

December 12, 2022

Council President Mr. Martin called the December 12th, 2022 meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The roll was called with the following members present: Mrs. Dennis, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. McClead, Mr. Millhone, Mr. Null, Ms. Abdella and Mr. Wallace present. Also present were Mayor Lorentz, Safety-Service Director Mrs. Hoblitzell, City Auditor Mrs. Nolan, City Law Director Mr. Webster, Treasurer Mrs. Cassady and Clerk of Council Mrs. Meredith.

Council President Mr. Martin asked that everyone please rise for the Prayer and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Lorentz gave the invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President of Council Mr. Martin asked that everyone turn off cellphones so they don't interfere with the recording.

If you address council this evening, please state your name and address clearly so that the clerk can hear.

If council or the administration has a report, please be sure and get a copy of your report to the clerk.

President of Council Mr. Martin asked for a motion to accept the minutes of November 28, 2022. Mrs. Dennis made a motion to accept the minutes of November 28th, 2022 as presented and by-pass the reading. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye except for Ms. Abdella who abstained as she was not a member of council at that time.

Reports of City Officials:

Mayor Lorentz reported that the contract with AFSCME is complete and voted on with 100% in agreement. All we need is council approval.

The O'Neill has acquired enough grant to complete the patio area on the north end of the building. Over the next week or so you will see construction starting.

Wreaths Across America ceremony will be held this coming Saturday at 11-am in the Cedarville Cemetery. Our Veterans will be in charge of this.

The test for Police Chief is this Wednesday here at the city building. As I receive the results all of council will be notified.

The opening at the street garage has been filled. Chris Barringer, the S.D., and I conducted interviews last Friday.

There is some interest in re-opening the Wirt Street bridge. ODOT sent today information on the Municipal Bridge Program that may make it eligible for funding. Belpre will need to determine who actually owns the structure. More to come as information is available.

Safety-Service Director Mrs. Hoblitzell reported that the administration has hired a new gentleman for the street garage.

City Auditor Mrs. Nolan reported that in regards to the first reading of the Resolution supplementing the 2022 appropriations, The Parkersburg News and Sentinel quoted "the resolution includes money received by the city for a force main project and the transfer of funds collected for water tank and water line repairs from the general fund to a dedicated water department fund" unquote. I am publicly correcting that statement. The monies for the water tank and water line repairs do NOT come from the general fund they come from 602 Water fund.

City Law Director Mr. Webster reported that all council will be receiving letters from our office in regards to ODOT/maps in regards to the lots on Main Street that ODOT wants to transfer to the city. It will take council action to accept the property at which time we will do in January.

City Treasurer Mrs. Cassady had no report.

Communication and Petitions: None

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:37PM for the purpose of reviewing the AFSCME Contract. The only thing that will be discussed during the Executive Session is the AFSCME Contract. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to resume back to regular session at 7:57PM. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye

Reports of Standing Committee

Mr. Ferguson reported that his committee met prior to this meeting at 6:30pm to discuss the 2023 Temporary Appropriation. Good discussion! At this time, Mr. Ferguson made a motion to add to tonight's agenda for first reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR AND LAW DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A LABOR AGREEMENT WITH UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS, LOCAL 400, AFL-CIO.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye. Mr. Ferguson made a motion to add to tonight's agenda for first reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR AND LAW DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH BELPRE AFSCME LOCAL 3507.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Dennis, Police and Fire Committee had no report.

Ms. Abdella, Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewer Committee had no report. Ms. Abdella asked Mrs. Hoblitzell about snow removal that was listed on her committee assignment. She was informed that it was for the city to remove the snow at the schools. The assignment needs action. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that if Ms. Abdella would stop by her office they would discuss.

Mr. Millhone Utilities Committee reported that a couple of days ago I had a discussion with Denise Hornbeck at Belair's. I had asked her about the health inspections with the health department. She informed me that they raised \$100 this year and it is up to her to pay. Mr. Millhone called a committee meeting for January 9, 2023 at 6:30 for the purpose of discussing non-sewer inspection for residential and the trash contract. Mr. Millhone stated that he would like to have this put on Facebook if possible There is someone here this evening to discuss raw sewage in basement.

Mr. McClead Parks and Recreation Committee had no report.

Mr. Wallace, Planning and Zoning had no report.

Mr. Wallace, Economic Development Committee had no report.

