

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF MARSHALL, CITY OF BENWOOD,
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 24, 2023**

City Council of the City of Benwood met in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at the City Building in the Council Chambers. Mayor Walter W. Yates called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following council members were present: Ferrera, Givens, Kazemka, Lunsford & Mele. Excused absence: Councilperson Ankrom, Councilperson Fehr & Councilperson Longwell. Others present: Chief of Police Frank Longwell, Dave McLaughlin Director of Public Works, Tiffany Ankrom City Clerk & Eric Gordon City Attorney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Walter W. Yates led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

MINUTES

Councilperson Ferrera moved to approve the October 10, 2023 regular meeting minutes & and Councilperson Mele seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR ITEMS

No comment

NEW BUSINESS

**APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BENWOOD, WEST VIRGINIA
AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A DEED FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY
SITUATE AT 1422 MARSHALL STREET, BENWOOD WEST VIRGINIA
(FIRST READING)**

Owner of property located at 1422 Marshall Street has advised he is willing to convey any interest he has in the property to the City of Benwood without compensation, with the understanding he will be held harmless of the cost of removing the structure.

Councilperson Ferrera made the motion to approve the ordinance and Councilperson Mele seconded the motion. Mayor Yates called for roll call; vote was taken & motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DONATION FOR APPALACHIAN OUTREACH

Appalachian Outreach requested a donation for their annual fund raiser.

Councilperson Mele made the motion to approve of \$100 donation & Councilperson Ferrera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVAL OF DONATION FOR JOHN MARSHALL MONARCH BASKETBALL PROGRAM

John Marshall Basketball Boosters requested a donation for the 2023-2024 season.

Councilperson Mele made the motion to approve a \$50 donation & Councilperson Givens seconded the motion.

APPROVAL OF HANDICAP PARKING AT 1408 HIGH STREET

Resident at 1408 High Street is requesting a handicap parking line to be painted in front of residence.

Councilperson Ferrera made the motion to approve of the parking and Councilperson Givens seconded the motion.

FINANCE & TAXATION

An ordinance entitled: "An ordinance to pay a claim against the city for work and other claims." Be it ordained by the Council of the City of Benwood, that the sum of \$68,397.78 be appropriated out of the funds belonging to the city, to pay a claim against the city, and that an order signed by the Mayor and Recorder be drawn upon the Treasurer for the above amount and that this ordinance takes effect from and after its passage. (See Copies of Supporting Accounts Payable Registers Attached)

Councilperson Ferrera moved to adopt the above ordinance on first reading, seconded by Councilperson Mele. Mayor Yates called for roll call vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

Councilperson Ferrera moved to adopt the above ordinance on second reading, seconded by Councilperson Mele. Mayor Yates called for roll call vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECK REGISTER REPORTS

Councilperson Ferrera moved to receive and file accounts payable check register reports totaling \$68,397.78 seconded by Councilperson Mele. Mayor Yates called for a roll call, vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Revenue/Expense Report and Financial Report as of October 19, 2023:

Cash Operating Report: General Fund \$2,337,988.24; Coal Severance Fund \$75,766.03; Garbage Fund \$7,837.81; Fire Fund \$33,451.36; Water Fund \$403,995.34 and Sewer Fund \$140,297.47; Total operating cash \$2,994,908.47.

Councilperson Ferrera moved to receive and file the Cash Operating Report and Financial Reports, seconded by Councilperson Mele. Mayor Yates called for roll call; vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

CITY OFFICES, PROPERTY, FIRE & POLICE

PSC has received the information regarding the Sewer Rate Increase.

Health Insurance Premium is going up 23%; approximately \$84,000 of the HRA account is remaining.


Chief Longwell spoke with DOH Engineers and they are planning to re-do the 4th Street Ramp in a couple years but for now they will be patching the voids.

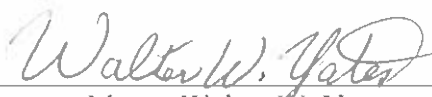
ADJOURNMENT

Councilperson Ferrera moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Councilperson Mele. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,


Tiffany Ambrom City Clerk/Treasurer


Mayor Walter W. Yates