

Proposed Minutes

ELKINS COMMON COUNCIL SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

***401 Davis Avenue
Council Chamber, 2nd Floor
March 26, 2019
7:00 p.m.***

Elkins Common Council met in special 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.C. Lowther, C. L. Metheny, E.R. Ochsendorf and R. A. Woolwine; City Treasurer T. Judy; Operations Manager R.P. Pingley; City Attorney G. S. Roberts; and City Clerk J.R. Sutton (acting as recording secretary).

Councilpersons D.C. Parker and L.H. Vest; Police Chief G. Galloway; Fire Chief T. W. Meader and Inter-Mountain Reporter B. Johnson were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Guye, 107 Sylvester Drive, spoke to council regarding Res #1208. Mrs. Guye believes Elkins has a tradition in identifying historic landmarks and that we have an opportunity to save one of them now, the Carriage House. Additionally, Elkins Main Street is interested in restoring the structure to preserve the Main Street character. She encouraged council to support this resolution.

Maryann Durland, 315 Graham Street, spoke as a resident and as President of Elkins Historic Landmarks Commission. The Carriage House is part of the Elkins Historic Downtown District. While the Woodford House was demolished, the EHLC has worked hard to save, restore and utilize the Darden House and they see value in doing the same for the Carriage House. She believes the House could serve many purposes if restored and encourages council to support these efforts.

Marilynn Cuonzo, resident and councilperson, believes heritage preservation is what this is all about, not just the structure itself. Our heritage preservation legislation is thin and our tools are weak, so council needs to be proactive if we want to preserve our heritage. These buildings represent our cultural values and in turn make us proud and happy. Historic buildings also enhance property values, encourage tourism, follow green practices and create jobs. She strongly encourages council to support Resolution #1208.

Dave Cutlip spoke on behalf of Elkins Main Street, who is co-sponsoring the grant application. Mr. Cutlip advised council that EMS was founded under the National Trust of Historic Preservation and so this project is consistent with their mandate as well as their mission. He believes this building is an important part of the streetscape.

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NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pingley spoke to council regarding Resolution 1205 approved by council on March 21, 2019 authorizing a grant application to SHPO for repairs to the masonry at City Hall. Mr. Pingley was unaware at the time he requested approval that upon the receipt of SHPO funds, the City would enter into a covenant regarding any future work being done to the building. The length is based on the amount of the grant award, which in this case would be for twenty years. Council asked questions of Mr. Pingley and City Attorney G. Robert and discussed benefits versus the obligation.

Cm. Friddle, **MOVED TO RESCIND RESOLUTION 1205: AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT GRANT THROUGH THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (“SHPO”) FOR CITY HALL.** In accordance with Resolution 924 and the amended City of Elkins Rules of Council the chair called for a roll call vote. The clerk called roll in random order. The motion carried. Council votes were as follows:

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|---------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| R. Chenoweth | Yes | C. Lowther | Yes | L. Vest | absent |
| M. Cuonzo | No | C. Metheny | Yes | R. Woolwine | Yes |
| C. Friddle III | Yes | G. Ochsendorf | Yes | | |
| M. Hazen | No | D. Parker | absent | | |

Cw. Hazen, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1208: AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT GRANT THROUGH THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (“SHPO”) FOR THE DARDEN CARRIAGE HOUSE.** The motion carried.

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

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 pm.

*Approved by council at the meeting
of MONTH DAY, YEAR*

Van T. Broughton, Mayor

Attest:

Jessica R. Sutton, City Clerk