

**CITY OF WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA**



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 17, 2016

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

ORDINANCE

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 17, 2016

CONSENT AGENDA (RESOLUTIONS)

Authorizing Mayor Anthony George and Controller Darren Snyder to sign any and all debt related documents on behalf of the City of Wilkes-Barre.

Enter into a Right-Of-Way Agreement with PPL Electric Utilities relative to a County Tax Parcel located along North River Street to relocate an existing power line in order to accommodate their proposed parking lot at the County Courthouse.

Disposition of records from the Fire Department.

Authorizing the proper city officials to sign any and all necessary documents for the emergency reconstruction work on the retaining walls along Brook Street (Solomon Creek).

MINUTES

Of the Zoning Hearing Board of September 21, 2016.

Of the 2017 Budget Hearing of November 9, 2016.

CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 17, 2016

ORDINANCE

**FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 18 OF 2016 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE I
OF CHAPTER 20 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILKES-
BARRE ENTITLED “PARKS AND RECREATION”. (SECOND AND FINAL
READING)**

CITY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 17, 2016

The City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre met in Regular Session on November 17, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., in City Council Chambers, City Hall, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania for the purpose of general business.

The meeting was organized with Chairperson Bill Barrett in the Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

Roll Call:

Belusko	- present
Brooks	- present
Gilbert	- present
Merritt, Vice Chairperson	- present
Barrett, Chairperson	- present

Also Present:

Darren Snyder, Controller
Ted Wampole, Administrator
Maureen Collins, Assistant City Attorney
Nicole Ference, Director of Human Resources
Butch Frati, Director of Operations
Bill Harris, Director of Planning and Zoning
Brett Kittrick, Finance Director
Alan Klapat, Deputy Fire Chief
Marcella Lendacky, Police Chief
Lou Lau, Director of IT
Cathy Payne, Assistant City Clerk
Hank Radulski, Director Health of Service
Joe Rodano, Community Support Director
Jim Ryan, City Clerk
Lisa Sanfilippo, Administrative Assistant
Kurt Sauer, Director of Community Development
Joyce Zaykowski, Capital Projects Program Manager
Robert McClay, Junior Council Member

The City Clerk asked if there way anyone wishing to address Council on pending legislation.

Emily and Julius Zuckerwar, Swoyersville, PA appeared before Council relative to File of Council No. 18 of 2016 (Dog Park Rules).

Curtis Muffley, Pittston, PA appeared before Council relative to File of Council No. 18 of 2016 (Dog Park Rules).

Mr. Brooks asked that the City Attorney's Office look into the Ordinance further.

Mr. Ryan said that the Ordinance will be removed from the agenda.

John Suchoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to File of Council No. 18 of 2016 (Dog Park Rules)(enforcement).

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. R0097-16 to and including the minutes appeared on the Consent Agenda (Resolutions).

RESOLUTION NO. R0097-16

Authorizing Mayor Anthony George and Controller Darren Snyder to sign any and all debt related documents on behalf of the City of Wilkes-Barre.

RESOLUTION NO. R0098-16

Whereas, Luzerne County has requested PPL Electric Utilities to relocate an existing power line of the utility, in order to accommodate their proposed parking lot at the County Courthouse; and

Whereas, the existing pole falls directly inside the lot, PPL will relocate this section of line to accommodate their needs.

Further, there will be not cost to the city for this transaction.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to enter into a Right-Of-Way Agreement with PPL Electric Utilities relative to County Tax Parcel No. H9SE2-002-01A located along North River Street situate in the City of Wilkes-Barre (see attachment) to relocate the subject pole as requested.

RESOLUTION NO. R0099-16

Whereas, by virtue of Resolution No. R0022-09, adopted February 26, 2009, the City of Wilkes-Barre declared its intent to follow the schedules and procedures for the disposition of records set forth in the Municipal Records Manual approved December 16, 2008, and,

Whereas, in accordance with Act 428 of 1968, each individual act of disposition shall be approved by resolution of the governing body of the municipality;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the City Council of Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, in accordance with the above cited Municipal Records Manual, hereby authorizes the disposition of the following public records:

Office/Department: Fire Department

<u>Record title, dates</u>	<u>Cubic Feet</u>
Ambulance Signature Sheets:	
Medic 3 Jan to April 2008	1
April to June 2008	1
July to Sept 2008	1
Oct to Dec 2008	1
Medic 5 Jan to April 2008	1
May 2008	1
June to Aug 2008	1
Sept to Dec 2008	1
Payroll: 2004 to 2006, 2008	1
Vendor bills: 2004, 2005, 2006	1
2007, 2008	1
Ambulance reports:	
Medic 5 Jan to April 1998	1
Total	12 Cu Ft.

RESOLUTION NO. R0100-16

Whereas, the City of Wilkes-Barre has publicly advertised for bidders to perform emergency reconstruction work on the retaining walls along Brook Street (Solomon Creek), Wilkes-Barre; and

Whereas, it is the desire and intention of Wilkes-Barre City Council that these repairs be made as soon as possible for the protection of City residents;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to sign any and all necessary documents for the above-referenced repair/reconstruction work with the selected lowest responsible bidder.

MINUTES

Of the Zoning Hearing Board of September 21, 2016.

Of the 2017 Budget Hearing of November 9, 2016.

Mr. Merritt moved to adopt the Consent Agenda (Resolutions).

The motion was seconded by Mr. Belusko and adopted by the following yeas and nays vote:

Yeas Belusko, Brooks, Gilbert, Merritt and Barrett (Chairperson) – 5 – being all of the members elected to City Council.

