



City Council Proceedings - October 18, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of Titusville City Council was called to order by Mayor Nystrom in the Conference Room at the Titusville Redevelopment Authority at 5:55 p.m. Mayor Nystrom announced there would be a break for an Executive Session and called the meeting back to order at 6:20 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Observed

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | Led by Mayor Nystrom

ROLL CALL

Mayor James Nystrom, Deputy Mayor Esther Smith, Councilman Pat Cartney, Councilwoman Bonnie Hull, and Councilman Jay Reese were present.

City Manager Larry Manross, Police Chief Thomas, Fire Chief Joe Crotty, Mary Hill represented The Titusville Herald. GBS Television taped the proceedings.

NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Mr. Nystrom stated there was an executive session after the last work session on a personnel matter and just came out of one and there will be an item on the agenda with the collection of wage tax. There is an ordinance that Council needs to pass in order to meet some of the requirements. The first reading will be at the meeting today and the second reading in November. The Civil Service process was also discussed.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously to adopt the meeting Agenda as prepared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cartney, and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of September 20, 2011 as submitted and place on file.

Mr. Reese noted that Council has not seen Safety Committee meeting minutes in awhile. City Manager Manross added their next meeting is October 25th.

BID AWARD

It was moved by Mr. Cartney, seconded by Mrs. Smith, and carried unanimously to award the bid for the Comprehensive Recreation, Park, Open Space and Greenways Plan in the amount of \$45,000 to Pashek and Associates of Greenville PA as recommended by Leisure Services.

Mrs. Hull commented that even though she understands what happened with the whole plan she is sad to see that what the actual plan was supposed to be is not what it turned out. It was supposed to include how we could use our parks and open space and greenways. She went on to say due to circumstances it was changed.

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Mr. Reese thanked Mrs. Hull for clarifying. He knew it had changed but he did not know what it was changed from. He stated he still thinks it will worthwhile and maybe we will figure out how to use them.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS

It was moved by Mr. Reese, seconded by Mr. Cartney, and carried unanimously to accept the Operational Reports; Building Inspector, Fire, Police, Public Works, and Treasurer for the month of September 2011 as submitted and place on file.

Building Inspector

Mr. Reese commented that the Building Inspector was busy this month. Apparently there is a lot of housekeeping after the summer.

Fire Department

Mr. Reese confirmed with Chief Crotty that the motor vehicle accidents and haz mat alls were inside the City and anything under mutual aid is outside the City. Chief Crotty stated the haz mat included a minor gasoline spill.

Police Department

Mr. Nystrom stated he can see we are busy at the schools.

Mrs. Hull asked Police Chief Thomas if there was anything new on the second one. Chief Thomas reported they were working on it today.

Public Works

Mrs. Hull stated it was mentioned last week by a citizen about Petroleum St and she would really like to see that taken care of before the winter gets here and the pothole on Brook St has been there for months. City Manager Manross stated that he spoke to Public Works Director Nebel about Petroleum St and Mr. Nebel explained that he doesn't really know what to do about it other than repave it. He will try to get it on next year's list for paving. Mrs. Hull questioned if patching would work. Mr. Manross stated it is kind of a washboard type thing there and is not sure if we can mill it off and put a strip of asphalt there or not. Mrs. Hull stated milling it off would probably be better than the way it is. Mr. Reese stated he travels Brook often and it just so happens to work out that it is right next to where someone parks their vehicle so are not a whole lot of choices to get around it.

Mr. Nystrom asked the City Manager to review the new handicapped ramps with Mr. Nebel. He went on to say there is a collection of mud and other things in the low spots that are tracking it up on the sidewalk. He noticed it on Washington and Spring and it doesn't look very nice. Maybe we can ask the Fire Chief to get a truck out and hose them down.

Mr. Reese questioned the roadside mowing and hauling of millings by Cherrytree Township and what we did for them in return. City Council Proceedings - October 18, 2011

Mayor Nystrom confirmed there is a reopening of the contract in the 3^{rd} year.

Approval – Civil Service List Generation It was moved by Mr. Reese, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously not to approve the generation of a Civil Service List for the Fire Department.

Mrs. Smith questioned if she approves this what is she approving?

