

JOHNSTOWN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 8, 2023

City Council met in a stated session for the general transaction of business.
Mayor Janakovic called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Britt offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The following members of Council were present for roll call:

Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King,
Mrs. Mock (6). Ms. Huchel (1) entered the meeting after roll call was taken.

Ethan Imhoff, City Manager; Alex Ashcom, Assistant City Manager; Robert Ritter,
Finance Director; John Dubnansky, Economic Development Director; Dave
Williams, Codes Enforcement Manager; Tony Penna, Recreation; Elizabeth
Benjamin, Esquire, City Solicitor; Robert Statler, Fire Chief; Richard
Pritchard, Police Chief; Jared Campagna, Public Works Director, were also in
attendance.

(Whereupon at 6:01 p.m. Council entered into Executive Session. Council returned
to Open Session at 6:50 p.m.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 8,
2023. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mock and passed by the following
vote:

Yeas: Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic,
Reverend King, Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel (7)
Nays: None (0).

PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS, HONORS, RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

Mayor Janakovic invited Mr. Skelley to join him while reading the following
Proclamation for Irish American Heritage Month into the record:

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is a Catholic Irish American fraternal group that
traces its roots back to the Defenders of the men in Ireland in the 18th Century.
As existed formerly in the United States and which seeks to preserve Irish
culture and heritage in art, dance, music, and sports. Cambria County has had
several Ancient Order of Hibernian divisions dating back to 1876 and the current

existing division one, Cambria County, was formed in June 1994 and was named in honor of Our Lady of Knock in the County of Mayo, Ireland.

Since 1991 American presidents of both parties and numerous acts of Congress have designated March as Irish American Heritage Month, a time to honor the numerous contributions that Irish immigrants and their decedents have made to our nation.

President John F. Kennedy expressed his support to the Irish nation, its people, and the deep cultural connections to American Society and in 1963 addressed to Irish Parliament that Ireland already has set an example for other small nations to follow. This has never been a rich powerful country and yet, since its earliest times, its influence has been rich and powerful. No large nation did more to keep Christianity and Western culture alive in their darkest centuries. No larger nation did more to spark the cause of independence in America, indeed around the world. And no larger nation has ever provided more literary and artistic genius.

Now, Therefore, I, Mayor Frank J. Janakovic, Mayor of the City of Johnstown, on behalf of City Council declare the month of March 2023 in the City of Johnstown to be known as Irish American Heritage Month. The City has generations of citizens of Irish descent and respects and celebrates their history, culture, and hard work.

Mayor Janakovic read the following Proclamation for Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month into the record:

Bleeding Disorders are rare, dangerous, and often painful disorders affecting 30,000 to 33,000 persons in the United States with roughly 1 in 100 persons suffering their effects. These bleeding disorders, which share the inability to form a proper blood clot, are characterized by extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma, menstruation, and can lead to significant morbidity and be fatal if not treated effectively.

The City of Johnstown wishes to formalize and expand upon the federal designation 30 years ago in March 1986 its Hemophilia Awareness Month and in 2016 when the entirety of the bleeding disorder community came together to encompass all bleeding disorders.

Awareness will bring light to the great scientific achievements in the treatment of bleeding disorders in which there is no cure in the greater pursuit of advanced therapies and cures from these disorders.

The City of Johnstown's highest priority is health, safety and well-being of its residents. And in collaboration with the Western Pennsylvania Bleeding Disorder's foundation which to increase awareness of bleeding disorders and the need for proper diagnosing and treatment for these disorders.

Therefore, I, Mayor Frank J. Janakovic, Mayor of the City of Johnstown, on behalf of City Council declare the month of March 2023 in the City of Johnstown to be known as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month. We sympathize with those under the effects of these debilitating disorders. We encourage our residents to seek proper medical diagnoses and treatments for these disorders. And we stand in solidarity with organizations such as the Western Pennsylvania Bleeding Disorders Foundation in finding safe, effective, and painless treatments for bleeding disorders.

PUBLIC COMMENT-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Robin Kmetz, 125 Spring Street, Johnstown, addressed Council was saddened to see that Mom's House was not receiving "their share of the pie". She asked Council to reconsider the matter and give them the opportunity to continue to help families and children.

