

JOHNSTOWN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 11, 2024

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

Reverend King offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Janakovic noted an Executive Session with regard to personnel was held prior to the commencement of this meeting. A Budget Workshop was also held.

The following members of Council were present for roll call:

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

Art Martynuska, City Manager; Dave Andrews, Esquire, Solicitor; Aimee Willett, Assistant Solicitor; Lavona Smith; Melissa Millard; Jared Campagna; Sara Williams, Executive Secretary; Robert Statler, Fire Chief; Officer David Price; and Dave Williams were also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Janakovic made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2024 and Budget Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnone and passed by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0).

PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS, HONORS, RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mr. John DeBartola, 1197 Bedford Street Johnstown, referred to the appointment of three Board members on the agenda and noted a typo regarding the term length to the Greater Johnstown Water Authority.

Mr. DeBartola expressed concerns that Council was appointing the wrong people repeatedly. He did not believe that the JRA reappointment should be for Mark Pasquerilla and called for people not to vote for him since he will have 15

years on the JRA and called it "outrageous." He stated, if you look at the JRA this past year, there was the Atrium Manor scandal, the deed restriction on the State Theater, and everything else going on in the community. "How can someone be reappointed for 15 years whenever they have failed the community?"

Mr. DeBartola opined, "We need new blood and people that are not connected." He referred to the GJWA's lead pipe issue as a "complete disaster."

He commented the Planning Commission missed four meetings this year as there was not enough members for a quorum. Regarding the ordinance concerning salaries and wages to be paid for all elected officials and employees of various departments and regarding Resolution A, Mr. DeBartola inquired if that related to expenses for Ms. Ndichu and should the City be spending budget money so "haphazardly." He had discussion regarding a possible lawsuit for a Facebook post, and \$32,000 the City has spent on legal expenses to defend his lawsuit.

Mr. DeBartola again stressed the importance of Board appointments and the length of time an individual can hold that position.

REPORTS

CITY MANAGER

Art Martynuska, City Manager, referred Council members to the last copy of the Title 6 program.

He reported there has been a lot of activity in City Hall the last few weeks. A new website is being developed to make it more user-friendly for the public where forms can be completed online to help the City move forward. He recognized staff and thanked them for their help.

He mentioned that an offer has been extended to Ms. Lavona Smith to become the HR manager for the City.

Ms. Smith introduced herself and added that she was excited to be a part of the team with 14 years of HR experience. She added that she has been in the United States Air Force, and she is currently serving as a master sergeant and reservist.

MAYOR

Mayor Frank Janakovic requested a moment of silence to remember Monsignor Balta who recently passed away.

He noted his attendance for the agreement signing between Conemaugh Memorial Hospital and the Indiana University of Pennsylvania for the agreement of an Osteopathic College of Medicine.

Mayor Janakovic attended the Christmas tree lighting in Central Park. He made note of decent attendance despite the weather.

He attended a recent luncheon at UPJ to meet the University of Pittsburgh Chancellor, Joan Gable. Discussions took place regarding projects in conjunction with Pitt Johnstown. Ms. Gable was receptive to the ideas presented and enjoyed her visit.

The Mayor noted his attendance at the Vision Together meetings and regional partnership meetings.

He also met with Congressman Joyce's Chief of Staff as she was in search of office space locally. The Mayor suggested that a location be found downtown and to have Congressman Joyce come once or twice a month to meet the constituents.

The Mayor noted his attendance at the Cambria County Behavioral Health Report to Community on mental and behavioral health that affects everyone, including the police force, available services that deal with mental illness, and behavioral issues.

He thanked the Chief and firefighters for representing our City for the work performed during a rescue mission despite the unfortunate ending.

Mayor Janakovic noted his attendance at a recent downtown vendor event and congratulated the Johnstown staff for making it a great event. The Mayor also thanked all individuals and volunteers for making it happen.

CITY SOLICITOR

Dave Andrews, Solicitor, reported there are two tax assessment appeals currently in litigation that the City is contesting, one is JPM Holdings (the Atrium building). A pretrial conference took place on Monday, November 18, 2024 with Judge Kiniry. Mr. Andrews stated the appraisal submitted was

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inadequate, and he would proceed further with getting the City's own appraisal with the cooperation of the school district. The next scheduled hearing is on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, with Judge Kiniry.

Another appeal is one filed by Rasheed Deep appeal, 142 Walnut Street, the old FNB building, and the initial conference is on December 20, 2024 with Judge Kiniry.

CITY ENGINEER

No report.

COUNCIL UPDATES/NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISONS

Ms. Huchel congratulated the City for all their work with the Christmas market and activities.

She noted that a Lessons and Carols event at the Grand Halle will take place on December 20, 2024, and encouraged all to attend.

Ms. Huchel reported on working on the stray animal initiatives.

