

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF MARSHALL, CITY OF BENWOOD, CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 8, 2024

City Council of the City of Benwood met in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 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: Ankrom, Fehr, Ferrera, Givens, Kazemka, Lunsford & Mele. Excused absences were Councilperson Ankrom. Others present: 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 Regular Meeting Minutes for September 10, 2024 & Councilperson Mele seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF SEWER ADJUSTMENT

Resident replaced their damaged pool lining and had to refill the pool. Sewage adjustment approved per the ordinance.

APPROVAL OF CHRISTIAN HERITAGE WEEK NOVEMBER 24-30, 2024

Councilperson Ferrera made the motion to approve the Proclamation from Governor Justice and Councilperson Mele seconded the motion.

APPROVAL TO PLACE LIENS ON PROPERTIES

There are two properties in the city limits that have a delinquent water/sewage bill and both are up for sale. One property is owned by an individual & the other property is owned by an LLC. Both liens will be placed on the individuals' themselves.

Councilperson Mele made the motion to file liens on both properties and Councilperson Givens seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL TO APPOINT EMS BOARD

Two representatives from the city are needed to chair the McMechen EMS Board. Curt Mele and Larry Ferrera III will be representing the city.

Councilperson Kazemka made the motion to appoint Curt Mele & Larry Ferrera III, Councilperson Givens seconded the motion. Mayor Yates called for a roll call; vote was taken & motion passed.

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APPROVAL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROPOSAL

City Clerk's office is needing to replace six computers, server and monthly IT maintenance service agreement. Three proposals were submitted. CWS \$2,365.00, ForeFront \$6,175.00 Technology & Omni Strategic Technologies \$28,282.00.

Omni was the winning bid at \$28,282.00.

Councilperson Ferrera made the motion to approve the IT Proposal for Omni Strategic Technologies & Councilperson Mele seconded the motion. Mayor Yates called for a roll call, vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

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 \$144,239.78 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 \$144,239.78 seconded by Councilperson Mele. Mayor Yates called for a roll call, vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Revenue/Expense Report and Financial Report as of October 3, 2024:

Cash Operating Report: General Fund \$2,206,090.06; Coal Severance Fund \$79,724.62; Garbage Fund \$1,257.58; Fire Fund \$27,831.03, Water Fund \$273,485.34 & Sewer Fund \$140,739.71;
Total operating cash 2,729,128.34.

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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 OFFICE, PROPERTY, FIRE & POLICE

Trick or Treating will be 5:30pm – 6:30pm on October 31, 2024.

Bagging candy in the council chambers on October 22, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

City Clerk Tiffany Ankrom & Assistant City Clerk Michele Campbell attended State Auditors training on October 7, 2024 at Wheeling Park.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,


Tiffany Ankrom, City Clerk/Treasurer


Mayor Walter W. Yates