Mr. Reese stated we are approving the list to be sent and those would be the applicants that we would have. He went on to say the point in him wishing to delay the process is that the City should at least explore what our hiring practices are and if new applicants are required to sign the handbook – it's been a little gray. He said he has made his opinion known on how he feels about drug testing and nepotism time and time again and if we approve this list that goes ahead of anything he can do. He knows it needs to be done but it can come up at another time and that was the reason for his motion this time.

Mrs. Hull questioned if we can ask for a minimum number of applicants before we would do anything. She went on to say, we only have two so that means we would need to run this again soon.

Mr. Winkler stated that he doesn't see a reason that it couldn't be structured that unless there is a minimum number that it doesn't go to the Civil Service Commission to begin the process.

Mrs. Smith questioned once they complete the process and it's all favorable do we then have to accept it?

Mr. Winkler stated you wouldn't have to hire anybody, but if you did you would have to follow the Civil Service. The highest score would be first.

Fire Chief Crotty stated this only has to do with the list it doesn't have anything to do with hiring. You are establishing the order if you were to hire.

Mrs. Hull stated she is in agreement with Mr. Reese in that she would like to see some regulations or parameters set before we actually accept two and questioned if we have a time restraint.

Fire Chief Crotty stated a list is good for 2 years and we are behind the curve because the list is expired.

Mr. Nystrom stated we could put it back on for next month.

Fireworks Permit Ratification - 2011 Homecoming

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cartney, and carried unanimously to ratify the fireworks permit for the 2011 Titusville homecoming.

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Treasurer

Mayor Nystrom commented that real estate tax collections are down about \$60,000 from this time period last year.

Mr. Reese questioned the pension state aid \$150,000 budgeted and received \$275,000. Mr. Manross stated this is a one time thing and they cautioned that we sure don't want to put that in next year's budget. Mr. Reese confirmed that the extra does come in this year off the trends as a carryover because we have already made our MMO payments. Mr. Manross stated we can still apply that to our MMO to help cover our budget shortfall for this year.

Mr. Reese questioned the bank errors across all funds. Mr. Manross stated the bank had made an error in the interest they had paid us dating all the way back to 2005. Mayor Nystrom stated this was a glitch in their program across all municipalities and non-profits.

Mr. Reese questioned water and sewer revenues. He stated water revenues are trending lower. He was able to grab July's sheet; we had \$143,000 sewer and \$71,000 in water. In September we had \$144,000 in sewer and \$62,000 in water.

There was discussion in regards to meter readings and bulk water possibly affecting the numbers.

MINUTES OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Titusville Housing Authority

It was moved by Mr. Reese, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2011 meeting of the Titusville Housing Authority as submitted and to place on file.

Mr. Reese questioned if the Housing Authority could provide him with a hiring policy not complaining about what they did but that he is interested in doing something like that and following some else's lead.

BILL LISTINGS

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously to ratify the bill listing warrants dated 9/22/2011, 9/29/2011, 10/06/2011, 10/12/2011.

Mr. Nystrom reminded the public that Council receives the bill listings and comments on them on a weekly basis.

Warrant Dated 9/22/2011 - \$166,554.52

Mr. Reese thanked the City Manager on his answer with the Cleveland Brothers diagnostics charging the same amount of money to diagnose two pumps with the same problem.

Warrant Dated 9/29/2011 - \$126,892.43 – No questions

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Warrant Dated 10/06/2011 - \$39,375.54

Mr. Reese questioned the 10/06 and 10/12 bill listing \$708.58 and \$702.90 to Russell Standard for water line materials. He questioned if this was per load of patch. He confirmed that we are not stockpiling.

Warrant Dated 10/12/2011 - \$44,590.35

It was moved by Mrs. Hull, seconded by Mrs. Smith, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 26 of 2011 authorizing the filing of an application for funds with the DCED in the amount of \$311,329 under the FY 2011 CDBG program.

Mr. Nystrom stated this is a request from TRA which handles this for the City. Council had discussed part of this earlier in the year and now it is time to file by the end of the month.

Old Business

2nd reading - Council Bill No. 7 of 2011 - Prepayment Sewer Phase III Interim Loan

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Reese, and carried unanimously to adopt Council Bill No. 7 of 2011 on second reading.