John DeBartola, 1197 Bedford Street, Johnstown, addressed Council regarding the contract with SCAPE Landscape Architects for the Main Street project design and engineering at a cost of \$1,612,321 which would not benefit the entire city. He inquired what happened to the committee selected to oversee this plan, why were they appointed and why was not the ARPA money distributed for the entire community.

Mr. DeBartola commented that with regard to Mom's House, Council is playing "ping-pong bureaucracy" with much red tape and roadblocks. He asked that Mom's House be given the opportunity to continue to help the families of this community.

REPORTS

CITY MANAGER:

Ethan Imhoff, City Manager, mentioned that a kick-off meeting was held with regard to the RAISE grant projects and environmental historic preservation clearances that required consultant, Michael Baker, to spend the day in town

doing a tour of all the project sites. Meetings were also held with local, county, and federal legislators as well as a media briefing.

Mr. Imhoff reported that he, the Mayor and Mr. Dubnansky had a well-received presentation for the Chamber regarding the State of the City moving forward with projects.

MAYOR:

Frank Janakovic, Mayor, noted some events taking place in the City, including the Chamber dinner at the Conference Center, week-end hockey and wrestling tournaments, and the Mardi-Gras Crawl.

He extended well wishes to Roots Kitchen and Juicery, a new business recently opened downtown.

Roxbury Band Shell recently held a raffle to raise funds.

The Mayor attended a recent Gunther Leadership Group event.

Mr. Janakovic noted the opportunity to sit in on phone call with Senator Casey's office on projects he would be supporting this year.

The Mayor was invited to participate in a telephone conversation for a presentation by the Governor regarding a prerequisite of projects he is working on for needs throughout the state and the Johnstown community.

CITY SOLICITOR:

Elizabeth Benjamin, Esquire, noted for the record that the Executive Session held earlier was for active and current litigation which will be identified as a federal action in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Caption No. 323CD27 and a declaratory action pending in the Cambria Court of Common Pleas at No. 2023-077 .

CITY ENGINEER:

None.

COUNCIL UPDATES/NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISONS:

Mr. Capriotti noted his attendance at many of the events the Mayor had already mentioned. He'll reserve further comments for agenda items.

Mr. Britt had no report.

Mr. Arnone provided an update on statistical information related to the population of public housing communities located within the City of Johnstown. He reported that as February 28, 2023, the population of the public housing communities was 2,605 and Section Eight voucher holders total 1,082 which amounts to a total of 3,687 families. Currently 49 percent of the people living in poverty in the City of Johnstown are being assisted.

He stated the Johnstown Housing Authority's new Family Self-Sufficiency coordinator will be coming onboard this month to begin connecting residents with employment opportunities and other local resources. Career Link, JARI, and Penn Highlands are already scheduling workshops in the JHA communities.

As Council's representative on the GJWA, 23 lead service lines have been replaced in February. All reservoirs are full and working. During the month of February nearly 17,000 feet of mainline was inspected, and 2,000 feet was jetted, and 63 pressure tests were also witnessed.

He reported that Snyder is approximately 98 percent completed with the construction of the whole sewer project, 98 of pipeline rehabilitation, 94 percent completed with viewports, 95 percent completed with conversions. As of January 31, 2023 the City of Johnstown is 62.57 percent pressure tested.

Mrs. Mock had no report.

Reverend King noted her attendance at a recent meeting of the Cambria County Planning Commission regarding the work to be done by PennDOT on the William Penn Corridor.

She noted her attendance at the recent United Neighborhood meeting.

Reverend King is helping to plan next year's MLK celebration with the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra as well as the Juneteenth Celebration with the NAACP.

Ms. Huchel reported that JRA will be sending a representative in their capacity as land bank to the next county tax sale.

Mayor Janakovic offered a moment of silence for Lance Ross, the owner of the Freight Station who tragically passed away recently. A memorial will be held sometime during March.

PETITIONS

None.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL READ AND ADOPTION

BILL NO. 23 OF 2022, (TABLED) AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND SETTING FORTH REQUIREMENTS FOR MECHANICAL AMUSEMENT DEVICE AND LICENSING TAX TO BE CODIFIED WITHIN CHAPTER EIGHT (BUSINESS REGULATION AND TAXATION CODE) TITLE FOUR (TAXATION) OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN CODIFIED ORDINANCES AS A NEW CHAPTER 804 ENTITLED "MECHANICAL AMUSEMENT DEVICES".

Mr. Arnone made a motion to remove from table. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mock and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King, Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel (7).
Nays: None (0).

The City Manager explained that Council had adopted the first read at the November 2022 meeting, followed by a couple months of further investigation. He noted one of the key items was regarding whether or not skill machines are subject to regulation, which Council determined they are, which obviously increases the enforcement of the need for this particular ordinance. After consideration of different options, it was decided that the Finance Department will be the department charged with enforcement of the ordinance.

Mr. Ritter reported that Sargent's was contacted regarding a temporary worker for that job and they stated one can be furnished 20 hours a week working 10:00 to 2:00, going to certain areas each day and getting names, addresses, locations and inventory of machines and a tax would be paid on those machines. Mr. Ritter stated doing this for three months would cost the City approximately \$5,300 and he projects the City would bring in approximately \$50,000 in machine fees.

Mr. Arnone suggested that the properties be reinspected in six months to see that no other machines were added. He also recommended that the individual hired

for the job provides identification which verifies employment with the City to perform the job.

Mr. Imhoff noted an additional database listing is available of the properties paying the tax.

Mr. Britt was concerned that only one person would be hired to perform the job.

Reverend King inquired what type of training the individual would have. Mr. Ritter noted he may go along initially for a period of time. Mrs. Mock inquired if there was direction from the state regarding the matter and suggested that Mr. Ritter contact other municipalities or contact one of the state's representatives regarding the matter.

Mr. Capriotti commented that he is not comfortable with voting on an ordinance without first having a clear understanding or plan put in force.

Mr. Capriotti made a motion to table pending additional information presented at a workshop prior to a Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mock and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic,
Reverend King, Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel (7).
Nays: None (0).

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READ:

BILL NO. 1 OF 2023, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, ORDINANCE NO. 4964 ADOPTED APRIL 13, 2005, AND AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. 5086, PASSED JUNE 22, 2011; ORDINANCE NO. 5119 PASSED JANUARY 23, 2013; ORDINANCE NO. 5139 PASSED NOVEMBER 27, 2013; ORDINANCE NO. 5191 PASSED DECEMBER 9, 2015; AND ORDINANCE NO. 5330 PASSED MARCH 9, 2022, BY REZONING CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND LOCATED IN THE 8TH WARD OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN (TABLED).

Mr. Arnone made a motion to remove from table. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mock and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King,
Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone (7).

Nays: None (0).

Ms. Benjamin explained that per the City's zoning and planning code and regulations, once an item has been presented in the form of a report and recommendation from the City Planning Commission, the City's next obligation is to schedule it for public hearing and publish notice of the proposed amendment and the day after that public hearing and then taking a vote.

Mr. Arnone that a notice of public hearing and the proposed amendment information be published. The motion was seconded by Reverend King and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King,
Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone (7).

Nays: None (0).

Ms. Benjamin noted the ordinance can remain tabled pending publication and public hearing.

Mr. Capriotti made a motion to table pending publication and public hearing on the matter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnone and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Arnone, Ms. Huchel, Mrs. Mock, Reverend King,
Mayor Janakovic, Mr. Capriotti, Mr. Britt (7).

Nays: None (0).

BILL NO. 2 OF 2023, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 5008 ADOPTED DECEMBER 12, 2007 AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. 5871 ADOPTED NOVEMBER 12, 2015 AND CODIFIED WITHIN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN AT TITLE FOUR, TAXATION, CHAPTER 882, ENTITLED "LOCAL SERVICES TAX" TO AMEND THE ANNUAL RATE FOR THE LOCAL SERVICES TAX AND ADJUST THE EXEMPTIONS THERETO IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAME BY LOWERING THE CURRENT TAX RATE TO FORTY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$47) EFFECTIVE APRIL 29, 2023.

Mrs. Mock made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Reverend King.

The City Manager explained that out of the \$52 charge, \$5 of that is for the school district.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King, Mrs. Mock,
Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt (7).
Nays: None (0).

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 10555

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING AND
DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH
SCAPE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$1,612,321 FOR DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE
MANI STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT.

