

Beaver Falls City Council met in regular session on August 22, 2023 at 7:00PM in Council Chambers of the City Building. The meeting was called to order by Doctor Mayor Kenya Johns. The prayer was offered by Councilwoman Vanessa Taylor that was followed by the pledge to the flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Doctor Mayor Kenya Johns	City Clerk Paula Durish
Deputy Mayor Peggy Evans	Police Captain James Martin
Councilwoman Vanessa Taylor	Fire Chief Mark Stowe
Councilman Leonard Chiappetta	DPW Superintendent Patrick Burdine
Councilman John "Chuckie" Kirkland	CFO Sandy Wilkins
Solicitor Shannon Steele	Director of Community Development Rochelle Burks
City Manager Charles Jones Jr.	

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA – NONE

Mrs. Durish said Resolution 1698, approving the list of general fund and payroll expenditures, was read at the August 8, 2023 meeting without a total amount. To complete the passing of the resolution, she said the amount was \$589,481.72.

A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Ms. Evans to adopt Resolution 1699 approving the list of general fund and payroll expenses in the amount of \$317,122.11 for the period 8-10-23 to 8-21-23. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Ms. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Kirkland to adopt Resolution 1700 entering into an agreement with Mark C. Turnely, CPA for city audit services for the year ending December 31, 2022. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Mr. Kirkland to adopt Resolution 1701 entering into an agreement with Edmunds GovTech, Inc. for computer software, hosting, professional, support and conversion services for City Building offices. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Kirkland and seconded by Ms. Evans to adopt Resolution 1702 entering into an agreement with United Steelworkers Local 9305-10 for a one year contract extension from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 for the WWTP clerical employee. The vote was:

Page Two Council Minutes
August 22, 2023

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Kirkland and seconded by Ms. Evans to adopt Resolution 1703 entering into an agreement with Eastvale Borough for a one year contract extension for police protection expiring December 31, 2024. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Kirkland and seconded by Ms. Evans to adopt Resolution 1704 entering into an agreement with Eastvale Borough for a one year contract extension for fire protection expiring December 31, 2024. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Kirkland and seconded by Ms. Evans to approve the disability retirement pension of Joseph M. Durish Jr., Manager of the WWTP, as three physician's letters were received as per Third Class City Code, and the disability pension calculation as presented. Mrs. Durish said the figures will be forwarded to Mockenhaupt (pension actuary) for confirmation. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Kirkland and seconded by Ms. Evans to approve the request submitted by Geneva College to host the Homecoming Parade in Beaver Falls on October 7th starting at 10:00AM. The parade will line up at 17th Street and 8th Avenue and travel north on 7th Avenue to the college campus. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

Zabriawan Smith of Aliquippa, addressed Council regarding Beaver County Juneteenth Festival. Said this years festival was on June 17th and was supported by the county and was well received. He is here to request that the City of Beaver Falls and Aliquippa merge both festivals in 2024. Mayor Johns would love to collaborate with Aliquippa and have it on the actual Juneteenth day. He feels it makes more sense to have one event. Deputy Mayor Evans and Councilwoman Taylor think it's a great idea. Ms. Evans said the merge is beneficial to the county, it's a way to get to know your neighbors in other communities.

Ms. Taylor said the city has a committee. Mr. Kirkland said locations are needed to be determined ahead of time so everyone knows. Mr. Smith said he is already talking to Ambridge and Sewickley.

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Mr. Kirkland to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee and grant the request from Beaver County Christian School to close 5th Avenue between 37th and 38th Street from 4PM to 9PM on September 8, 2023 for their Annual Back To School Picnic. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Taylor to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee and deny the request from Karen Tomasi Walters for a handicap parking space at 1119 6th Avenue. The Committee said it is not enforceable at this time but will be looking into the possibility of accommodating these requests in the future. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Taylor to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee and deny the request from First Baptist Church for a handicap parking space at 17th Street and 6th Avenue. The Committee said it is not enforceable at this time but will be looking into the possibility of accommodating these requests in the future. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Kirkland and seconded by Ms. Taylor to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee and grant the request from Beaver Falls Middle School to close 8th Avenue between 16th and 17th Street from 5PM to 6PM on September 5, 2023 for a Meet The Teacher night. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Ms. Steele said she responded to Attorney Farrington regarding Tigerland in a lengthy letter.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. Burdine said the DPW is repairing street and avenue potholes, doing routine maintenance and cutting grass at playgrounds and parks and painting crosswalks for the start of school.

Ms. Burkes said there are three events happening on September 30th in the city – Worldwide Day of Play at Neighborhood North on 14th Street, Beaver Falls Fall Festival at The Falls Park and Sip In The City at participating merchants on 7th Avenue. Everyone should check out these great events.

Fire Chief Stowe said the aerial truck is being repaired and should be back in one month. Creating the list of buildings needing demolished then will put out for bid. Hopefully the structures will be gone by November.

Ms. Wilkins said she submitted her July reports to Council.

Police Captain Martin said the police department got their new radios from the county and that the BVFCU robbery was solved.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Burkes thanked the DPW, Police and Fire Departments for their assistance and participation at the Back 2 School Bash, there was a great turnout.

Police Captain Martin said West Mayfield will be having their 100th Jubilee Celebration on August 25th and 26th. Activities planned are a movie, car show, parade, food/craft vendors, and music and entertainment.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Curt Friehs, Carnegie Librarian – is exploring the possibility of getting a Keystone Grant but understands that he has to go thru the city. There is a 50/50 matching grant up to \$750,000.00. He is looking to get a new roof and maybe a boiler for the library. Mayor Johns asked him to keep Council updated. Mr. Friehs will give a report at the September 12, 2023 Council meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Mr. Kirkland to adjourn the meeting at 7:40PM. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Motion Passed				

