



Regular Council
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 - 6:30 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Donald Barnard called to Order the City of Johnstown Regular Council Meeting for December 12, 2023 at 6:39 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present - Mayor Donald Barnard, Jon Merriman, Sharon Hendren, Ryan Green, Nicole Shook, Charlie Campbell
Absent - Bob Orsini

Staff present - Sean Staneart - Acting City Manager, Dave Delande - Finance Director, Jack Liggett - Service Director, Rusty Smart - Chief of Police, Teresa Monroe - Clerk of Council

Public present - Aaron Jennings, Terri Feters, Marvin Block, Andrea Ford, Ashley Kisner, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Tiffany Hollis, Jamie Hartsough

3. Invocation

Johnstown Independent Baptist Church

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Action on Minutes

a. December 5, 2023

ACTION: Nicole Shook moved to approve as written; Sharon Hendren seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Charlie Campbell, Nicole Shook, Jon Merriman, Mayor Barnard, Ryan Green, Sharon Hendren

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 0

6. Presentation

Sharon Hendren was recognized for her twenty-four years of service to the city on council and presented with a token of remembrance.

7. Citizen comments on matters not on the agenda

There were no comments from the public.

8. Council Committee reports

- a. **Rules:** 12/12/23
Committee will be submitting the council rules and ethics package to council.
- b. **Finance:** 12/12/23; Next 1/16/24 @ 5:00 pm Admin office
Continued work toward 2024 budget.
- c. **Planning & Zoning:** Next 1/9/24 @ 6:30 pm Council Chambers
- d. **Design Review Board:** Next 1/9/24 @ 5:00 pm Council Chambers

9. Director Reports

- a. Police Chief
Chief Smart provided his report in the council packet, added that they have completed the LEADS audit and are in compliance. Informed council that he reached out to ODOT and was able to have the stop bar moved back five feet at the US62/SR37 intersection, giving better turning radius to semi-trucks traveling from Sunbury and turning right onto US62 to help them avoid the corner bell.

10. Tabled Legislation - None

11. Public Hearings of Legislation

- a. **ORDINANCE 23-2023** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 191 OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND DECLARE IT AN EMERGENCY
This ordinance adopts the amendments to the municipal income tax code as recommended by the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) and as required by the General Assembly and the Ohio Revised Code under House Bill 33. Mayor Barnard said this does not change anything for the city income tax, percentages or otherwise.

Public Hearing: There were no comments either for or against the legislation.

ACTION: Nicole Shook moved to waive the second reading ; Charlie Campbell seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Charlie Campbell, Nicole Shook, Jon Merriman, Mayor Barnard, Ryan Green, Sharon Hendren
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 0

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to approve Ordinance 23-2023 and declare an emergency; Nicole Shook seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Nicole Shook, Jon Merriman, Mayor Barnard, Ryan Green, Sharon Hendren, Charlie Campbell

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 0

- b. **RESOLUTION 2023-40** RESOLUTION AS REQUIRED BY O.R.C. 709.023(C) SETTING FORTH MUNICIPAL SERVICES THAT WILL BE PROVIDED TO 5.0 +/- ACRES OF LAND IN MONROE TOWNSHIP (LICKING COUNTY), OHIO IF ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, OHIO

This is a "missing teeth" parcel that did not come in with the larger annexation previously, the property owner requests annexation into the city of Johnstown. Discussion on availability of water and sewer and proximity to the property, review of wording in the resolution. It was noted that if a property is within 350 feet of a sanitary line, it does not have to hook on unless their sanitary system fails, however, they will be billed as if they were on it.

Public Hearing:

1. Andrea Ford

- Asked the address of the property. Ms. Shook said it is 12017 Duncan Plains Road.
- Asked for some additional clarification on the 350 foot relative to a sanitary line. Mr. Liggett reviewed.

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to approve as written; Charlie Campbell seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Jon Merriman, Mayor Barnard, Ryan Green, Sharon Hendren, Charlie Campbell, Nicole Shook

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 0

- c. **RESOLUTION 2023-41** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE JOB POSITION, DESCRIPTION AND SALARY RANGE FOR POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Chief Smart said this moves the Police Clerk to an Administrative Assistant. The position entails more items within the job description and will give a little more teeth to the position. Wage discussed; Chief Smart reviewed how he came up with the range and said that the clerk is outside of her current range and the range with this new job description puts her within it again. There is no additional wage added at this time.

Public Hearing: There were no comments either for or against the legislation.

ACTION: Charlie Campbell moved to approve resolution 2023-41; Jon Merriman seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Mayor Barnard, Ryan Green, Sharon Hendren, Charlie Campbell, Nicole

Shook, Jon Merriman
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 0

- d. **RESOLUTION 2023-42** A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A CITY LAW DIRECTOR, CITY PROSECUTOR, MUNICIPAL COURT MAGISTRATE, CITY ENGINEER, AND CITY AUDITOR TO SERVE THE CITY AND ITS EMPLOYEES FOR THE YEAR 2024
This lists the people and or firms the city intends to use in 2024 for professional services.

Ryan Green said we haven't shopped for an attorney in like seven years, costs continue to go up and that he didn't think it would be a bad idea to look around. It was discussed that this resolution is not a contract and if the city did decide to shop another firm, that it could. Mr. Green said this was also discussed regarding the engineer, that he thinks we need to have a plan going forward to at least check opportunities.

Public Hearing: There were no comments either for or against the legislation.

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to approve as written; Nicole Shook seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Ryan Green, Sharon Hendren, Charlie Campbell, Nicole Shook, Jon Merriman, Mayor Barnard
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 0

12. Introduction of Legislation

- a. **ORDINANCE 24-2023** AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, LICKING COUNTY, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

Introduction of the 2024 annual budget. Mayor Barnard said this has gone through many revisions, Sean Stanearth said he would be remiss if he didn't say he anticipated some last minute changes, that this is a great snapshot of where we are but there are some tough decisions potentially that council will have to make to bring the budget more in line. There are some carryovers being eaten into more than they would like, they will continue to face challenges and do the best they can with the amount of money and revenues received, the expenditures are not sustainable much more than a year and a half with some of the line item appropriations. Mayor Barnard said this budget is coming much later this year, when there are ample funds it is much easier to put a budget together, this budget is very tight. Some discussion on what contractual items are made up of. Council and staff will continue to review line items.

Second reading and Public Hearing on December 19, 2023.

13. Other Business

Sharon Hendren thanked everyone for the gift and said that she was so surprised to see her children here tonight.

14. Adjourn

Sharon Hendren moved to adjourn, Mayor Barnard seconded and all were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Next Council Meeting December 19, 2023