Mrs. Mock made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Reverend King.

Mrs. Mock explained the project includes some of the funding from the RAISE grant.
She mentioned this company was picked based on an RFP and the committee
will be brought in to work with LANDSCAPE. There was further discussion.

Mr. Dubnansky noted the committee was established under the former city manager
and one initial meeting was held. That now the committee will be engaged
going forward with the process.

Mr. Capriotti requested the meetings be advertised and open to the public for
comment and minutes be taken to keep track of what is going on. He
suggested that Community and Economic Development keep the minutes and
run the meeting.

Mr. Imhoff there will be a "very robust effort" to keep the public informed and to
involve the public. Information would be placed on the website for public
review. There was further discussion.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King, Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel,
Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti (7).
Nays: None (0).

Resolution No. 10556

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO PURCHASE OF 2024 10-TON MACK CHASSIS FROM M&K TRUCK CENTER AND AN 11" ALUMINUM DUMP BED WITH SNOW EQUIPMENT FROM A&H EQUIPMENT.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mock and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Reverend King, Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone,
Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic (7).
Nays: None (0).

Resolution No. 10557

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH STACKHOUSE PARK, INC. FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF DCNR GRANT FUNDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MASTER PLAN AT STACKHOUSE PARK.

Reverend King made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnone.

The City Manager explained Stackhouse Park, a nonprofit organization, already has a contract with the City to oversee and manage the park. That the City applied to DCNR to do a master plan of the park as a way to set goals for future investments that need to be made. DCNR awarded that funding and requires a service agreement. Mr. Dubnansky explained the City would be the administrator of those funds.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt,
Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King (7).
Nays: None (0).

Resolution No. 10558

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE DEDICATION AND NAMING OF THE AAABA FIELD AT ROXBURY PARK TO DEE DEE OSBORNE FIELD AT ROXBURY PARK IN HONOR OF HIS COMMITMENT TO BASEBALL IN JOHNSTOWN.

Mr. Britt made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnone.

Tony Penna stated early this past winter, Mr. Campagna was contacted by the coach at Wake Forest, Tom Walter, and some local guys contacted both himself and Mr. Campagna regarding their strong desire to do some improvements to the AAABA field. They wanted to do something nice for the coach in appreciation for all the things he had done for them and approached us about making a large donation themselves and then raising additional funds to do improvements approved by Council and naming it after Mr. Osborne. Suggestions included an upgrade to the lighting, a new press box and maybe some infield improvements depending on the amount of funds raised.

Mr. Arnone indicated the American Legion will provide a flagpole and flag with 24-hour lighting and will maintain the property around it.

Mr. Penna is also hoping for an upgrade to the scoreboard and the press box would be able to house some sound equipment. He indicated a ceremony will take place sometime in late spring and Mr. Walter is planning on making the trip for the event.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti,
Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King, Mrs. Mock (7).
Nays: None (0).

Resolution No. 10559

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE FY 2022 CDBG PROGRAM.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Reverend King.

Mr. Imhoff explained this is a Community Development Block Grant fund that the City receives an annual allocation of funding for and unspent funds currently listed for business assistance are being reprogrammed for use in eligible

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programs such as Flood City Youth Academy, Sandyvale Memorial Gardens, Forest Avenue and Somerset Street Playground improvements. He noted timeliness with regard to use of the funds.

Reverend King withdrew her motion to second due to personal involvement in the projects.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic,
Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel (6).

Nays: None (0).

Abstention: Reverend King (1).

Resolution No. 10560

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING AND
DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH
UNIFIED BOARD OPERATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$67,400 FOR
UPDATES TO THE SARGENT'S STADIUM VIDEO BOARD.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Capriotti.

Mr. Dubnansky noted this involves a software program called MotionRocket LaunchPad which uses cameras and stated two additional cameras would be purchased for outdoor use. He further noted when the video board was first purchased it was lacking a number of things and the software program would make it more user friendly and accessible and would provide an interactive experience showing replays and audience in attendance.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King,
Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone (7).

Nays: None (0).

