

**MINUTES
HAZLETON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022**

Call to Order: Council met in a Regular Meeting session on Tuesday, January 11, 2021 in Council Chamber and via ZOOM Teleconferencing. The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m.

Silent Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance: A silent moment was taken followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Colombo-present; Mundie-present; Ondishin-yes; Sacco-present; Perry-present

Minutes of Previous Meetings: The minutes of the January 3, 2022 Inauguration & Reorganization Meeting were approved unanimously.

Presentations/Proclamations/Communications: None

Bid Opening: None

Courtesy of the Floor (ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY): None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCES:

(1ST READING)

None

(2ND AND 3RD READINGS)

Ordinance 2021-28

Modifying Consolidated Plan for CDBG PROGRAM YEARS 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (**2nd READING**)

Presented by Perry. Seconded by Colombo.

On the Question:

Perry asked Zeller if there is \$86,000 for street improvements. Zeller said yes. He said this is money that has been expended that was on specific line-items where the projects have been completed. Zeller stated this needs to be transferred to a different area, into the Streets Line-Item. Perry asked if there is \$8,500 for the Green Light Go-Funding match. Zeller said yes. Perry asked if this follows the guidelines for low income. Zeller said yes, low "mod" areas.

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Roll Call: Colombo=yes; Mundie=yes; Ondishin=yes; Sacco=yes; Perry=yes.

ORDINANCE PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2022-4

Appointment to the Planning Commission
Scott Sacco

Presented by Perry. Seconded by Colombo.

On the Question:

Perry asked if Lauren could vote on Scott's appointment. Atty. Logsdon said it is not a paid position. He said this is not a monetary position but is a service position in the City. Atty. Logsdon said she could abstain, if she prefers, because of her relationship, with Scott, but there would not be any prohibition.

Perry asked Mayor Cusat if the City is replacing three Planning Commission seats. Mayor Cusat said yes.

Roll Call: Colombo=yes; Mundie=yes; Ondishin=yes; Sacco=yes; Perry=yes.

RESOLUTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution 2022-5

Appointment to the Planning Commission
Donna Delehanty

Presented by Colombo. Seconded by Sacco.

Roll Call: Colombo=yes; Mundie=yes; Ondishin=yes; Sacco=yes; Perry=yes.

RESOLUTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution 2022-6 Appointment to the Planning Commission
James Chapman

Presented by Perry. Seconded by Sacco.

Roll Call: Colombo-yes; Mundie-yes; Ondishin-yes; Sacco-yes; Perry-yes.

RESOLUTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

New Business: None.

Old Business: None.

Comments from the Audience: None

Comments from Mayor: None

Comments from City Administrator: None

Comments from Council: Colombo said there have been a few snow issues with the recent snowstorms. He said it is hard for the City snow plows to get around the streets and reminded all residents to adhere to the City snow ban rules.

Colombo said the COVID numbers are climbing with the hospital filling up. He stated he spoke with Dr. Valente and he said there are a lot of patients, in the hospital, that have not been vaccinated. He said he encourages people to get vaccinated and masks are coming back.

Colombo thanked the DPW Department on a fantastic job in the recent snowstorms. He said the Hazleton Police Department has been very busy as well as the Hazleton Fire Department. He welcomed the four new fire fighters.

Sacco stated there is a lot of confusion, in the City, about the snow ban rules. She asked if the rules are based on the year starting in November. Mayor Cusat said correct. He stated the residents do not park on the yellow or blue signs of the streets. Sacco said she wants to put on their Facebook page how it

works. Mayor Cusat said the ban runs from November of the odd year until March of the even year. Perry said Sacco needs to state what color they cannot park on. Mayor Cusat said it is a minimum, of 24 hours, after a snowstorm and must be able to park 12 inches from the curb line. Ondishin asked, in an odd year, are there blue and yellow signs. Mayor Cusat stated yellow is no parking any year, and always, no yellow. He said if everyone could park, on the same side, it helps DPW clear the roads, especially in an ice storm. He said it takes 8 hours to make one pass through the City: one rotation, with the main and side streets.

Perry said there is a trailer with an 18-wheel truck parked on 7th Street between Wyoming Street and Garabaldi Court. He said it has been there for a while. Mayor Cusat said this would follow under Ordinance 88-25. He said there are no trailers or boat trailers allowed to be parked in the City. Perry said that cab takes up a lot of space, as this road is not very wide to begin with.

Perry thanked Zeller for securing \$1,000,000 for automated light enforcement. He said this is the most, in the state, besides the City of Philadelphia. Zeller said the City received the most in Luzerne County. He said over \$1,000,000 will take care of three intersections in the City: Diamond Avenue and Church Street, 15th & Church Streets, and 22nd and Church Streets, all on Route 309. Perry agreed these are dangerous intersections.

Sacco asked about the Buttonwood and Wyoming Street intersection. Police Chief Schoonmaker *(inaudible)*.

Perry thanked the Hazleton Fire Department. He welcomed the four new firefighters. He said there was a total of 90 hours of experience with the four firefighters retiring. Perry said Vito and the DPW crew are doing a great job in the City with the recent snowstorms. He said they spent a lot of hours on the roads.

Perry said the City Clerk gave all city council members an updated list of the Authorities, Boards and Commission board openings. He said anyone interested could send in an application for the Hazleton City Water Authority or Sewer Authority board openings. He said they follow the Luzerne County guidelines. Perry said they hope to fill the openings at the next council meeting on January 25, 2022. He said the deadline, for the applications, will be before January 25, 2022. He said they received one application for the HCA and two applications for the Hazleton Sewer Authority.

Colombo thanked the City of Hazleton. He said there was a recent picture of a girl, in the newspaper, holding a doll, from the Kentucky tornado, that was donated by the residents of the City. He said there are "no words" needed. He stated the City has a "big heart".

Comments from Junior Council: None

Adjournment: Perry motioned to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.