Mr. Nystrom stated the Manager had some discussions with the bank and satisfied his questions on it. With payment of the loan the bank would consider the possibility to come back with a lower interest rate then at the present time and he will be changing his vote this evening.

New Business

Oil Region Alliance Contribution

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cartney, to not authorize the payment of \$2,000 from the Capital Fund to the Oil Region Alliance for the 2011 Municipal Contribution, vote as follows:

Mrs. Hull, Mr. Cartney, Mrs. Smith – Yes Mr. Nystrom, Mr. Reese - No

Titusville Firefighters Contract 2011-2013

It was moved by Mrs. Hull, seconded by Mrs. Smith, and carried unanimously to ratify the contract between the City and the Titusville Firefighters (IAFF Local 3409) for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2013.

City Manager Manross stated he was asked to bring the highlights of the contract in and he set them on the table for anyone who wants any and welcomed them to pick them up. (Attached)

Mayor Nystrom stated this is an arbitrator's decision. Negotiations went to a binding arbitration.

Mr. Reese asked Solicitor Winkler to explain minimum staffing and how it is not in this contract as part of the agreement. Solicitor Winkler explained it is a separate memorandum that is not part of the contract provisions.

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Mr. Nystrom stated we received the information late in coming with the proper documentation.

Mrs. Hull stated that we might want to instruct the vendor that we are in Crawford County.

Resolution No. 27 of 2011 Tax Committee Delegates

1st Reading - Council Bill No. 8 of 2011- EIT Levy & Collection It was moved by Mr. Cartney, seconded by Mr. Reese, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 27 of 2011. No discussion.

It was moved by Mrs. Hull, seconded by Mrs. Smith, and carried unanimously to introduce Council Bill No. 8 of 2011 on first reading.

Mr. Reese stated this was presented to him a little earlier as a housekeeping type issue. There are two readings that go with this and he will investigate further. He will vote based on the information provided to him tonight and be skeptical first thing in the morning.

Mayor Nystrom commented that there was a little bit of this in the newspaper today talking about two counties in the eastern part of the state. This whole process is going to be very interesting. He went on to say in his practice they handle a lot of payrolls. The steps that have to be gone through in order to get the local taxes so that they can be collected by a county-wide collector in this case Crawford County has selected Berkheimer and Council needs to keep this moving along because we have to get it by the 1st of December. The 4th quarter payroll taxes will be collected through the old system. Starting with January 1st it will all be under the new system. There are individual sheets that we need to be made out by each employee with codes on them. This is something that we as a town have no choice on because the state changed the way taxes were to be collected.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

COMMENTS BY MAYOR/COUNCIL

Mrs. Hull encouraged everyone to participate in the fall Harvest Festival this weekend.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Hull, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. to a budget work session.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

THIS 15th DAY OF November 2011

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Council Meeting of October 18, 2011.

Diana A. Durstine Recording Secretary



"Birthplace of the Oil Industry"

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2011 FIREFIGHTER ARBITRATION

CONTRACT TERM 3YEARS FULL TIME FIREFIGHTERS

Health care employee contributions increased to 10% and expanded to include dental and vision.

New requirement that for any shift staffed at least two full time firefighters must be scheduled.

No wage increase for 2011 A 3% increase for 2012 Contract reopened in 2013.

Wages and vacation effective Jan 1st 2012 including longevity pay

| #1 | \$49,324 | 5 weeks vacation |
|----|----------|------------------|
| #2 | \$48,971 | 5 weeks vacation |
| #3 | \$47,721 | 5weeks vacation |
| #4 | \$47,076 | 4 weeks vacation |
| #5 | \$46,432 | 3 weeks vacation |
| #6 | \$46,217 | 3 weeks vacation |

Salaries and vacation times are based on amount of time employed at 53 hours weekly. Each firefighter will also receive a \$250.00 signing bonus.

The amount of sick days is reduced from 21 days to 18 days annually.

Firefighters hired after 01-01-2011 maximum vacation 4 weeks

The amount the City has spent to date on legal fees and arbitration is \$48,442

City of Titusville 2012 contribution to Firefighters pension plan \$200,767