutes - September 13, 2021 (Cont'd.)**Councilwoman Shannon Gabriel**

Had a bird's eye view of the standoff; we are truly blessed by the Police we have in this City.

Councilwoman Diane Bernardo

Expounded on Councilwoman Gabriel's comment and stated that she was proud of the professionalism they exhibited during the standoff.

Councilman Jim Aughenbaugh

Addressed the Chief and stated he understands with the laws we currently have on the books it's not easy to conduct these investigations. Good Job.

City Solicitor - Toni Cherry

- Chief thank you for your leadership, it shows in your departments quality officers.
- A few thoughts on Maple Avenue - I understand your frustration. Complimented the City Engineer and Council on the various projects they have completed over the years. Stated that PennDOT has a much lower standard for materials than the City of DuBois. The City demands contractors use a high standard of material and they don't like it. We demand the higher quality so we only have to do the job once in a lifetime. You will not see Maple Avenue torn up year after year for the rest of your life. It is very frustrating now, but it is only for a short while.

Mayor Edward L. Walsh

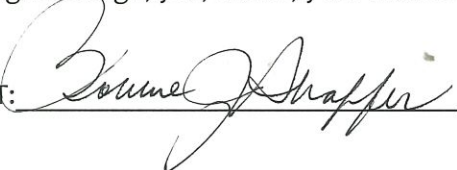
Stated he remember a case then the City Solicitor and City Manager went toe to toe with a company about the materials they used and almost ended up in jail. That is the type of individuals you have working for you.

City Manager Suplizio requested an Executive Session for a Land Sale. He stated there would be no business transacted.

Adjourn

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

ATTEST:



APPROVED:

