

**City Council Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2024**

City Council Chambers, City Building, 16 West Scribner Avenue, DuBois, Pennsylvania on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 6 p.m.; Council convened at their regular City Council Meeting with Mayor Pat Reasinger in the Chair. Other Council Members present were James Aughenbaugh, Shane Dietz, Elliot Gelfand and Jennifer Jackson. Aso present were: Interim City Manager/City Engineer/Public Works Director, Chris Nasuti; Interim Solicitor, Thomas Breth; Finance Director, DeLean Shepherd; City Controller, David Volpe; Treasurer, Lisa LaBrasca Becker; Redevelopment Authority Director, Joe Mitchell; Public Works Superintendent, Scott Farrell; Police Chief Blaine Clark; and Administrative Secretary, Korbi Slocum.

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

**Public Comments on Agenda Items Only**

Michael Federici – 532 Patterson Avenue

As a taxpayer and DuBois Fire Chief of the City of DuBois, Federici read the following statement:

“Mayor and Council:

I would like to take the opportunity to address an agenda item for the meeting this evening. Agenda Item #12 Budget, sub section Fire Department. The reason why I, the Fire Chief of the DuBois Volunteer Fire Department, bring this to your attention is that as the department head, I was not made aware that the fire department was to be any kind of topic of discussion at this evening’s Council meeting.

Over the past several months the public has heard nothing less than this Council will be the most transparent Council. Unfortunately, placing the Fire Department on the agenda without a discussion with the department head is contrary to the promise of transparency. From January 1<sup>st</sup> to today, I have not been contacted by any of the Council members. Which, in my opinion, is unfortunate because as the Fire Chief, I am one of the most accessible people in the City of DuBois. I am on call 24/7 as a volunteer to meet the needs of the citizens of our great city. As such I would be very happy to discuss anything with you all openly and transparently. I would like to think that elected officials who make an oath to serve would allow for the opportunity to make informed decisions, especially considering that not speaking with the department head does not allow for such an informed decision. I think before any such decision is made regarding the funding of the Fire Department anyone without a preconceived idea or agenda would simply ask and be willing to learn how the Fire Department functions. I know personally if I was not informed, I certainly would want to be informed, before making any decisions.

I think it is imperative that a good working relationship with the elected officials be forged and one of mutual respect and trust. With that said, remember that myself and the men and women of the fire department volunteer their time to protect the life and property of the Citizens of our city. Some of whom supported your election. They as volunteers drop everything to respond to the call of need to aid our community. They do this without malice or discrimination, and all would openly sacrifice their life to save another. Keep in mind that these men and women are not employees of the City of DuBois when volunteering their time and they should not be treated as such.

Finally, the fire department is not a political extension of anyone, we proudly serve the Citizens of DuBois today as we have for 136 years, we do this at our leisure not because we must, but because we want to help our fellow citizens. We only ask for the opportunity to allow you as elected officials who carry no agenda other than the good of the City of DuBois to be duly informed prior to making any hasty decision that would be construed as malice towards the Fire Department of the City of DuBois.”

With his written statement, Chief Federici also provided the following 2023 DuBois Volunteer Fire Department Run Report:

Fire Box Alarms	98
Rescue Box Alarms	41
Local Box Alarms	59
Mutual Aid Responses	55
Chief Calls	18
<b>Year-End Total</b>	<b>271</b>

Gelfand thanked Federici for his statement and his service.

Deb Mechling – Monroe Street

“At the January 2 reorganizational meeting, Thomas Breth of the firm Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham, LLP of Butler was appointed Interim Solicitor at a rate of \$3,200.00 a month while the City is in the process of advertising for a new Solicitor. If you could please refresh our memories, what was the

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### Deb Mechling – Monroe Street (continued)

monthly fee being paid to our former City Solicitor?” Reasinger replied, “Same one.” Mechling said, “OK. And that was her hourly rate also?” Nasuti said, “We did not have an hourly rate.” Reasinger added, “I don’t know what her hourly rate was for like the injunction and things like that.” Mechling continued, “The only reason I ask, since we are advertising for the Solicitor position, I just wanted to be able to compare apples to apples. Thank you.”

### Linda London - 527 Rumbarger Avenue

“In reference to #8 – Legal fees, what establishments, organizations or individuals are the City of DuBois responsible to provide any legal services to?” At Gelfand’s request, London repeated her question. Breth replied, “The City is obligated to provide legal services to the employees of the City and to the elected officials under certain circumstances. So, if an employee or an elected official gets sued in their capacity as an employee or elected official the City is to provide them legal services. There are situations where employees may be asked to participate in legal proceedings in their capacity as employees or elected officials. The City can provide legal services to those individuals in those capacities.” London clarified, “So basically what I am hearing is employees and elected officials.” Breth replied, “Correct. It’s important to understand that the City provides those legal services through City lawyers. The Solicitor or somebody who has been retained by the City to provide those services.”

Speaking to Breth, Reasinger said, “Tom, we’ve had a couple, actually they are volunteer firemen, that the City has in the past paid for some legal fees which I find appropriate; but I just wanted your opinion.” Breth responded, “I haven’t looked at that. As the Chief has indicated tonight, the volunteer firemen and women are not employees of the City. It’s a separate entity although the volunteer fire department of the City of DuBois is under the authority of City Council. I haven’t specifically looked at that. I think under certain circumstances that may be appropriate. I’d need to understand those circumstances.” Reasinger asked London if she was satisfied. London replied, “Thank you.”

### **Approval of Minutes**

#### Public Hearing Minutes – December 26, 2023

The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Jackson that Council approve the Public Hearing Minutes of December 26, 2023, as presented. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

#### City Council Meeting Minutes – December 26, 2023

The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Gelfand that Council accept the City Council Meeting Minutes of December 26, 2023, as presented. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Registry of Invoices**

The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Dietz to pay the Auto Draft Check Register by Check ID dated January 4, 2024, in the amount of \$23,037.37. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Aughenbaugh to pay the General Fund Purchase Order Listing by Vendor Name dated January 4, 2024, in the amount of \$245,151.62. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Request for Proposals for Solicitor**

Nasuti explained, “As directed at the meeting last week, there is an RFP for the Solicitor in your packet for review, a draft of it. This would be for the year 2024. Proposals are tentatively due for the April 1, 2024, date Elliot mentioned. Moving forward, the plan would be to name the Solicitor at the reorganizational meeting each year. If you guys could look that over and give me your comments and thoughts on that we can revise that out and get it advertised.”

### **Discussion of Financial Institutions**

The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Gelfand to authorize Solicitor Tom Breth to put out an RFP for financial institutions for the year 2024 and to request the existing documents at any local banks.

Kristine Vida said, “Can I ask a question? I’m just kind of curious why the Solicitor has to ask for information from the bank. Are they not giving it over to us. I mean, it’s our information.” Nasuti said, “That is correct.” Vida asked, “So the bank is not providing the information on our accounts?” Reasinger and Nasuti confirmed. Vida continued, “So, is a subpoena needed? Is that what we’re saying? So, S&T Bank is requiring a subpoena is what you’re telling us.” Nasuti replied, “It may be required.” Vida asked,

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### Discussion of Financial Institutions (continued)

“And it is just S&T or is it for other banks as well?” Nasuti said, “We would request information from every bank.” Treasurer Lisa LaBrasca Becker said, “We have several different banks in Clearfield.”

After further discussion, Jackson decided to make two separate motions.

The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Gelfand to request an RFP for financial institutions. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Aughenbaugh to have Solicitor Breth draft a letter to all local banks requesting all our banking information from them. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

### Legal Fees

The motion was made by Jackson to amend the RFP for Solicitor to also be legal and special counsel. Reasinger questioned whether that would be two different attorneys. “Should that be two separate RFPs?” Breth replied, “I think to save the advertising costs you could do them as alternate proposals. So, you’re seeking legal services for a number of things: for a full-time Solicitor, potentially a Solicitor for the Planning Commission. I’m not sure if you have a Solicitor for your Zoning Board; it needs to be a separate one. But, also special counsel. And then a firm might be interested in one or all of those and they can submit alternative proposals for each. I’m happy to work with Chris trying to make that mud clear.”

After much discussion, the motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Gelfand to advertise for alternative proposals for Solicitor services and special counsel services. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

### Policies and Procedures for Indicted Employees

The motion was made by Gelfand and seconded by Jackson to have Interim City Manager Chris Nasuti put together a policy and procedures for employees who are criminally charged. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

### Request Authorization to Order Equipment

The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Jackson to approve the purchase of a Travel Vac in the amount of \$26,740.00. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Gelfand to approve the purchase of a Water Department Track Hoe for \$39,611.44. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Jackson to approve the purchase of a Backhoe Loader in the amount of \$141,800.00. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

### 2022 Audit

Nasuti presented the draft 2022 Audit to Council and requested comments back by January 12, 2024.

### 2024 Budget

Fire Department – There was a discussion of how the Fire Department is funded. The topic was tabled until a meeting can be scheduled with the Fire Department.

Elected Officials Healthcare – Solicitor Breth will be providing a legal opinion to Council this evening in Executive Session.

### Manager’s Bond

Due to the Manager being on the bank signature cards, it was recommended by the Solicitor that the Manager be bonded. The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Jackson to authorize Nasuti to become bonded. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

### Robinson Street Parking

Restricted parking hours on Robinson Street and Howard Avenue have become a concern due to the closing of parking lots in the area. To alleviate the problem, it was recommended by the Manager to

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### Robinson Street Parking (continued)

move restricted parking on Robinson Street to Tuesdays. The motion was made by Gelfand and seconded by Jackson to amend the Ordinance for that area so that Howard is no parking on Monday and Robinson is no parking on Tuesday. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

### Consolidation

The motion was made by Gelfand and seconded by Aughenbaugh to schedule a meeting on January 24 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers to discuss consolidation with Sandy Township. Aughenbaugh asked about the agenda for the meeting. "Will it be advertised?" Nasuti replied, "It will definitely be advertised ahead of time. Shawn and I will draft up an agenda for you and send it to the five Council members and five supervisors and it will be advertised on their media and ours." Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

### Neighborhood Fund

Reasinger explained, "This is a new fund we are starting. It's for the beautification of the City. We have a donation of \$600.00 to put in there but we are also getting a grant or a donation from Domtar Paper Company of \$5,000.00. They specifically want their money to be used for trees. They plant two trees for every tree they cut down right now. If anyone else would like to donate it's for the beautification of the City. If there are any questions you can ask at the end. Actually, you can ask now because it's Public Comments."

### Public Comments

#### Lisa LaBrasca Becker – City Treasurer

LaBrasca Becker said, "I know we spoke earlier about this Neighborhood (Fund) and I think it's a great idea. It came to our office to sign for the checks. Who's going to oversee these donations and should we be taking money from private entities? I have a lot of questions with that because it's going to be in our office. Who's going to decide where the trees are going to go? It's through our City so that means my name is on the checks, Mr. Volpe's name is on the checks, Chris and of course Tom. Who's taking care of this account? I don't know how it works."

Vida asked, "How do you handle it for the dog, Ace. Don't people make private donations?" LaBrasca Becker replied, "I don't do that part." Vida asked, "Who does?" Nasuti responded, "DeLean takes it in. If this is a designated fund. I will manage that fund and make sure that if Don Claar gives us a \$5,000.00 donation designated for trees, we will get some paperwork on how it's going to be administered." LaBrasca Becker said, "OK. I wanted to make sure everyone was aware how it worked because I don't see those checks. Once we get the trees, who decides on who gets the trees and the upkeep of them?" Reasinger answered, "I am working with Scott from Penn State Extension and he decides what tree can go where, where it can go based on soil, location, power lines, utilities, etc. We're meeting tomorrow. He and I are going out and we're going to be doing main street. There are only so many places on Main Street you're able to plant a tree. It's very limited."

LaBrasca Becker congratulated Pat, Elliot and Jen. "I'm looking forward to working with you guys. I'm a little concerned with you (Reasinger) being our printer for our taxes, your company. I'm assuming the county bids out to print our taxes?" Reasinger replied, "I'm glad you asked that." LaBrasca Becker continued, "I actually talked to the Commissioners today. I wanted to know, since we're all being transparent, ... I wanted to make sure it wasn't a conflict of interest. Your company does a great job. The county said you've been doing it for years." Reasinger confirmed, "Ten to 15 years." LaBrasca Becker asked Reasinger to address the situation. Reasinger said, "I'm glad you asked that. The Commissioners asked their Solicitor and it's not a conflict of interest." LaBrasca Becker said, "They told me that then they said we'd have to talk to the City Council about it. It's up to the City Council's laws." Gelfand asked, "Are you saying he prints the City's taxes?" Reasinger replied, "No, Tom, I print the taxes for the county – real estate, school, city and county. I know it's not a conflict with the county. Is it a conflict with the City? The City does not pay for those. They do indirectly." LaBrasca Becker said, "We write a check, I think it was like \$1,000.00. We talked about that, that we thought the City and county should split the difference. But the City has been paying for that, correct?" Reasinger replied, "That's between you and the county. I don't have anything to do with that. I don't have anything to do with how the municipalities get billed. I just bill the county." LaBrasca Becker said, "You do it for other counties as well. You're all over. I asked if the county bid that out." Reasinger responded, "I give them a price every year. That's all I can tell you." LaBrasca Becker said, "I just wanted to make sure that it's clear now he's our Mayor." Breth said, "He was a City Council member before that. You are correct. I'd need to see the contract." Speaking to Reasinger, Breth said, "I assume when you say you do the printing, your company that you own does this." Reasinger replied, "There is no contract." Breth asked, "What is the relationship between the City and the county financially for that arrangement?" Reasinger said, "From what I understand, we print the

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### LaBrasca Becker (continued)

taxes and send the county a bill, then they send a bill to the municipalities. I am not involved in that part of it.” Breth replied, “We’ll take a look at it and I’ll be happy to give you a legal opinion.”

### Dave Rupprecht – Sandy Township

The January 24 at 6:00 p.m. consolidation meeting. If this meeting and the last township meeting are any indication, you may want to find a location that seats more people. Unless you feel it will be lightly attended but I think it’s going to be heavily attended. If so, advertise where it’s going to be so people know. Nasuti said, “If we choose another location, we’ll make sure it’s duly advertised.” An unidentified man from the audience said, “Just to let you know, when we were doing things with the water and sewer, we worked with the school district and had it in the auditorium at the middle school. I’m sure the school district would work with you.”

### Mary Boyle – 507 E. DuBois Avenue

“I live on 507 E. DuBois Avenue. For this past year, all I have is water in the back yard and back along the side of my house. I had somebody come out and they said, ‘Oh, it’s only run-off.’ Well, it wasn’t there before. What the heck happened? Did it suddenly just, you know, I don’t know what happened. In 40 years, I’ve never had soup in the backyard and soup at the side of the house. I’m worried about my basement. I have to take care of my house myself. What do I do? Who do I go see?” Nasuti said, “She has called us. We have gone out and checked. We cannot find any stormwater run-off from our system, anything from our sanitary sewer or public water system.” Boyle said, “But what happened? It wasn’t there before.” Nasuti replied, “I don’t know why there is now water there. We cannot find the source of the water.” Reasinger asked, “Is it surface water?” Nasuti answered, “I don’t know.” Boyle said, “Well, that does me in. Thanks for your help.” Nasuti said, “We’ll continue to try and figure out the problem, but I can’t find the source.” Boyle replied, “Yeah, I’m sure.”

