

EP VILLAGE COUNCIL 1/10/22 85 N. MARKET ST 7:00 PM

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order. Present was Dr. Rocco, Mr. Runnion, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Povenski and Mr. Walker. Also present was Village Manager Mark McTrusty, Law Director David Powers, Finance Director Traci Spratt, Law Director David Powers and Chief Jim Brown. The minutes of the 12/27/21 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Walker seconded by Mr. Runnion. The December 2021 department reports were approved on a motion by Mr. Walker seconded by Mr. Runnion. At this point Mr. Simpson made a motion to go into executive session to discuss filling the council vacancy, various boards and commissions vacancies. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker. Dr. Rocco-y, Mr. Runnion-y, Mr. Simpson-y, Mr. Povenski-y, Mr. Walker-y. Back in regular session Mr. Simpson made a motion to amend the Rules of Council passed in 2019 to include the following changes in committees; Street (Walker, Povenski, and one vacancy), Development/Finance (Runnion, Simpson, Povenski) Safety (Povenski, Rocco, Simpson), Rec/Cem/Park (Rocco, Runnion and one vacancy), Utility (Simpson, Rocco, Walker), and Legislation Committees (One vacancy will be the chair, Runnion, Walker). The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and passed unanimously.

AGENDA: Boards/Commissions Appointments Mr. Walker then made a motion to appoint Brenda Povenski to the Park Board, the motion was seconded by Mr. Runnion. Councilman Povenski abstained from the vote as Brenda is his wife, the motion passed with four yes votes. Mr. Walker motioned for Bonnie Sansenbaugher to be appointed to the Park Board, the motion was seconded by Dr. Rocco and passed unanimously. Mr. Runnion motioned for Rich Spratt to be appointed to the CRA Board the motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and passed unanimously. Mayor Conaway appointed Joyce McCutcheon to the Planning Commission (this appointment needed council approval). Dr. Rocco made the motion, it was seconded by Mr. Simpson and passed unanimously. Mr. Walker made a motion to appoint Stephen Hill, Nancy Reeves and Geraldine Guy to the Library board, the motion was seconded by Dr. Rocco and passed unanimously.

CLERK: Clerk Misti Martin stated a Planning Commission meeting would be held Thursday January 13 at 7:00 to review a request for a replat on McClure Ave.

MAYOR: NO REPORT

MANAGER: In reference to the EQ basin Manager McTrusty stated the leveling of the clarifiers is underway as well as the design being finished. He said USDA has accepted MS Consultants design of aeration system upgrades. There are still issues trying to purchase vehicles and all other onsite work is paused until winter is over. He said he is working with OMEGA to submit for funding for the waterline replacement project to the Appalachian Regional Commission. He said the fishing agreements are finished and just need sent back to ODNR. Interviews for the Street Department will be scheduled soon and the Police Department is working on a new recruitment plan and also that the Fire Chiefs position has been offered to a candidate. He said the T-Mobile grant has been submitted and the State Capital funding work has been completed. Finally, he stated ODOT has stated the bridge over Kossuth alley needs reworked, they are working on getting quotes to begin that process. Mr. Walker asked if Street Superintendent Baird would be included in the hiring process for the Street Department, McTrusty said not this time as a relative of his was one of the applicants. At this point Mayor Conaway stated there are six candidates for the vacant Council seat, it was decided a Special Meeting would be held Tuesday January 18 at 6:00 at the Municipal Building to interview the candidates. Additionally, Mr. Walker nominated Councilman Simpson for President Pro Tem for 2022 seconded by Dr. Rocco, passed unanimously.

LAW DIRECTOR: Atty. Powers stated an executive session is needed to further discuss pending litigation. Powers also stated there has been much discussion in reference to the Vacant Structure Registration (VSR) and problems that go with it as far as enforcing the fees/fines; Powers suggested reviewing the VSR and well as reviewing the CRA program for needed updates during a

Development/Finance Committee meeting. The meeting was scheduled for Monday January 24 at 6:00 pm.

STREET: Mr. Walker stated he spoke with Finance Director Traci Spratt about how soon her replacement should be hired. Walker stated he would like to see her draw a list of basic requirements for her position; he feels her replacement should have at minimum a year and half to shadow her in her job as well as one requirement being an associates degree.

THERE WERE NO SPRC, DEVELOPMENT, UTILITY, OR FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

THERE WERE NO VISITORS COMMENTS ON CURRENT LEGISLATION

VISITORS: Street Superintendent Steve Baird, Jim Hall, Kent Chapman, Rick & Karen Gorby, Jerry Coblentz, and Danielle Garner of the Morning Journal

LEGISLATION: Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 23-2021 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simpson. **An ordinance increasing the base water rates.** Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Ord. 23-2021. Dr. Rocco-y, Mr. Runnion-y, Mr. Simpson-y, Mr. Povenski-y, Mr. Walker-n. Passed 4 to 1. Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 25-2021 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance adopting the updated personnel policy handbook (white book), as modified and amended as set forth in exhibit A & B, attached hereto, relating to return of property upon termination of employment and repayment of training costs.** Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Ord. 25-2021. Mr. Runnion-y, Mr. Simpson-y, Mr. Povenski-y, Mr. Walker-y, Dr. Rocco-y. 5 yes to pass. Mr. Runnion made a motion to amend the Rules of Council regarding replacement for a vacant council seat, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Passed unanimously. Mr. Simpson made a motion to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation inviting in Manager McTrusty and Law Director Powers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker. Dr. Rocco-y, Mr. Runnion-y, Mr. Simpson-y, Mr. Povenski-y, Mr. Walker-y.

ADJOURN: Mr. Runnion made a motion to return to regular session seconded by Mr. Simpson followed by a motion to adjourn by Mr. Walker seconded by Dr. Rocco. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY