



**CITY OF JOHNSTOWN
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA**

**ANTHONY C. TRUSCELLO
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 5:00PM

Planning Commission

James Carthew - Chairman
James White - Vice Chairman
Laura Huchel
Donald Buday
Tomas Casals
Michael
Grandinetti
Ian Shirt

**CALL TO ORDER:
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
ROLL CALL:**

PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (LIMIT 3 MINUTES)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approval of the minutes of the March 5, 2025, Planning Commission meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

OLD BUSINESS:

URBAN MURAL PROGRAM

Mr. Barry Polster has provided a document that outlines and details this program. While suggesting the Planning Commission act as an Advisory Committee to provide:

- A. Oversee agreement negotiations with property / building owners.
- B. Review designs to determine content of proposed murals and will advise the City of proposed mural projects and the progress made towards their implementation.

Mr. Barry Polster was in attendance. Chairman Carthew reported the planning commission could be an advisory committee to this public art program through the city. He hoped that the Board still shares support for this and he will keep the Commission updated as things move along. Chairman Carthew asked the Commission if it had any questions or updates regarding this. No questions or updates were voiced.

GIS SOFTWARE

Update on the City's coordination efforts with the County GIS and Steve Kocsis to implement this software. City Manager Martynuska stated that discussions and meetings have taken place with Steve Kocsis with Cambria County GIS. E-mails were also exchanged. Much information has been transferred into the system, but licenses have to be updated. Steve Kocsis will continue to be involved during this implementation of the software.

City Manager Martynuska reported that he met with Cambria County GIS last week and one of the things that they are looking to incorporate to increase efficiency is to put 360 cameras on top of the two fire engines for the city. These will also be placed on the roof of the squad that comes out of headquarters here so they can map as they are driving down the road.

In addition, City Manager Martynuska reported they will also begin to fly drones over rooftops to obtain a better view of what they cannot see. He noted this will be tied into property maintenance and this will tie back in with Cambria County GIS and the GIS software that has been announced. This will all be for residential.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT

City Manager Martynuska reported there are several projects going on currently. He reported the public safety building is still in a holding pattern because of funding. He added that they have some funding in place to do rehab and remodeling, but not enough for the entire project. They do not have the funds to build a new building.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Chairman Carthew reported that Rothschild's consulting firm out of Pittsburgh is moving along nicely. He saw their updates in terms of their community engagement, and they continue to work towards that. He stated they are still about a month or two out before they can get an initial draft prepared from all of the collected data. Chairman Carthew is looking forward to seeing the draft and added that will kind of steer how the comprehensive plan goes. Chairman Carthew will be sure to get the Rothschild's e-mail over to the Commission.

City Manager Martynuska requested that a virtual introduction between Katie at Rothschild's and Mr. Haglund, so they can help relay dialogue on both project plans.

MAIN STREET / CENTRAL PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT

Chairman Carthew stated they were informed last month that due to the money allocation of funds; the Main Street and Central Park revitalization program project have to be separated. City Manager Martynuska stated the projects are still moving along and meetings are taking place. He hoped the city would see some cutbacks in the cost without losing the quality. City Manager Martynuska also believed there will be less maintenance in the long run. He is hoping a finalized document will be available in two to three weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

VACANT PROPERTY

Chairman Carthew questioned where the city was at with the vacant property survey. Mr. Williams reported that he has the database set-up on his computer and he estimates that there is between 3 and 500 on it currently. He stated vacant properties could be a vacant property with or without a house that may have code violations outstanding. Mr. Williams stated they will send out the vacant property fee that needs to be paid on a yearly basis of \$300.00. If this does not get paid, the fee then increases to \$1,000.00. After that, he mentioned it could be sent to Laurel for criminal charges or it could be kept in house. It was suggested at the next meeting that Mr. Williams provide information regarding the ordinance and report where the city is at currently with how many vacant properties. It was noted a vacant property is considered to be unoccupied with property maintenance code violations on them.

PUBLIC COMMENT - NON-AGENDA ITEMS (LIMIT 3 MINUTES)

RECESS/ADJOURNMENT:

Copies of all documents subject to disclosure that relate to any item of business referred to on the agenda are available/or public inspection the Friday before each regularly scheduled meeting at City Hall, located at 401 Main Street, Johnstown, Pa.

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