### Ron Trzyna – DuBois

Trzyna said, “I’m glad we talked about trees here. I gave Chris a call the other day. I know in 2019 we did a selective cut around the water filtration plant. Right now, it seems we’ve made a decision to do a clear cut of trees around the whole entire filtration plant. I mean, they’ve cleaned everything off. Was the forester involved in this decision to clear cut?” Nasuti replied, “Absolutely, yes.” Trzyna continued, “He was? Did we put bids out for proposals for the clear cutting? Usually companies that do select cut, they say you really don’t come back in for 15 years before you do any other cut. We’re talking five years and we’re doing a clear cut on everything out there. When the plant was built it was built up on the knoll. The trees and everything else was a protection to the backwash tank and also the generator, of course, and buffer zone and everything. I know leaves come off those and get into the filters. But we’ve cleared everything up there. There’s no protection for those tanks and all. I know we use the tanks about every day, it used to be every two or three days, now we’re using every day. But the reason I’m asking this is, back in about 2004 we had divers come in for the tank up at Tower Lane and also Highland Street because we were concerned about ice building up in those things. Those divers went in and said, ‘Yes, it is and it’s causing damage to the inside’. And I know the backwash tank, there’s no heating or anything associated with that. I know the water coming up from the reservoir would probably be maybe 45 degrees or so, so it’s not really froze, but I’m really concerned. We cut everything down for no protection at all. That’s one of the reasons they built that where they did.” Nasuti replied, “Most of those trees around the tank were cut in 2019. It’s the back half we cut this time.” Trzyna continued, “Cause there’s a big gap and you have big dirt piles near those clarifiers and everything else. I’m very concerned about it. I’d hate to have something happen to that backwash tank. If something happens to it and you couldn’t clean the filters and that, you’d have a boil water situation within two weeks. Even when we fixed it at that time we went off line and it was fixed in basically one day. There was a bullet-piercing hole up on the top of the thing. So, I was very concerned when you said, ‘We’re talking about a shooting range up there’. It didn’t pierce the tank but there was a nice indentation. That is things to be worried about. You might not think a whole lot about a backwash tank, but that is a very important process, a filtration process. Did we put out a new bid for when we clear cutted?” Nasuti replied, “It was added on, it was an addendum to the Bradley Lumber...” Trzyna said, “So, we didn’t give anyone else a chance to do it?” Nasuti replied, “That bid award was \$50,000.00 added on to the 400-some thousand.” Trzyna asked, “And where is that money going?” Nasuti replied, “The General Fund.” Trzyna asked, “The General Fund? Even though it’s the water filtration and land.” Nasuti explained, “All of our money comes into the General Fund.” Trzyna said, “I know, but you’re trying to get to the point where you’re having different funds this coming year so, what I’m saying...” Nasuti said, “We don’t budget for individual cuts.” Trzyna replied, “OK. I just wanted you to know I was very concerned when I seen that out there and I’ve had many people call me about it, so. And I know you received a call personally.” Mechling asked, “Was that money used to balance the budget?” Nasuti clarified, “For 2023? Yes, it was.” Mechling asked, “How much money are we talking about? How much did we get from the timbering?” Nasuti said, “From the timbering?”

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### Ron Trzyna – DuBois (continued)

\$450,000.00. The original contract was for around \$400,000.00 and the additional \$50,000.00.”  
Mechling said, “It is shocking to drive out there.”

### Shawn Lesky – DuBois LIVE

When we went through #7 about the Financial Institutions, I think you opened up a big can of worms as to the behavior of S&T Bank and perhaps other banks. Can you tell us exactly what it is they’re denying access to? And, as a result, are we going to re-think our future relationship with that institution?” Nasuti replied, “We sent a letter out a few months ago asking for financial information from and contacted all local banks. S&T did request that we provide a subpoena.” Lesky repeated his question. “What is it they’re denying? Can you not see your balance? Can you not make withdrawals?” Reasinger asked Nasuti, “You asked for all the accounts?” Nasuti replied, “All the accounting information...” Reasinger said, “that had the City’s EIN number.” Nasuti confirmed. Lesky said, “And they just flat out told you ‘No?’” Nasuti said, “Correct.” Lesky asked, “So, if you wanted to take money out of that bank tomorrow, you could or couldn’t?” Reasinger replied, “We can out of the accounts we know of.” Lesky said, “As far as the potential for the remaining accounts, the City has a nine-digit Tax ID number like anybody else. Has there been any kind of, for lack of, the equivalent of a credit report done on the City to be able to pull back and see what other accounts the City might have that they may or may not know about?” Nasuti replied, “That’s what we’re trying to do right now.” Lesky asked, “Has our Controller pulled from Dunn and Bradstreet or any other institutions reporting on that EIN number?” Volpe replied, “I haven’t.” [Several people were talking over each other.] “That would be DeLean.” Reasinger asked Breth if he had any comment. “I think that’s the task I am being tasked to look into and I will certainly do that.” Lesky asked, “They didn’t offer any reasoning?” Breth replied, “I wasn’t involved in the process at that time. My understanding is that they’ve simply requested that the City provide them with a subpoena.” Lesky continued, “So somebody that’s a signer on this bank walks in just like you or anybody that has a bank account with?” Nasuti replied, “I can’t argue with you. I’m just telling you...” Lesky interrupted, “I mean, it sounds pretty shocking. If anybody here, that happened to them, would have problems.” Gelfand said, “That’s what we’re trying to do.”

### Kristen Vida – Chestnut Avenue

Regarding the conflicts of interest. Tom, if you could give an opinion. I know that at least one former Council member served on Planning Commission, and I believe, Dave, you are still on Planning.” Volpe responded, “Yes, I am.” Vida continued, “Pat, you’re on Redevelopment Authority. I guess ‘out with the old in with the new’. I know there’s a lot of people in this community that want to serve. We’ve had a lot of members of these other committees that have been on for 20-30 years. I just think that now with this new Council maybe we could have new faces, new ideas within these commissions, committees and the Zoning Hearing Board. I think it’s called something else now. If you could provide an opinion on that.” Breth replied, “If asked by Council I’d be happy to provide a legal opinion with respect to any conflicts between serving on City Council and any of the other City entities, whether it be Planning Commission or the Zoning Board or things of that nature. I’d be happy to provide that. With respect to the power of Council and Mayor to appoint or re-appoint all of those positions that come with fixed terms, then they’re either re-appointed at the discretion of the Mayor and/or in certain circumstances at the recommendation of the Mayor and approval of City Council. I’m happy to review that with Mayor and Council.” Reasinger said, “And, you were going to do that with me.” Breth replied, “Correct.” Jackson added, “And at that point then, even anyone else that does business with the City that there’s no other elected official conflict going forward.” Breth replied, “Absolutely, when asked. Obviously if I see something alerting as I get familiar with everybody and the operations, if I see something that I think there’s an issue I will talk with Council privately and ask if you want an opinion with that. But, obviously, if there’s any questions I’d be happy to provide, if told by Council, I’d provide a written opinion on those issues. Chris has been terrific in providing information. It may be helpful to get a current list of appointed positions within the City including existing terms of those individuals and then we can take a look and see if there’s any potential questions with respect to whether there’s two incompatible positions. I’d be happy to provide a legal opinion.”

LaBrasca Becker said, “I’d like to recommend that you come up with a plan that when somebody’s interested in sitting on the zoning, planning, that they come in and do an application. Because I have people that come to me all the time and say, ‘Hey, I’d like to get involved’. I just take their name and number and put it in someone’s bucket.” Reasinger asked, “Who do you give that number to?” LaBrasca Becker replied, “I used to give it to our Manager or Chris or whoever. It depends what it is. Chris get’s all the potholes. I’m saying, if there was a procedure set up for people in our community that want to get involved, we want you to get involved. There used to be no one here.” Vida said, “I speak to it because I have expressed interest over the years and I know there have been people who live in Sandy Township who have served on Planning Commission.” Reasinger asked, “DuBois Planning Commission?” Vida replied, “Yes.” Volpe stated, “You’ve been on Planning Commission.” Vida replied, I was years and years

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### Kristen Vida – Chestnut Avenue (continued)

ago until Miss Cherry and I had a spat over a conflict of interest with the Country Club and I had questioned she should not be advising as an investor and be on Council at the same time. Those were my days on the Planning Commission and I was not re-appointed and kind of banned from the kingdom. I'm just bringing that up if there are people that want to serve but, because of their questions they were not permitted to." LaBrasca Becker said, "With that, there's a lot of talented people in our area and everybody has something they think they can give. Whether they work for PennDOT, they know the laws of where the signs sit back. And, Chris, you're great working with everybody. That's just my recommendation. If you could come up with something that people could put an application in ... so we know they are interested and there is a procedure to that." Gelfand said, "Some of the committees have been long dormant and we're looking into bringing them back and functioning, especially zoning, parking, parks and rec, things like that, where we want input from the community and we want people that want to be involved give us input and help us and the citizens move the City forward so we're considering all those options. Joe Becker said, "The problem with zoning is if somebody wants to change something it can become very expensive."

### Linda London – 527 Rumbarger Avenue

London said, "I know Mr. Breth is going to, he said he would look into the legal position, but has anybody addressed what is the policy for elected officials' healthcare as far as Council members. What policy is right now?" Reasinger answered, "It was never discussed at a public meeting. There was never a motion to it. It started in 2014?" Nasuti said, "January 1, 2015." Reasinger continued, "January 1, 2015. I'm not really sure how." Nasuti said, "There is no written policy." Reasinger said, "There is no written policy. It was just given to elected officials." Gelfand interjected, "Certain elected officials." Michael Clement said, "I would say it's certain elected officials and I've talked with Shannon Gabriel, a former City Councilwoman. I talked to her tonight, as a matter of fact. She said, 'Michael, I was never offered health insurance.' So, to your point, we don't have a policy." Reasinger said, "It's not a part, if you're going to run for office it says how much you get paid, it says how much your benefits are, a compensation packet. That was never part of the election materials." London said, "So it just happened." Reasinger said, "It just happened." Jackson said, "To clarify, myself, Pat and Elliot, none of us have health care." Reasinger said, "No, we've elected not to take the healthcare." London clarified, "So three of the members right now do not." Jackson replied, "Correct." Reasinger said, "Two do." Clement added, "And other elected officials do as well." LaBrasca Becker said, "I do. As the Treasurer." Volpe said, "I do not. I do not have healthcare. Never had it." Clement said, "That's OK. I was just curious because I've heard a lot of electeds have it."

### Debbie Mechling – Monroe Street

"At the January 2 meeting, Council voted to terminate former City Manager who had been on administrative leave since March..." Gelfand said, "That's not exactly what happened. It's kind of been misquoted in the press. We authorized the City Solicitor to take steps to move that forward but that hasn't been done yet." Mechling clarified, "He hasn't been terminated." Reasinger said, "To move forward with the termination. There's a procedure." Mechling said, "Will we hear what is decided about his pension when the time comes?" Jackson replied, "Absolutely. It's a procedure Loudermill process, correct Tom?" Breth replied, "There's two different procedures. With respect to his employment, there's a procedure that's within the City's codes that we'll be working through and I'll advise the Council tonight on the legal procedure and actually share with them a legal opinion that was provided by outside counsel months ago. With respect to his pension, that's a different issue." Mechling said, "I was just wondering what the impact would be financially on the City with all of that." Breth responded, "That's really contingent upon the criminal charges." Mechling replied, "OK. Thank you." Jackson said, "Know, Debbie, that I know I speak for myself, Pat and Elliot, we are diligent about the funds of the City and where they are going and what they're being spent on going forward." Mechling replied, "I didn't have any question about that."

Reasinger announced, "We will be going into Executive Session for legal and personnel matters."

### Adjourn

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

ATTEST:

Korbi Sloam

APPROVED:

[Signature]