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Draft City of Johnstown Fee Schedule - Review of the Home Rule Charter and Code of Ordinances

City Manager Imhoff requested another month to review this matter. Two parts of the draft would include an ordinance to update all the language in the Home Rule Charter and a resolution passing the actual fee schedule with further discussion regarding the matter at the next meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Public Works

Jared Campagna, Public Works Director, reported the job posting for the additional mechanic's position will be advertised in the newspaper this weekend.

2023 Paving Project in in progress with the bulk being in the Walnut Grove area and portions of Hornerstown where the sewer project initially started. Funding would come out of the liquid fuels funding.

Mr. Capriotti had concerns that Dominion was now digging up and haphazardly patching areas of roadways that had already been paved as part of the sewer project. He inquired if all these areas were being tracked so that company can come back and correct the areas. Mr. Campagna stated a spreadsheet is kept regarding the matter. There was further discussion.

2. Police Department

Chief Richard Pritchard noted testing will be announced Friday, March 10, 2023, and noted few applicants. Five IUP recruits are interested in a position with the City of Johnstown Police Department, the Johnstown Academy has 12 or 13 candidates and the Westmoreland County Police Academy will also be contacted regarding recruits. There are currently eight vacancies in the department.

Testing is scheduled for Saturday, April 1, 2023.

Chief Pritchard reported officers will be wearing body cameras starting Monday, March 13, 2023. Hardware issues were resolved. Axon, the company from which the cameras were purchased, has tutorials available for officers to learn about the cameras before the equipment is being issued.

Chief noted a meeting with the 1889 Foundation regarding funding for some cameras and Flock, a company who sells stationary license plate reading equipment and artificial intelligence recognition of bumper stickers to help

track vehicles. Any IP camera from any business such as Dollar General can be integrated into the system. Chief Pritchard indicated a vendor will be presenting at the Chief's meeting later this month which will hopefully provide additional information to bring back to the committee.

Mr. Arnone commended the Chief and his staff for working with the school board and for the situation this past Monday when shots were fired in the Moxham/Hornerstown area. Chief Pritchard noted the SRO at the school acted quickly to acknowledge the call and start a shelter in place.

Chief Pritchard explained how the in-car camera system and body cameras work.

3. Fire Department

Chief Robert Statler indicated the old cameras that were in the cruisers previously will be installed in the fire trucks for use.

Remodeling of the training facility is moving forward and the department is working with Johnstown Welding on putting the building back up. He noted the RFP for concrete came in fairly high so the department along with Public Works will save money by doing the job themselves. The spring is the timeframe for the concrete project as well as lot cleanup.

Mr. Arnone suggested the owner of Right Elevator, a nearby business, be contracted to help with the cleanup.

4. Finance

Robert Ritter reported that staff has started converting data into the new Enterprise Software. The new software for Payroll and Finance should be working by the end of May.

Staff is also going back three years and updating the business privilege tax by matching up construction permits to the contractors and then sending that data to Berkheimer Tax Administrator.

5. Community Development

John Dubnansky, Economic Development Director, reported a public hearing was held yesterday, March 7, 2023, for HUD dollars which are American Rescue Plan dollars received through HUD in the amount of \$881,000. A draft plan

for spending of those funds has been adjusted and an update would be provided.

Mr. Dubnansky noted that HUD announced funding allocations for the 2023 fiscal year in the amount of \$1,268,362 of Community Development Block Grant funding and \$237,876 of home funds for a total of approximately \$1.5 million. New applications are not being accepted as the old applications are being considered. Information regarding the matter will be updated on the City's website.

He indicated that applications are actively being sought for the sewer lateral assistance program as there are "plenty of funds" to help residents. Mr. Arnone commented that the program is not well known. Ms. Huchel was asked to promote the program with Mr. Arnone noting that "she touches base with more of those people than would walk into City Hall".

Mr. Dubnansky provided an update with regard to new businesses coming in to downtown. He noted the opening of Roots Juicery and some current projects such as the Grub Shack, in the former Tower of Pizza site and the Write Cup on Gazebo Park. Mayor Janakovic asked that the new businesses be supported.

Mr. Arnone mentioned the new Dollar Store in Hornerstown has a slanted parking lot with no guardrail. There was discussion regarding the placement of a guardrail at the location.

Mr. Dubnansky invited Council members to all CDBG meetings.