Mr. Null, Rules Committee had no report. Mr. Null stated that he is waiting on more details from Mr. Webster and for Grant money for Save the Kitty.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL – AGENDA items only ((President of items.)) None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: ((President of City Council will recognize that there is or is not any Unfinished Business this evening)). None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for second reading **A RESOLUTION SUPPLEMENTING 2022 APPROPRIATIONS**. Mr. Ferguson discussed new exhibit of \$4,000 for Software deficit for Mayor's Court. The bill has come in and needs taken care of by the end of the month. Mrs. Nolan stated that the bill has come in and has been paid. This is why we are showing a deficit. Mr. Ferguson made a motion to add the new exhibit to the legislation. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for second reading **A RESOLUTION SUPPLEMENTING 2022 APPROPRIATIONS as amended**. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved to suspend the rule of council on three different days to allow for the third reading of **A RESOLUTION SUPPLEMENTING 2022 APPROPRIATIONS as amended**. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved this be Resolution #22, 2022-2023 and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for first reading **TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR CALENDAR AND FISCAL YEAR 2023**. Discussion followed regarding taking \$75,000 from the health department back to \$50,000 and to remove the transfer out of \$70,000 completely.

Mr. Wallace made a motion to amend the legislation accordingly. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye except for Mrs. Dennis and Mr. Ferguson who voted nay.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for first reading **TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR CALENDAR AND FISCAL YEAR 2023 as amended**. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved to suspend the rule of council on three different days to allow for the second and third readings of **TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR CALENDAR AND FISCAL YEAR 2023 as amended**. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for the second and third readings **TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR CALENDAR AND FISCAL YEAR 2023 as amended**. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved this be Ordinance #7, 2022-2023 and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Nolan requested a certified copy from the clerk on the supplemental appropriations.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for first reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR AND LAW DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A LABOR AGREEMENT WITH UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS, LOCAL 400, AFL-CIO**. Point of clarification. This is for the police department per Mr. Ferguson. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved to suspend the rule of council on three different days to allow for the second and third readings of **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR AND LAW DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A LABOR AGREEMENT WITH UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS, LOCAL 400, AFL-CIO**. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for the second and third readings **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR AND LAW DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A LABOR AGREEMENT WITH UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS, LOCAL 400, AFL-CIO.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved this be Resolution #23, 2022-2023 and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for first reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR AND LAW DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH BELPRE AFSCME LOCAL 3507.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved to suspend the rule of council on three different days to allow for the second and third readings **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR AND LAW DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH BELPRE AFSCME LOCAL 3507.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council the second and third readings **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR AND LAW DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH BELPRE AFSCME LOCAL 3507.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved this be Resolution #24, 2022-2023 and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Cecil Hinton 715 Pomeroy Pike addressed raw sewage in his basement at 615 Lambert Street. Mr. Hinton presented paperwork to the council. I contacted the Safety-Service Director who gave me the telephone number for the insurance company. I contacted the insurance company and didn't get a response from them for about a week later. I received a letter from PERSO for the claim the city filed concerning 615 Lamber Street, File No. being PEPO25159A and was informed that they were not responsible for the damage. I would like council/administration to review the paperwork and respond back to me in a reasonable time so that I can make a determination as how to proceed.

Mr. Webster informed Mr. Hinton that the letter was dated today, December 12, 2022 and that the city has a reasonable time frame to respond and they should reply in writing.

Larry Deem 212 Blennerhassett Avenue addressed council regarding a water line break in front of his home. He stated that he wasn't appearing because of a complaint

but wanted to recognize the street department on their job performance and how professional they were in getting the job done. Mr. Deem stated that the workers do a superior job.

Jesse Wonycott 805 Main Street stated that we need to request all the bills from ADR Associates from the auditor's office regarding the contract amount. I feel that council needs to take a look at this. Most of the money is coming out of the water storage. I feel that council isn't being informed about work being done and that is why they aren't wanting to approve the money.

Mr. Ferguson called a Finance/Audit Committee meeting for January 9th, 2023 at 5:30PM to begin the discussion on the 2023 Budget.

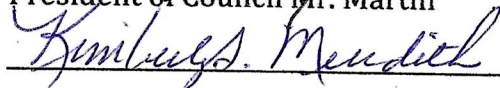
Mr. Ferguson wished everyone a Merry Christmas!

ADJOURN:

Mrs. Dennis made a motion to adjourn at 8:39PM. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.



President of Council Mr. Martin



Clerk of Belpre City Council Mrs. Meredith