Nays none.

COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Belusko thanked Council for supporting the Solomon Creek Project.

Mr. Brooks said that Massachusetts recently passed legislation that pushed employees of municipalities that are 65 years and older onto Medicare to save the municipality money. He asked if that is something that the Administration is looking into.

Mr. Wampole said that it is part of the collective bargaining agreement, but he will look into it.

Mr. Brooks asked how residents go about requesting street lights.

Mr. Frati said they can make a request through his department or the Mayor's Help Line. He explained that it is one thing to ask for a light and another to have it installed. PPL has the final say in these matters; if there's a line in the area and they feel they can hook up effectively they will give us the ok. The city then installs the light because we own them; they have to hook them up.

Mr. McClay said that the Junior Council will be doing some charity work during the Christmas season.

Ms. Gilbert said that the "Watch for Pedestrian" signs have been missing from the crosswalks on South Main Street near Boscov's. She asked that they be replaced.

Mr. Frati said he will have someone install new signs.

Ms. Gilbert informed the Administration that there have been issues with people parking on the sidewalk on South Sherman Street (around G.A.R.) specifically after school around 2:30/3:00. She asked if Parking Enforcement can be sent to the area.

Chief Lendacky asked if anyone has called 911 when they observe this.

Ms. Gilbert said she isn't sure, but asked the Chief if she could send a cruiser to the area.

Chief Lendacky asked Ms. Gilbert to send her the particulars and she will send someone up tomorrow.

Mr. Merritt asked Mr. Frati if the creek cleaning is on schedule in his district.

Mr. Frati said that they are actually up there doing work below North Main Street, but they have been in the creeks and they will continue to do the creeks where the two merge, behind the golf course and up toward Laurel Run.

Mr. Merritt asked if he had a time frame for when it would be done.

Mr. Frati said he is meeting there tomorrow morning and he will send Mr. Merritt an email.

Mr. Merritt mentioned that Sydney and Coon Streets had some damage from the heavy equipment from when Leeward Construction rebuilt the bridge. He asked if the city has any recourse to go after them to make the necessary repairs to the road.

Mr. Frati said the contractor has a one year construction warranty, so he said we probably could go after them for the damages.

Mr. Merritt asked how we go about starting that process.

Mr. Frati said he will look at it tomorrow when he is in the area. He said he will take photos and put it on the ECMS website so PennDot inspectors can check it.

Mr. Merritt asked Mr. Frati if leaf pick can be extended another week.

Mr. Frati said he will speak with the Administration.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Linda Joseph, President of the Rolling Mill Hill Residents' Association, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to neighborhood issues (residents not receiving call backs from City Hall employees and Code Enforcement/Health Department violations).

Eric Oliver, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the proposed tax increase in the 2017 budget (opposed to such a large increase).

Larry Singleton, President of the Wilkes-Barre NAACP, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to closing City Hall for Martin Luther King Day and to propose a Ban the Box Resolution (eliminating employers from asking whether or not someone has been convicted of a felony on applications).

Mr. Barrett asked the Assistant City Attorney to look into the Ban the Box Resolution.

Elaine Pekar, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the city's Noise Ordinance (neighbors playing loud music).

Alice Deats, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to her neighborhood (high grass, not shoveling snow, illegal parking, loud music and garbage).

Ms. Gilbert suggested hiring more Code Enforcement Officers and having them take certain routes on a regular basis.

Angel Mathis, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to installing "No Smoking" signs at the Intermodal Facility, crossing at W. Market and River Streets medical coding/billing and Medical Alert Apps.

Deputy Fire Chief Alan Klapat said that he has informed all of the personnel about the bands and the Medical Alert Apps. The fire department does not have smart phones that are issued by the city, so it is up to the individual if they want to download the app or not; some of them have done so.

Mr. Klapat also mentioned that the private insurance industry (Medicare/Medicaid) has changed their medical coding drastically. He said he is not sure the reason for it; however the city's billing company will be coming in to instruct all of the paramedics on the proper way to do the coding on their reports.

Tony Mathis, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to lack of parking/handicap parking at the Senior Center (E. Market Street) and Coughlin students hanging out at the parkade on South Washington Street.

Chief Lendacky said she will send the School Resource Officer to check on the Coughlin Students.

Mr. Harris said parking decisions are up to the Administration in the downtown area.

Bob Kadluboski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the proposed 2017 budget, having extended time at the next meeting, Mayor's healthcare, pensions for elected officials and auditing the pension funds.

Mr. Barrett and Mr. Ryan both told Mr. Kadluboski that the pension funds are regularly audited.

Phillip Holena, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the proposed 2017 budget (pension, salaries, healthcare, and tax increase), employees' concessions, layoff firefighters, and parking for Council meetings.

John Suchoski, Wilkes-Barre, PA appeared before Council relative to the proposed tax increase, healthcare for Council members, need for sidewalks along Wegmans, and closing City Hall for Martin Luther King Day.

Mr. Barrett said he will talk to Wilkes-Barre Township to see if they can contact PennDot to do a study for sidewalks by Wegmans. It is a state road, so they have jurisdiction.

Mr. Frati said the sidewalks along Wegmans have been discussed at meetings at the Department of Transportation in Dunmore. They are looking at a way to fund it.

Mr. Wampole informed Mr. Suchoski that Martin Luther King Day is a union issue. The city is currently in collective bargaining with three of the four unions

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.



Bill Barrett, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Jim Ryan, City Clerk

