

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BECKLEY CONVENED AT 6:30 PM ON JULY 12, 2022, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

THOSE PRESENT: Mayor Rappold, Recorder-Treasurer Billie Trump, City Attorney Bill File, and Secretary, Susan Miller. Council Members: Janine Bullock, Bob Canter, Cody Reedy, Tom Sopher, Robert Dunlap, Sherrie Hunter, and Kevin Price. The following Department Heads were present: IT Director Bill Kelly, Assistant IT Director Amy Evans, Chief Bailey with BPD, Superintendent of BPW Walter Peplowski, and Captain Parsons with BFD. Cucumber & Company was present.

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". The public is invited to join in Council chambers or via WEB-X 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, the City's Facebook page.

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council dispensed with the reading and approval of minutes from the regular Council meeting dated June 28, 2022. Council unanimously approved the minutes as written on a motion by Councilman Sopher and seconded by Councilwoman Hunter. Copies had been distributed to each member prior to the meeting.

Next, was the award of the only bid received, which was from Urban Design Ventures, LLC, for planning and consulting services for CDBG and other community development programs for FY 2022 through 2026. Councilman Reedy said that the City is retaining Urban Design's services and all costs are paid by CDBG. The cover page and proposal were incorporated into the June 28, 2022, Council meeting minutes. This bid was unanimously approved by Council on a motion by Councilman Reedy seconded by Councilman Price. Next, Council unanimously approved the appointment of Lee Leftwich to the Board of Commissioners for the Beckley Housing Authority on a motion made by Councilwoman Hunter seconded by Councilman Dunlap.

Next, was the first reading of an Ordinance Amending City of Beckley Code Chapter 4, Article 1, Sections, 4-9, 4-9.1, 4-10, and 4-10.5 (Building Code). Mr. File read the Ordinance by title and summarized its contents. The second reading and public hearing will be July 26, 2022. Once the Ordinance is passed it will become effective August 1, 2022. Mr. File thanked Captain Morgan, Chief Code Officer for his help working on this Ordinance. Councilman Sopher asked about the Ordinance. Captain Morgan said that in February 2022 the State Legislative Session updated the building codes to the 2018 edition. The City has until August 1, 2022, to adopt it. The Ordinance was unanimously approved by Council on a motion by Councilman Price and seconded by Councilman Canter. The Ordinance is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Next, was the first reading of an Ordinance Amending City of Beckley Code Chapter 7, Article II, Section 7-200 (Fire Prevention Code). Mr. File summarized the Ordinance and read its title. The Ordinance was unanimously approved on a motion by Councilman Sopher and seconded by Councilman Price. The second reading and public hearing will be July 26, 2022. Once the Ordinance is passed it will become effective August 1, 2022. The Ordinance is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Next, Mr. File read the Resolution Honorarily Naming Raleigh Avenue "Jerry Rose Lane". The Resolution was adopted by Council on a motion by Councilwoman Hunter seconded by Councilman Price. The Resolution is hereby incorporated into these minutes. Council members Hunter, Sopher, and Bullock commented on how deserving Mr. Rose is.

Next, the Mayor opened a bid received for milling and paving of Dyer Avenue (from 12th St. to Gadd Ave.) 12 St., Scott Ave. (from Prince St. to 12 St.) and 11th Street. The bid was from Triple A Paving & Sealing located in Princeton, WV in the amount of \$168,500.00. The bid will be given to Recorder-Treasurer Billie Trump, Councilwoman at Large Sherrie Hunter, Councilman at Large Cody Reedy, and Superintendent of Board of Public Works Walter Peplowski for possible award at a future meeting. The bid is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Recorder-Treasurer Billie Trump presented the Budget Revision to the General Fund. Mr. Trump explained that at the beginning of each fiscal year the City is required by the State Auditor's office to account for how the financial records are closed and account for any extra income anticipated and distribute it to expenses in order to balance. The revision reflects an increase of \$250,000.00 in the General Fund in rents and royalties which was distributed among various departments. Mr. Trump explained that a lot of the \$250K comes from the acquisition of the Pinecrest building. Mr. Trump stated that he and City Controller, Jessica Chandler, were able to work together paying off an energy savings contract sooner than anticipated. There is a significant decrease from \$1,040,000.00 in General Government to \$840,000.00. This expense came out of the General Fund. With there being no questions regarding the revision to the General Fund Budget, the Mayor asked for a motion to approve the budget revision. Councilman Price made the motion to approve the budget revision and Councilman Sopher seconded. The budget revision was unanimously approved by Council and is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Recorder-Treasurer, Billie Trump presented the Budget Revision to the Coal Severance Fund and explained that it increased by \$15,000.00 because of the volatility in the energy market. He said that since the stability of coal has been up and down the City anticipates an increase. He explained that there are limits as to where coal severance money can be spent so the \$15,000.00 was allocated to the Parks and Recreation Budget. With there being no questions regarding the revision to the Coal Severance Budget, the Mayor asked for a motion to approve it. Councilman Sopher made the motion to approve the budget revision and Councilwoman Hunter seconded. The budget revision was unanimously approved by Council and is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

OLD BUSINESS: The Mayor said that the paving the City contracts out, as well as the paving that the City does itself, began today. The Mayor said he is hopeful that asphalt will now be available to the City as a result of the WV Turnpike project being completed. The Mayor said that Lizzie Watts, who was the first Superintendent of the New River Gorge National Park & Preserve, is retiring. Her retirement recognition event is at Black Knight August 11, 2022, and he invited Council to attend. The Mayor said that the Friends of Charity Auto Fair is July 22nd & 23rd. The Mayor announced that on July 20th at 1:00 p.m. at Jim Anderson's office (on S. Heber Street) will be the dedication of a plaque recognizing the formation of the first State Police Detachment in the City of Beckley. The Mayor encouraged Council to attend. Councilman Sopher asked what the plans are for the parking lots across the street from Fruits of Labor (FOL). The Mayor said that the City has nice plans for parking with greenspace and concrete. The problem has been that the City tasked Thrasher to design a stormwater drainage system for both parking lots and the plans have not yet been received. The City needs the plans from Thrasher before moving forward on this project. The Mayor said that FOL will receive a certain amount of designated parking spaces for business and the remainder of spaces will be for monthly and/or daily parking. Councilman Sopher asked if all the parking lots will be one large parking lot or remain three separate lots. The Mayor said they will remain three separate lots due to a difference in elevation and some immovable equipment of Appalachian Power Company. WVU Tech and First Baptist Church have entered into a parking agreement where Tech can use the church's parking lot.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilwoman Hunter announced that volunteers are needed between 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 20th at the Linda K. Epling Stadium to help distribute food boxes. The Mayor encouraged Council to attend a ribbon cutting ceremony at Black Knight Wednesday, July 20th at noon for the Remote Worker Program. Councilman Dunlap complimented the Beckley PD and expressed his appreciation on the quick response time they executed today to a domestic situation. Councilman Dunlap said that he appreciates all City employees and may not always realize how much until he needs their assistance. Chief Bailey thanked him and said that the positive feedback was nice to hear. Councilwoman Hunter asked Chief Bailey if there was anyone who inspired him to become a Police Officer. He said that his Dad did. His dad was in law enforcement for more than forty years.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Councilman Price seconded by Councilman Dunlap and unanimously approved by Council to adjourn at 6:55 pm.

Mayor

Recorder-Treasurer