

Proposed Minutes

ELKINS COMMON COUNCIL REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

***401 Davis Avenue
Council Chamber, 2nd Floor
May 16, 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 M. D. Cuonzo, C.H. Friddle, III, J.A. Guye, M.M. Hazen, G.M. Hinchman, C. L. Metheny, D.C. Parker, and L.H. Vest; Police Chief G. Galloway; City Treasurer T. Judy; Fire Chief T. W. Meader; Assistant Operations Manager M. Himes; City Attorney G. S. Roberts; City Clerk J.R. Sutton (acting as recording secretary); and Inter-Mountain Reporter B. Johnson.

Councilpersons R.C. Chenoweth and C.C. Lowther, and Operations Manager R. Pingley were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cindy Ulrich, 26 Central Street, expressed to council her opinion of the proposed renaming of Robert E. Lee Ave. She is not in favor of this. She believes Robert E. Lee was a good man. He and his soldiers stayed in her great-grandmother's barn and her father was named after him. When Ms. Ulrich spoke to Cw. Hazen regarding her proposal she was told that the name R.E.L. offended her. Ms. Ulrich found this to be offensive. She does not believe that this particular street has anything to do with tourism given its location and there is no reason to change it.

Beth Woods, 33 Barron Ave, recognizes that she does not live on Robert E. Lee Ave, but does not agree with the name change for two reasons. One is for the burden it places on residents and the Middle School, and the other because she believes he is part of the history of this town. Ms. Woods also worries that if you start here, where will it end. We have numerous other structures and monuments named after members of the confederacy nearby.

PRESENTATION

Randolph-Tucker County Children's Advocacy Center Executive Director Margot Evick described to the council what their organization does. They work with community partners to find healing and justice for children who have been victimized. They have two locations, Elkins and Parsons, with a combined staff of four. They work in multi-disciplinary teams and in 2018 provided services to 141 children. Their numbers have increased, which she believes is a result of better identification and reporting. Chief Galloway also commented at how beneficial the CAC is to the community and especially to law enforcement.

Proposed Minutes

Elkins-Randolph County Public Library Director Stephanie Murphy thanked the City for their continued support. She reported there have been a lot of changes in the last two years. Attendance, patrons, reference transactions, daily visitors, programming and hours have all increased since the last fiscal year. The library has added security measures, including tagging materials and cameras. They have also increased their staff by two. The capital campaign to expand the library's size will be kicking off again soon. There is a book sale happening now, which is put on by the Friends of Library, whose membership is over one-hundred strong.

MINUTES

Cm. Metheny, **MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2019 MEETING.** The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

With council's consent, the Mayor moved item h to the top of new business.

Cm. Friddle, **MOVED APPROVAL FOR COUNCIL TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING A MUNICIPAL COURT PERSONNEL MATTER.** The motion carried. Council entered executive session at 7:25 p.m. and returned at 7:43 p.m. The chair announced that no action was taken.

Cw. Hazen, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1221: AUTHORIZING CONDITIONS OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING CORPORATION AND THE CITY OF ELKINS, AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT.** The motion carried.

Cm. Friddle, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1222: APPROVAL OF BUDGET REVISIONS 13 THROUGH 25 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019.** The motion carried.

Cw. Cuonzo, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1223: AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR FY2019 RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDS, AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION THEREOF.** The motion carried.

Cm. Metheny, **MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 1224: AMENDING THE CITY OF ELKINS PERSONNEL POLICIES REGARDING HOLIDAY AND PERSONAL LEAVE.** The motion carried.

Cw. Cuonzo, **MOVED APPROVAL TO CANCEL THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 20, 2019 IN OBSERVATION OF WEST VIRGINIA DAY, AND TO SCHEDULE A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.** The motion carried.

Council discussed the waiver of Business and Occupation taxes for property demolitions when the City holds title to the property. Council is in agreement that this would be the best practice, but also that anytime this situation arises, it should be brought before council for review and action.

Proposed Minutes

Cw. Cuonzo, **MOVED APPROVAL OF A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE WV COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT HUB APPLICATION FOR USDA'S RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE GRANT.** The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VENDOR INVOICE PAYMENTS

Cm. Friddle, **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 April 29 – May 10, 2019

CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTIFICATIONS

Council received the following correspondence and notifications:

- Issued building permits
- Events
- Treasurer's report

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

ISSUED BUILDING PERMITS				
Permit	Applicant	Location	Description	Value
190086	Seneca Mall, LLC	108 Third St.	Replace Roof	161,200
190087	Winkler, Jon	3 Park St.	Sidewalk	200
190088	Hankey, Hazel	149 Robert E Lee Ave Ext.	Sidewalk	1,600
190089	Woodford Oil Co.	1 Thirteenth St	Install 3 Garage Doors	50,000
190090	Tallman, John	115 Sunset Dr	Replace Shingles	11,500
190091	Tallman, John Jr.	113 Mountain View Dr	Replace Shingles	9,500
190092	Banfield, Anne	323 Central St.	Install Metal Roof	6,000
190093	Tingler, Freddie	155 Delaware Ave.	Remodel	20,000
190094	Talbott, Sue	110 Sixteenth St	Fence	3,000
190095	Helzer, Holly	106 Wayne	Fence	1,200

Proposed Minutes

ISSUED BUILDING PERMITS				
Permit	Applicant	Location	Description	Value
190096	Randolph Co. Commission	7 Randolph Ave.	Remodel Offices	8,206
190097	Howell, Bruce	100 Eleventh St	Remodel	20,000
190098	City of Elkins	108 Orchard St	Demolition	9,200

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

HOFNOD had a great turnout and I’d like to thank the Elkins Police Department for bringing their Tactical Response Unit vehicle.

The City successfully demolished a structure on Orchard Street and a private property owner demolished a house on High St.

I attended the Old Brick Playhouse performance on Monday, and it was wonderful.

Thanks to all who helped with the three groups of students from Third Ward Elementary School who visited City Hall on Wednesday, We had over 100 children throughout the day.

Coming up:

Saturday - Bike Parade and Rodeo in downtown Elkins, and the 2nd annual River Day in Bowden

Tuesday – Mayor’s Intra-City Track Meet at EHS and the 2nd Ward Watch meeting at the PGCC

Thursday – live music and car show

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

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

Van T. Broughton, Mayor

Attest:

Jessica R. Sutton, City Clerk