



Regular Council
Tuesday, January 16, 2024 - 6:30 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Donald Barnard called to Order the City of Johnstown Regular Council Meeting for January 16, 2024 at 6:46 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present - Mayor Donald Barnard, Tiffany Hollis, Ryan Green, Jeff Barr, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini
Absent - None

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 - Terri Fetters, Mike Giannini, Bill Bogantz, Keith Ryan, Anna Ryan, Andrea Ford, Nicole Shook, Lewie Main, Frank Cea

3. Invocation

Mayor Donald Barnard offered the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Action on Minutes: December 12, 2023: December 19, 2023: January 2, 2024: January 6, 2024

ACTION: Bob Orsini moved to approve all en bloc as written; Jeff Barr seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Donald Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

6. Citizen comments on matters not on the agenda

1. Keith Ryan

- Current Chair of the Greater Johnstown Parks & Recreation District. Distributed a letter to council members detailing some history and a request for council's assistance in changing the fixed ten-year term of the district. He said that the problem is that the group will operate on levies and bonds and they have been told that they can only borrow the amount of money for the period of their existence, so the levy would have to be within an eight year period which makes it unreasonable and unfeasible for anyone to support a levy, they would need to go thirty years or longer to make it viable for the residents to not have a huge tax burden. Their tax district is outside the city limits and encompasses the entire Johnstown-Monroe

School District. He said the original appointed board has done all they can do, they have their bylaws and insurance in place, they cannot do any more until this language has changed so they can operate in perpetuity.

7. Council Committee reports

- a. **Planning & Zoning:** Met 1/9/24; Next 1/23/24 @ 6:30 pm Council Chambers
Ryan Green said the commission had one applicant who withdrew during the meeting.
- b. **Design Review Board:** Next 1/23/24 @ 5:00 pm Council Chambers
- c. **Safety & Service:** Next 2/6/24 @ 5:00 pm Admin conference room
2/6/24 meeting time changed to 5:45 pm.
- d. **Finance:** 1/16/24; Next 2/20 /24 @ 5:00 pm Admin conference room
Scheduled an additional meeting for 2/6/24 at 5:00 pm before Safety Service.

Meeting tonight, discussed the water and sewer ordinances.

8. Director Reports

- a. Police Chief
Chief Smart included his report in the packet and answered council member questions. Special recognition was given to Officer Lopez for being elected Officer of the Year by his peers.
- b. Finance
Dave Delande reviewed his reports which were included in the council packet. Noted that council would have the year-end report in the week or two.

9. Tabled Legislation

- a. **RESOLUTION 2023-44** A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER
ACTION: Bob Orsini moved to take from the table; Ryan Green seconded and all were in favor.
AYES: Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Donald Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

Bob Orsini reviewed updates made by committee.

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

- ACTION:** Bob Orsini moved to approve resolution 2023-44 as presented; Tiffany Hollis seconded and the vote was as follows:
- AYES:** Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley

Kobel, Dave Selan
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

- b. **RESOLUTION 2024-06** A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF REVIEW FOR CODA APPLICATIONS

ACTION: Tiffany Hollis moved to take from the table; Jeff Barr seconded and all were in favor.
AYES: Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

Discussion among members on who may be interested in serving on this board. Council decision to look further at the PD district code and the ABR review process before making appointments.

ACTION: Bob Orsini moved to table; Donald Barnard seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0 TABLED

Staff to send council members a copy of the code for review.

10. Public Hearings of Legislation

- a. **ORDINANCE 01-2024** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, OHIO IN ORDER TO SET WATER SERVICE RATES, CHARGED BY THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN. Introduced on January 2, 2024
Ordinances 01-2024, 02-2024, 03-2024 and 04-2024 set rates for water, water debt, sewer, and sewer debt. Sean Staneart said that prior council set a five percent increase annually, these ordinances are consistent with that five percent increase from last year's rate. The total bill gets reevaluated each year to determine which "buckets" the total bill goes into, some of that is debt service, some of it is operational for both water and sewer. The rate is still a five percent increase collectively, but the distribution of where those funds go changes from year to year. Bulk rates have been included with these ordinances so they can be viewed year to year. Mayor Barnard said these ordinances were reviewed in

Finance Committee tonight, decision to remove the New Day Bulk Sewer Sales because we are in contract negotiations, the ordinances will be updated once those negotiations are done. Mayor Barnard added that the bulk sewer sales have been five cents per gallon for approximately eighteen years, a review of what competitors charge led the committee to recommend an increase in that rate to six and a half cents per gallon based on the analysis, the ordinance drafts reflect this change. Mr. Orsini added that in addition to competitive rates, the city has growing costs associated with managing bulk intake. The sewer bulk rates do not affect any resident in the city of Johnstown as they have sewer lines, this is for those out of town who may need to use our sewer and for companies who use it.

Public Hearing on Ordinances:

1. Lewie Main

- Said to publish a rate for New Day that is inaccurate he thinks is wrong, that anything to do with New Day should be struck pending negotiations and agreement with New Day.

Mayor Barnard said they did strike the New Day sewer rate because the contract has expired and they are renegotiating the contract. The water is under contract until 2035 with one increase in 2029 that is reflected in the ordinances.

ACTION: Jeff Barr moved to approve; Donald Barnard seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

- b. **ORDINANCE 02-2024** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, OHIO IN ORDER TO SET WATER DEBT SERVICE RATES, CHARGED BY THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN.
Introduced January 2, 2024

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to approve; Dave Selan seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 – 0

- c. **ORDINANCE 03-2024** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, OHIO IN ORDER TO SET SEWER SERVICE RATES CHARGED BY THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN
Council struck New Day bulk sewer sales from the ordinance.

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to approve Ordinance 03-2024 with the edit to strike New Day sewer sales throughout the document; Bob Orsini seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

- d. **ORDINANCE 04-2024** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, OHIO IN ORDER TO SET SEWER DEBT SERVICE RATES, CHARGED BY THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN
Council struck New Day bulk sewer sales from the ordinance.

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to approve Ordinance 04-2024 with the edit to strike New Day throughout the document; Jeff Barr seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

- e. **RESOLUTION 2024-08** A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON THE LICKING COUNTY TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL (TIRC) ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN

Sean Staneart said the Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) gives the city an opportunity to review tax abatements given through a CRA, there are sometimes measures to be met, if the metrics are not met, the TIRC can make a recommendation to remove those incentives. The city appointees would make a recommendation to the larger county board, discussion on example situations. Council discussion on appointees, ordinance edited to make the city appointees for 2024-2025 Sean Staneart, Acting City Manager and Dave Delande, Finance Director.

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

ACTION: Bob Orsini moved to approve resolution 2024-08 amended to replace the Mayor with the Finance Director; Dave Selan seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

11. Introduction of Legislation

None

12. Other Business

1. Mayor Barnard said there were three vacancies on the Greater Johnstown Park & Rec Board, two of them are with Johnstown, one is with the school district. He has communicated with the school district on who the city would like as one and they are very comfortable with this individual. Mayor Barnard moved to appoint.

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to appoint Mike Giannini to the Greater Johnstown Park & Rec board to fill the term ending August 2025; Jeff Barr seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

Interest is still being advertised for one more seat on the board.

2. Mayor Barnard said that council is doing a lot of good stuff, he questions how to get the word out to the public. A couple council members have met with Frank Cea, who's local company has offered services. Mr. Cea currently serves on the JYAA Board as the acting secretary, and is the local soccer commissioner. Mr. Cea addressed council on how his company could help in this area. Council was in agreement that the city could benefit from better communication and strengthen the community with information sharing. Mr. Cea is to provide a scope of work and costs to the Safety & Service committee.

3. Mayor Barnard said he would like to give council homework, within two weeks he would like fellow members to give their definition of "Johnstown", this will help identify who we are.

4. Mr. Kobel asked who was responsible for keeping the street clean by the new Leafy Dell apartment construction site; Jack Liggett said the construction crew should be maintaining the streets to keep them clean, Mr. Liggett to address with the site superintendent.

5. Jeff Barr passed along thanks from a resident to the Service Department for getting his street light working.

6. Discussion on a Finance Committee recommendation to increase the administrative fee for water shut off from \$25.00 to \$50.00, topic moved to Safety & Service committee for review.

7. Mayor Barnard thanked council members for their time commitment to additional meetings this month.

8. Mr. Staneart introduced Bill Bogantz, Liberty township Trustee in attendance tonight. Mayor Barnard thanked him for coming.

13. Executive Session to consider the employment & compensation of a public employee

Mayor Barnard said council would enter into Executive Session, with possible action after.

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to enter Executive Session to consider the employment & compensation of a public employee, with members of council and Sean Staneart for a portion; Dave Selan seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

Council entered Executive Session at 8:15 pm and returned to Regular Session at 9:44 pm.

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to appoint Sean Staneart as the City Manager, remove "acting" and pay a salary of \$120,00 annually with medical insurance reimbursement not to exceed the family amount paid by the city; Dave Selan seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr, Tiffany Hollis
NOES: Ryan Green
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 1

14. Adjourn

With no further business, Mr. Orsini moved to adjourn, Mr. Barr seconded and all were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 pm.

Next Council Meeting February 6, 2024