6. Code Enforcement

Dave Williams, Codes Enforcement Manager, reported that in the month of February there were 36 building permits issued, 17 commercial contractor licenses, and 168 service requests for violations.

Three codes personnel were hired and will start April 3, 2023 and there are two more interviews scheduled within the next few weeks.

Equipment is currently being cleaned by himself and Public Works.

Three to four properties ready to be taken to court came into compliance within the last week.

Mr. Williams reported the City has been registered for Pick Up PA, the Great American Cleanup, for April 2023. He noted meeting with the Moxham Community Group, residents in Walnut Grove, Woodvale and will meet with other groups throughout the City.

Mr. Britt and members had discussion regarding a residence or business in the 900 block of Ash Street and whether an abandoned vehicle located on private property can be taken. Mr. Imhoff noted the matter would be investigated further.

7. Recreation

Tony Penna reported working in conjunction with the 1st Summit Arena staff with regard to a possible concert for August on a larger scale.

He indicated the Mill Rats are interested in a summer exercise "walk around" from 7:00 to 9:00 in the morning at Sargent's Stadium. Also some nonprofit groups are interested in using the field for baseball and football activities.

The new sound and scoreboard are currently being installed. A left field scoreboard composing of 8 different scoreboards put together will be installed before UPJ's opening day.

Several walkthroughs were conducted at the stadium to install 18 cameras in the important corridors. Additional cameras could be added if necessary.

A plan to develop the grassy area out in the deep center is being considered to add the AAABA Hall of Fame.

Some events considered for the stadium include rental for baseball practices.

Mr. Penna disclosed that the stadium is a possible site for PIAA District Baseball but that would depend on matchups. He noted the fees at the Curve Stadium is the reason for the change.

He noted the previous discussion with regard to Roxbury Park. Resurfacing and lighting of the tennis courts in the approximate amount of \$200,000 is also being discussed. Grant funds are being sought for the project.

The hockey rink will be installed this spring at Roxbury. A ponding issue under the rink will need attention. Mr. Penna noted the Tomahawks will help to coordinate all the hockey staff to get the project started.

A couple is interested in donating a bench along the walking trail at Roxbury Park. Other donations would be sought so people would be able to rest along the trail.

Mr. Arnone referred to seats located at the light in Dale Borough which are made of concrete but look like wood and require no maintenance and stated he would recommend that kind of seating. Mr. Arnone suggested that the cost of one of these benches be made public for those persons or organizations interested in purchasing one.

Mr. Penna reported that a code of conduct is being designed by the umpires for players and coaches of baseball leagues. Second game suspensions would be reviewed if a second game or further discipline was necessary.

He indicated plans for the Minersville, Somerset Street and Village Street Playgrounds are being reviewed. Additional funding left over would be put to use by replacing those no longer in operation with grassy areas.

Volunteer Day is scheduled for April 15 to work on five playgrounds including Wood Street, Park Avenue, Oakhurst, Dorothy Avenue and Cambria City. Visions, Juvenile Probation and Mr. Quan Britt's group are all involved in the project to spread mulch, paint, power wash and cut grass.

The Mayor suggested contacting the 1889 Foundation and also to offer a "teach and coach" type program for the kids.

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONAGENDA ITEMS

John DeBartola, 1197 Bedford Street, Johnstown, inquired if there was an agency under the Sunshine Act for the Main Street committee, do board members have term limits, what are their hours and further inquired if the boards were created per the Home Charter Rule. He wondered if by creating a board, Council created a "monster".

He noted not seeing zoning's promise to change a section on any of the agendas over the last year and some local bar owners are considering protest and legal action.

Mr. DeBartola inquired about the status of the complaint he filed with the Attorney General's Office in November of 2022 regarding the ARPA money. A full investigation was promised by that office but he has heard nothing.

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He noted the City's lawsuit regarding the man who died falling on the river wall and wondered why that had not been addressed previously.

He asked that Council change its public participation policy and talked about a Planning Commission meeting where Mr. DeBartola offered public comment and was "cut off". He is requesting a public apology from Mr. Davis and reimbursement of the \$104 filing fee and Council address this matter.

Mayor Janakovic requested an account of all active and inactive commissions.

RECESS/ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8:43 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD WITH REGARD TO LITIGATION

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.