ELKINS COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

401 Davis Avenue
Council Chamber, 2nd Floor
January 17, 2019
7:00 p.m.

Elkins Common Council met in regular session in the council chamber of city hall. Present were Mayor Van T. Broughton; Councilpersons R.C. Chenoweth, M. D. Cuonzo, C.H. Friddle, III, M.M. Hazen, C. L. Metheny, E.R. Ochsendorf, D.C. Parker, and L.H. Vest; Police Chief G. Galloway; City Treasurer T. Judy; Fire Chief T. W. Meader; Operations Manager R.P. Pingley; City Attorney G. S. Roberts; City Clerk J.R. Sutton (acting as recording secretary); and Inter-Mountain Reporter B. Johnson.

Councilman R. A. Woolwine was absent; C.C. Lowther arrived at 7:32 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kelly Monk, 310 Tygart Court, addressed Council regarding the Randolph County Board of Education Levy Call. The BOE budget is approximately $45 million annually, several times larger than the City and County budgets. Approximately one-fifth of the BOE budget is generated from real property taxes. Mrs. Monk is concerned that the levy proposes a percentage increase, not a fixed amount, and that there is no cap. She believes the levy will negatively affect the county by taking money away from taxpaying citizens and government. Mrs. Monk also has a concern about installing turf on fields where existing drainage problems exist.

Rhett Dusenbury, 140 Easy St., speaking on behalf of himself and Congressman Mooney, is aware of problems in other counties with not being able to keep law enforcement vehicles on the road. He asks Council to consider donating any vehicles they may be getting rid of to these counties.

Richard Holland, business owner, offered praise to the Fire and Police Departments for their hard work. He believes we need more officers and would like to see downtown foot patrols. Mr. Hollands understands that the City was put "behind the eight ball" years ago in terms of pay, but would like to see us work towards having the highest paid PD in the region.

PRESENTATION

Robbie Morris of the Randolph County Development Authority provided an update of the organizations activities in 2018 and a 2019 outlook. In the City of Elkins, the RCDA is currently working on the Rail Trail, the Town Square Pavilion and the Greenfield Cabinetry expansion projects. In the surrounding area, they continue to work on the Armstrong Flooring expansion and the Broadband project. In 2018, within city limits, eight-two new businesses opened. This

was 9.22% increase from the previous year and placed Elkins eighteenth among the one-thousand fifteen municipalities in the State. Mr. Morris believes that the increased social events hosted in the City are a positive reflection of the good things happening. He sees the #1 barrier to further economic development as a shallow workforce. We have more jobs than people to fill them. Moving forward, RCDA is working with Black Diamond Realty to promote Rail Yard development; the Wood Technology Center continues to grow and is considering expansion of their shop; and partnerships with technical schools and community colleges are being considered to help with the workforce training issue. Overall, Randolph County has a very positive outlook.

Randolph County Board of Education Assistant Superintendent Debbie Schmidlen shared information with Council on the upcoming Levy Call. The BOE has received appx. $9.6 million in SBA grants for the benefit of five county schools. The three main areas they intent to focus funds raised by the levy are the students, facilities and supporting the community with waiving of fees; donation to local libraries and other programs. The BOE is working with the local fire departments to scheduled community meetings over the next month. They invite citizens to attend as well as contact the BOE at any time with questions or concerns.

MINUTES

Cm. Ochsendorf, **MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 3, 2019 MEETING.** The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Cw. Hazen, **MOVED APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 258: AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELKINS, WEST VIRGINIA, TO EXEMPT THE CITY FROM THE LIMITATION IMPOSED BY WEST VIRGINIA CODE § 8-12-5(52) BY RAISING THE PER CAPITA AMOUNT THE CITY MAY EXPEND FOR ADVERTISING THE MUNICIPALITY AND FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT OF VISITORS FROM TWENTY-FIVE CENTS TO ONE DOLLAR ANNUALLY (1ST OF TWO READINGS).** The motion carried.

Cm. Parker, **MOVED APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 1182: AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR FLEX-E GRANT THROUGH THE WEST VIRGINIA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.** The motion carried.

Cw. Cuonzo, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1185: APPOINTING OFFICIALS FOR THE 2019 MUNICIPAL ELECTION.** The motion carried.

Cw. Cuonzo, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1187: APPOINTING R. GAGE TO THE ELKINS TREE BOARD.** The motion carried.

Cm. Parker, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1188: ASSIGNMENT OF OPERATIONS POSITION TO THE COMPENSATION AND CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND AUTHORITY TO HIRE.** The motion carried.

Cm. Metheny, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1189: ADOPTING AND IMPLEMENTING NEW POLICIES TO THE ELKINS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL RELATING TO OVERTIME AND CALL OUT.** The motion carried.

Cm. Friddle, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1190: AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF ELKINS TO ELIMINATE CREDIT CARD SURCHARGE FOR CUSTOMERS.** The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VENDOR INVOICE PAYMENTS

Cm. Metheny, **MOVED APPROVAL OF THE INVOICES PRESENTED.** The motion carried.

The invoices in question were as specified on the following list, which is attached and made part of this record:

- Accounts Payable check transactions for the period December 31, 2018 – January 11, 2019

CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTIFICATIONS

Council received the following correspondence and notifications:

- Issued building permits
- Treasurer's report

The following building permits have been issued since the previous regular council meeting.

ISSUED BUILDING PERMITS				
Permit	**Applicant**	**Location**	**Description**	**Value**
190000	Corcoran, John	241 Diamond St.*	Enclose front Porch to Install Bathroom	4,000.00
190001	Nucilli, Rebecca	304 Robert E Lee Ave.	Install Metal Roof	8,962.00
190002	Georgeson, Robert	119 Ferndale Dr.	Windows	2,526.00
190003	Holland Enterprises LLC	302 Davis Ave.	Installing Two Bathrooms and Moving Entry Wall, Installing Range Rec.	8,000.00
190004	Dawson, Henry & Lydia	103 Pleasant Ave.	Remove Deck and Repair Foundation and Install New Deck	15,000.00
190005	Talbott Personal Care Home	521 Davis Ave.	Install Back-up Generator	8,587.00
190006	Strong, Stuart	210-1/2 Kerens Ave	Electrical Service Inspection	

ISSUED BUILDING PERMITS				
Permit	**Applicant**	**Location**	**Description**	**Value**
190007	Clay, Jennifer	63 George St.	Enclose Back Porch & Install 5 New Windows and Siding	1,600.00

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Thank you to the Street Department for all their hard work during the last snowstorm. I have received multiple compliments from citizens. City Hall is closed on Monday, January 21 in celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. D&E will be hosting multiple events that day on campus. The recent Community Table was a great success. Over 125 participants and volunteers. I, the City Clerk and Cm. C. Friddle, III are attending the WVML mid-winter conference in Charleston later this month.

Cm. Metheny, **MOVED ADJOURNMENT.** The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Approved by council at the meeting of MONTH DAY, YEAR

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Van T. Broughton, Mayor

Attest:

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Jessica R. Sutton, City Clerk