She mentioned a basket party that took place in November 2024 for the Johnstown Animal Welfare Society. The next meeting will occur on December 17, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at Donna Christopher's Insurance office. The total money raised will be further discussed at that time. All are welcome to attend.

Ms. Huchel noted the money will go to people and organizations conducting rescue missions. Equitable ways to deal with the funds raised were being considered and continue to pursue efforts with the City in terms of finding grant money to help some related organizations.

She added that many places are just volunteers working together, trying to obtain resources, and connecting the resources together for people who want to help. An example she provided was feral cats, and the process involved in trapping them, keeping costs low, and finding resources.

Ms. Huchel mentioned a fund at the Community Foundation, and tax-deductible donations may be made to the Johnstown Animal Welfare Society.

She noted t the Community Society of Cambria County's grant request for rehabbing a building in the City limits to create separate facilities for cats was

denied. This created a setback, and ways to clear up space in their Richland location for more dogs is being considered. Cats were to be moved somewhere else, which has not yet happened. Lobbying will continue for that as well as ways to bring more veterinarians into the City as people cannot find a veterinarian once they adopt a pet.

She noted looking at ordinances for consideration. One of them relates to animal breeding. Ms. Huchel added that she is becoming more concerned with the stray dog population and people doing backyard breeding with pets. She suggested maybe licensing for a fee, and if someone does not have a license, there could be a fine issued.

Reverend King reported that she continues to participate in the Zoom calls with the Loeb Fellows concerning the ongoing housing project.

She had the privilege of participating in the Christmas market and added that it was a good day despite the cold.

Reverend King made two announcements concerning Christmas, including Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Centered Community Church, the annual Christmas giveaway. It is open to the public, there are no limitations, and everything is free.

Reverend King stated on Christmas Day, dinner will be served at 1:00 p.m. This is the 15th year for Christmas dinner with no costs associated.

Mrs. Mock reported that nothing much was going on in the West End.

She noted going to the Christmas Market and stated, "It was great."

Mrs. Mock mentioned the annual Celebration Johnstown, New Year's Eve will be held again, and a prayer service will begin at 5:30 P.M. in Central Park. Many churches will serve as music venues, there will be a horse drawn carriage, and AmeriServ will be open to view the vintage displays. The library will also participate.

Mrs. Mock noted that Celebration Johnstown has been running since 2008.

Deputy Mayor Capriotti reported on attending the Christmas Market and visited the tree downtown. He voiced his appreciation to everyone for putting time and effort into the event. He stated it was impressive for the short period that it has been going on despite the weather.

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Mr. Britt thanked Jared and his crew for their hard work in the City park and mentioned how beautiful it was.

Mayor Janakovic added that just getting the houses over to the park is a job in itself. He added that Jared and the crew did a great job with that.

Mr. Arnone reported, as of November 3, 2024, the total population of the Johnstown public housing community is 2,403. Section Eight population totaled 1,083 for a total of 3,486; 46 percent of the people living in poverty in the City of Johnstown were being assisted. The Prospect relocation affected the population statistics. He reported that the first phase of building at Prospect will be ready soon for the residents to live in, and most of those residents were contacted and asked if they would like to return. The residents will still have to pass the screening practices in order to meet the administration transfer policies. There are no specific dates set yet, but the Prospect units are anticipated to be occupied within weeks.

He reported JHA is planning to host an open house for the public to tour the first phase of buildings that are safe. In November 2024, the JHA had two physical HUD inspections under the Inspire system, and the scores continue to be in the 80s and 90s in each community. Connor Towers is the only property note yet scheduled for inspection.

JHA had the virtual kickoff call with HUD Choice Neighborhoods team, and significant community outreaches are expected to begin. HUD staff is scheduled to visit Johnstown on January 13, 2025, to tour Coopersdale and the greater West End and meet with key community partners. The board will tour some facilities in Prospect on December 13, 2024.

Mr. Arnone stated some of the residents can move back to Prospect the middle of January. Around a dozen residents, who previously lived there, were contacted and desire to move back in. He added that the facility is beautiful.

Mayor Janakovic noted being a part of the Coopersdale tour.

Mr. Arnone, as representative on the Greater Johnstown Water Authority, reported the customer service department received 70 new service applications for property transfer. 16 inactive accounts were reactivated during the month of November 2024. There were two service renewals completed, five main line repairs completed, and 20 hydrants were winterized over the month. 24,470 lead service letters were sent to customers over the last month. There are 139 appointments scheduled for the work ordering system to inspect the customer

service. During November 2024, over 1,455 feet of sewer mains were jetted. 2,600 feet of mainline was inspected.

Over the past month, there were 31 pressure tests completed, and zero sewer variances were approved. 266 properties have been brought into compliance with the sewer regulation. The pressure test has now been cleared to 70 percent, which is an achievement.

Mr. Arnone noted the lead service inspection information was in the paper. The plan is to coordinate work with the gas company. He added, per President Biden, the City has 3 years to implement this plan and 10 years to finish the plan.

Mrs. Mock mentioned that several people have asked her what they would do if they have previously had their lines replaced. Mr. Arnone stated all the water authority would have to do is send their inspector in to verify it. Residents will not be asked to do anything additional per the mandate requirements.

PETITIONS

None.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READ AND ADOPTION

None.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL READ AND ADOPTION

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AN ALLEY KNOWN AS CROATIAN ALLEY
ADJACENT TO 612 BROAD STREET IN JOHNSTOWN,
PENNSYLVANIA, AS A PUBLIC THOROUGHFARE.

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

The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0).

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES AND WAGES TO BE PAID ALL
ELECTED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE VARIOUS

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DEPARTMENTS AND BUREAUS OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN FOR
THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025.

Mrs. Mock made a motion to approve. 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).

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING LEVY AND ASSESSMENT OF REAL
ESTATE TAXES ON PROPERTY SITUATED IN THE CITY OF
JOHNSTOWN AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION OF
CERTAIN DISCOUNTS AND PENALTIES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1,
2025.

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

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. 105688

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY
MANAGER AND/OR ANY OF HIS DESIGNEES TO MAKE ANY LINE-
ITEM ADJUSTMENTS NECESSARY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER
2023 TO BRING SAID LINE ITEMS INTO A POSTIVE BALANCE,
SUBJECT TO A LIMIT OF THE AMOUNT OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES
BUDGETED FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR.

Mrs. Mock made a motion to amend the date to December 2024. The motion was
seconded by Mr. Britt. The motion passed unanimously.

To approve the resolution as amended passed by the following vote:

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

Resolution No. 105689

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY
MANAGER AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS
AND TAKE OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY IN THE PURCHASE OF
TWO (2) 2024 FORD INTERCEPTOR SUV 4 DOOR AWD POLICE
VEHICLES.

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

The motion 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. 105690

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY
MANAGER TO EFFECTUATE A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT
APPLICATION.

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

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. 105691

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY
MANAGER TO ADOPT A TITLE VI UPDATE.

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

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There was further discussion.

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. 105692

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, CONSOLIDATING 3 PARCELS
IN THE WOODVALE SECTION OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN.

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

The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Resolution No. 105693

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, A RESOLUTION AMENDING
SECTION VII BENEFITS, ARTICLE C. OF THE CITY MANAGER'S
EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT TO ALLOW THE CITY MANAGER TO
OPT INTO THE CITY'S DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN.

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

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).

Resolution No. 105694

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTIMATING THE AMOUNT

OF REVENUES TO BE RECEIVED BY THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN FROM VARIOUS SOURCES AND APPROPRIATING SPECIFIC SUMS ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE VARIOUS FUNDS, BUREAUS, DEPARTMENTS, THE PAYMENT OF DEBT SERVICE AND THE PENSION FUND OBLIGATION OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING CITY OF JOHNSTOWN FUND SECTIONS, AND THE RESPECTIVE FUNDS BUDGET EXHIBIT DETAILS.

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

Mrs. Mock commended the finance director and staff for doing a good job.

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).

Resolution No. 105695

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN AND THE JOHNSTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO ENTER A RECIPROCAL EASEMENT AGREEMENT FOR 339 WALNUT STREET AND DIRECT THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO RECORD THE DOCUMENT WITH THE CAMBRIA COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS.

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

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. 105696

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

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LOCHER DEMOLITION & EXCAVATING LLC SERVICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$136,600.00 FOR THE CONTRACT COJ #2024-1, CDBG STRUCTURE DEMOLITION PROGRAM TO DEMOLISH FOURTEEN (14) STRUCTURES THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN.

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

The motion passed by the following vote:

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

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Janakovic noted reappointments on the following boards: Greater Johnstown Water Authority, Johnstown Redevelopment Authority, and the Johnstown Planning Commission.

Nominations for Johnstown Planning Commission:

Mrs. Mock made a motion to nominate Ian Shirt to a new four-year term expiring 1/31/2028. Ms. Huchel noted Jim White's term will expire in January, and Chad McClaren has resigned.

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).

Nominations for Johnstown Redevelopment Authority:

Mrs. Mock made a motion to nominate Mark Pasquerilla to a five-year term expiring 1/1/2028.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Capriotti, Reverend King, Mrs. Mock (6).
Nays: None (0).
Abstention: Mayor Janakovic (1).

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Nominations for Greater Johnstown Water Authority:

Mr. Capriotti made a motion to nominate Ed Cernic to a five-year term expiring 12/31/2028.

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).

