

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BECKLEY CONVENED AT 6:30 PM ON APRIL 27, 2021 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF BECKLEY CITY HALL.

THOSE PRESENT: Mayor Robert R. Rappold, Recorder-Treasurer Billie Trump, City Attorney, Mr. File, Secretary Susan Miller, Bill Kelly, Director of IT, Amy Evans, Assistant Director of IT, AND Director of Parks & Recreation, Leslie Baker.

THOSE PRESENT BY WEBEX: Council Members: Tom Sopher, Robert Dunlap, Robert Canter, Kevin Price, Janine Bullock, Sherrie Hunter and Michael Reedy.

THOSE ABSENT: Chief Lonnie Christian, Director of BPW Jerry Stump, Chief of FD Ed Wills.

The Mayor called the meeting to order. The Mayor announced because of the ongoing concerns of the coronavirus, and the health and safety of the Council Members, the City of Beckley employees, as well as the public, this regular Council meeting for April 27, 2021 is being held via WebEx Event. The public will have access to join the meeting either from their computer, or by phone, using the weblink or phone number provided the day of the meeting on the city's webpage at Beckley.org or the City's Facebook page.

The Mayor reminded the public that they will be able to make comments when invited to do so by either pressing *3 on their phone and their call will be taken in the order it is received, or if viewing by computer or tablet, raising your hand by right clicking your name and choosing "Raise Hand".

Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular Council meeting dated April 13, 2021, copies of which were distributed to each member. Council unanimously approved the minutes as written on a motion by Councilman Price and seconded by Councilwoman Bullock.

Next, the Mayor opened and read the bids for asphalt. The first bid is from Appalachian Aggregates, LLC for stone at a price per ton of \$20.50 for delivered Crusher Run and \$27.35 per ton of delivered abrasives-limestones. The second bid is from Southern WV Paving, Inc. for asphalt at \$70.00 per ton for Base II or P&LI; \$75.00 per ton for curb mix and \$90.00 per ton for tennis mix. These bids will be turned over to Recorder-Treasurer, Billie Trump, Director of Board of Public Works, and Councilmembers at Large, Sherrie Hunter and Michael Reedy for review and recommendation for possible award at a later date. These bids are hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Next, Councilwoman Hunter discussed the bid from Southern WV Paving, Inc. for the paving of parts of Appalachian Drive, Franklin Avenue, and Woodlawn Avenue. The total bid is \$164,125.00. Councilwoman Hunter made the motion to accept the bid which was seconded by Councilman Dunlap. Council unanimously approved the motion and the bid is hereby incorporated into these minutes. The Mayor clarified that the parts of Woodlawn Avenue that he & Mr. File live on are unaffected by this project.

Next, Mr. File discussed and presented the Ordinance adopting the CROWN ACT. Mr. File explained that if passed tonight on first reading, the ordinance will then have the second reading and public hearing during Council Meeting on May 11, 2021. He read the Ordinance by title only AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 10-400 OF THE CITY OF BECKLEY HUMAN RIGHTS ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON HAIRSTYLE OR HAIR TEXTURE. The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the ordinance on first reading which was made by Councilman Dunlap and seconded by Councilwoman Bullock. Council unanimously approved the motion and the Ordinance is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

The Mayor complimented and thanked Mr. File for his efforts in researching and preparing for this Ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS: The Mayor requested that each member of Council call to make an appointment with him this week to discuss business for the City that is not ready to be presented to the public. The Mayor announced that Leslie Baker, Director of Parks & Recreation is inviting all Council Members to the interpretive exhibit honoring Zora "Big Moma" Stroud on Sunday, May 9, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. Ms. Baker stated that she will email the invitation to Council Members.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilwoman Hunter said that on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 11:45 p.m. through Thursday, May 6, 2021 (a 24-hour period) members of the public will read scriptures at Word Park in honor of National Day of Prayer. She welcomed everyone to attend this event.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The following people made public comments in support of the Ordinance adopting the CROWN ACT:

Danielle Stewart, Kelly Elkins, Christina Baisden, Tonya Hairston, Elaina Hurley, Crystal Clark, Kaylan Morry, and Carlista Ward. The Mayor thanked everyone for their timely comments.

Councilwoman Hunter thanked Donna Whitt with the Beckley Housing Authority for the April 23, 2021 food donation at Epling Stadium and announced that there will be another one May 14, 2021.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m. on a motion by Councilwoman Hunter, seconded by Councilwoman Bullock and unanimously approved by Council.

Mayor

Recorder - Treasurer