

City Council Meeting Minutes – September 23, 2024

City Council Chambers, City Building, 16 West Scribner Avenue, DuBois, Pennsylvania on Monday, September 23, 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. Also present were: City Manager, Shawn Arbaugh; City Solicitor Associate Matthew Gieg; Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer, Zac Lawhead; Public Works Superintendent, Scott Farrell; Corporal Randy Young; Officer Kyle Bish; Officer Casey Doherty; and Administrative Secretary, Korbi Slocum.

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

Executive Session

Council met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss legal matters, personnel matters and contracts.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

None

Approval of Minutes

City Council Minutes – September 9, 2024

The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Jackson that Council approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2024, 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 Gelfand and seconded by Dietz to pay the Auto Draft Check Register by Check ID dated September 19, 2024, in the amount of \$17,547.02. 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 pay the General Fund Purchase Order Listing by Vendor Name dated September 19, 2024, in the amount of \$339,822.87. 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 pay the PennVEST Check Register By Check ID dated September 19, 2024, in the amount of \$1,577,454.98. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Solar System Project Presentation and Request

Officer Casey Doherty has been working with a group from the DuBois Area High School on a proposed project. Four of the members, accompanied by their advisor, gave a presentation proposing a scaled Solar System model to be located in City Park and along the Beaver Meadow trail. The model, with a path 1.97 miles long, will be educational as it shows distance between the planets which will be made from textured cast steel encouraging touch and feel, and each planet will have a plaque with a QR code to a website with virtual guided tours and additional information. Doherty had seen a similar model in Washington, D.C. and there is one located on Route 153 going to Clearfield. The students believe having a model in DuBois will draw interest to the community. When asked about budget, Doherty estimated \$50,000.00 including the posts, models and informational signage. The City's IT Director feels confident he can integrate the students' information from the QR codes onto the City's website. As for project timeline, Doherty would like to see it completed in these students' school year, but he and the advisor are open to doing the work in phases to include additional students.

The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Aughenbaugh to give approval to the students to proceed with the Solar System model project and offered the City's assistance, as needed. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Green Light Go – Authorization to Advertise for Proposals

This is to advertise for design of the traffic signal at Beaver Drive and Liberty Boulevard. We received \$310,040.00 for modernization of the signal and equipment. We do have a 20% match. The motion was made by Gelfand and seconded by Aughenbaugh to approve advertising for proposals for the Green Light Go project. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

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Aggregate Materials – Authorization to Advertise for Bids

We are looking for approval to advertise for 1,000 tons of 1B; 5,000 tons of 2A; 1,000 tons of Type A sand; and 1,000 tons of anti-skid. Aughenbaugh asked if this will be done in conjunction with Sandy Township; Arbaugh confirmed. The motion was made by Aughenbaugh and seconded by Jackson to approve advertising for bids for the above-mentioned aggregate materials. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Pension Advisor – Award Professional Services Proposal for Uniform and Non-Uniform Pension Plans
Council received seven responses to our RFP for services. The pension committee conducted a series of interviews, and the recommendation is to award the pension management contract to C. S. McKee. The firm has had great returns over the past 10 years, a reasonable fee structure, numerous municipal government clients that are Third Class cities, and a conservative investment strategy. They are the only GIPS certified firm (gold standard in pension) who responded to the RFP. The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Gelfand to award the professional services for both the Uniform and Non-Uniform Pension Plans to C. S. McKee. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Police Update

Interim Police Chief Shawn McCleary was unable to attend. This item will be placed on a future agenda.

Resolution 2024-0390 – America 250 Resolution

The Pennsylvania Municipal League and Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors have asked for our support of America250PA and the mission to educate, preserve, innovate and celebrate every Pennsylvanian in every county of the state. The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Gelfand to adopt Resolution 2024-0390 – America 250 Resolution. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

RESOLUTION 2024-0390

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF DUBOIS, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, SUPPORTING THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIOCCENTENNIAL (AMERICA250PA)

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania legislature and the Governor created AMERICA250PA in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States and Pennsylvania's integral role in that event and the role of its people in the nation's past, present and future; and

WHEREAS, AMERICA250PA hopes to engage ALL Pennsylvanians and ALL 67 counties through local, many significant and globally recognized programs, projects and events over the next several years by inspiring future leaders and celebrating all Pennsylvanians' contributions to the nation over the last 250 years; and

WHEREAS, by adoption of AMERICA250PA's four pillars of EDUCATE, preserve, innovate, and celebrate,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AND IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the City of DuBois of Clearfield County, PA, hereby endorses AMERICA250PA and their mission to educate, preserve, innovate and celebrate EVERY Pennsylvanian in EVERY county; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Clearfield County legislative delegation and AMERICA250PA Commission.

ADOPTED by the City Council of DuBois, PA, of the County of Clearfield, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, this 25th day of September 2024.

ATTEST:

Kristin Slocum

Phil Reasinger
Phil Reasinger, Mayor
City of DuBois

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W. Washington Avenue – Pay Application No. 3 - \$48,817.30

The project is nearing completion. Weather-permitting, they will be paving this week. The contractor has submitted Pay Application No. 3 in the amount of \$48,817.30. The motion was made by Gelfand and seconded by Jackson to approve paying Application No. 3 for the W. Washington Avenue project in the amount of \$48,817.30 for the W. Washington Avenue project. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Zoning Hearing Board Members – Appointments September 23, 2024 – December 31, 2025

Council received letters of interest from residents Charles Mechling and Paul Meredith to serve on the Zoning Hearing Board. There are still two openings for anyone else who is interested. The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Aughenbaugh to appoint Mechling and Meredith to the Zoning Hearing Board with terms to expire December 31, 2025. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Trick or Treat Hours

Trick or Treat in the City of DuBois will take place on Thursday, October 31, 2024, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Downtown Trees

Reasinger is seeking approval to purchase 25 containers, trees and flowers to beautify the downtown. Most of the containers will be 42” with a few smaller ones to accommodate more narrow sidewalks. The cost of \$19,628.46 will come from the Tree Fund. Reasinger is asking for volunteers to help plant so there is no labor cost. The motion was made by Jackson and seconded by Gelfand to approve the purchase of the containers, trees and flowers. Roll call was as follows: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

Community Days

The DuBois Fire Department has appointed a committee to evaluate Community Days 2025. Council hopes to hear back from them in a month or so.

Public Comments

Charlie Watt – E. Long Avenue

As Council is talking about an Economic Developer to help promote the City, Watt encouraged Council to consider engaging with an urban planning company – if one exists – to lay out a plan to help the City survive and thrive. He sees an Economic Developer as a salesman and a planning company as an engineer.

Katelynn McClure – Jared Street

McClure asked if a market study or a market analysis have been done on what will happen to property and real estate values when the consolidation takes place. Arbaugh said there have not.

Council Member Comments

Mayor Pat Reasinger

“You may have noticed barriers on Long Avenue. There is a weakness in the bridge, and the State gave us the option to either close the bridge or reduce the weight on the bridge. It may be inconvenient, but the priority is the public’s safety until repair work can be done.” Arbaugh noted the work will go out for bid in January with the work to be done in the Spring.

City Manager Shawn Arbaugh

“I wanted to let the public know the traffic light at Brady and Park was struck today. We are working with PennDOT to make sure it is structurally sound. We’re also working with the Police Department to catch the hit-and-run driver of the oversized load that caused the damage.”

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: Aughenbaugh, yea; Jackson, yea; Gelfand, yea; Dietz, yea; Reasinger, yea. Motion passed 5-0.

ATTEST: Korli Slocum

APPROVED: 