OLD BUSINESS

None.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Police Department

Captain Dan Price reported there were four individuals who graduated from the IUP Municipal Academy. The applicants have passed their state examinations and are assigned to their field training officers. These individuals have started working.

The department is continuing its work with the Attorney General's office and is actively conducting drug search warrants throughout the City.

In November 2024, one homicide occurred and an arrest was made.

There is the Johnstown First Responders Christmas event occurring on December 17, 2024, in conjunction with the Cambria County SERT Team and Johnstown Fire Department. A note of thanks was given to Office Cypher for his hard work involving this event.

Captain Price commended the patrol department and detectives, who closed six homicides resulting in guilty verdicts.

2. Fire Chief

Chief Robert Statler reported the department has its yearly ladder certifications scheduled soon. They are also cleaning and maintaining equipment at the shop to ensure it is ready to go when needed.

3. Codes

Dave Williams reported that November was somewhat slow from a code standpoint. There were 98 violations issued within the month of November 2024, which included 15 building permits, 8 properties before the magistrate. He noted demo contracts were accepted, and that was worked on with the environmental clearances and the SHPO clearances. It was noted that the second demo contract is out along with the SHPO and environmental clearances.

There were eight Right to Know requests for November 2024. Mr. Williams noted his first planning commission meeting occurred, and it went well. The meetings will continue.

A committee member made note of the outstanding job the planning commission did with the clean up on Franklin Street. Many of the buildings are cleaned up, painted, and some lights are fixed.

Mr. Arnone commended the JRA for the job done on Franklin Street.

6. Public Works

Jared Campagna, Director, reported, over the last two weeks, they have worked in the basement of the Public Safety Building. An estimated 105 feet of French drain, an additional 3 sump pumps, and another 100 feet of perforated drain were installed. An existing floor drain was repaired. There is no standing water is noted in the basement anymore, despite the rain that occurred. This is a long-term project to ensure that the building is more habitable for the employees.

He noted another project is the Pasquerilla Conference Center, and it involves the HVAC and a new electrical service project. A pre-instruction meeting was held on November 20, 2024, and a notice to proceed date was November 25, 2024. The contractor was given 280 days to complete the project for final completion on September 1, 2025.

He noted, in January 2025, a resolution will be provided for the CTV project to camera the storm lines in the Coopersdale area. He added that is a project that has a high cost.

Mr. Campagna verified that he did receive the camera work from the EADS Group when everything was switched over from the water company.

Mrs. Mock inquired if Mr. Campagna was able to locate the lines underneath Main Street. Mr. Campagna was in contact with one of the old Public Works employees. He found out there is a manhole at Main and Market Streets, but he has not been able to locate it yet.

The City Manager commented he had sent an email to the community outreach person at Penelec regarding that concern.

Major Janakovic questioned if the \$300,000 received from Senator Langerholc has been used yet and if it is being used for repairs at the Conference Center. Mr. Campagna verified that it is included in the HVAC and other projects, such as the roof.

The Mayor commented that one of the renters at the Pasquerilla Conference Center recently committed to a five-year term. Mr. Campagna commented on the tremendous job they are doing getting events and productions to come in.

5. Finance

Melissa Millard began by providing clarification to Mr. DeBartola regarding a line-item resolution on the agenda by explaining that by the end of the year any City run by Home Rule Charter has to have a balanced budget and the line items need to be balanced.

Ms. Millard noted the 2024 budget is currently closing with a surplus of \$677,730. She added that the City management team and directors have diligently worked hard. She stated whatever surplus money is left will be invested to make money for the City. She noted it will be a revenue source and will not be spent at random.

She reported the budget passed at \$15,460,774, and \$434,000 was moved into the Capital Fund supporting infrastructure or whatever is needed over the next five years.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NON-AGENDA ITEM

Mr. John DeBartola, 1197 Bedford Street, stated, approximately six months ago, he filed a Right to Know request to look for the deed to Central Park. He was sent to the Recorder of Deed's Office, which does not have the deed.

Mr. DeBartola would like to specifically know if there was something in the deed pertaining to the fountain and the statutes. If there's no deed, how can a major project be done with no deed and no proof of ownership.

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He would also like to know when the Central Park and Main Street projects are actually starting as he would like to book Johnstown Pride in Central Park, but he was told it would be closed. He would like to know how the City is spending the \$17 million.

Mr. DeBartola would like to know what is going on with this project that it has been sitting on for four years with no movement. Ms. Huchel noted an extensive report was given by Ms. Ndichu at the last meeting on the status of the Main Street Project. Mr. Arnone noted a tremendous amount of work has to be done by the Historical Society before moving on the project and will be supervised to make sure the project is being done correctly.

RECESS/ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6:55 p.m.

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD WITH REGARD TO PERSONNEL FOLLOWING THE MEETING

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.