

CITY OF CORRY

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

7:00 PM

JUNE 15, 2020

Mayor Mitchell opened the teleconferenced meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given by Rev. Mary Norton of the Emmanuel Episcopal Church. Roll call found Council members Drake, Hamilton, Roche and Sproveri present, along with City Solicitor Carney, City Engineer Maas, City Manager Biondi, City Business Manager Heil, Police Chief Shopene and Fire Chief Lathrop.

ROLL CALL

(1) Mr. Biondi announced an addendum to the agenda – adding under hearing of the public regarding agenda items – Jeff Fike concerning termination of employee.

AMEND AGENDA

(2) Mayor Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the May 18, 2020 regular meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Sproveri and carried unanimously.

APPROVE
MINUTES

(3) Mayor Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the May 26, 2020 CDBG public hearing; the motion was seconded by Mr. Drake and carried unanimously.

- COUNCIL MTG
- CDBG HEARING

Hearing of the Public:

Jeff Fike asked for more history leading up to the incident of March 14, 2020. Solicitor Carney suggested not going beyond the letter to be received and filed for serious legal reasons. Mr. Fike also voiced his concern as to why Council cannot comment if this began with an on-duty incident. Solicitor Carney stated that the officer is fully aware of the situation and at this point he has protection as well as the legal process and that is why we need to stick to the letter.

HEARING OF THE
PUBLIC

(4) Mayor Mitchell made a motion to receive and file letter dated June 1, 2020 from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) related to the Spectrum aerial cable project at First Ave; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Hamilton and carried unanimously.

PUC LETTER
SPECTRUM
FIRST AVE PROJ

(5) Mrs. Hamilton made a motion to receive and file letter dated June 3, 2020 from the United Fund related to the 2020 fundraising tracking sign to be placed in the City Park; the motion was seconded by Mr. Sproveri and carried unanimously.

UNITED FUND
SIGN IN
CITY PARK

Mrs. Hamilton made a motion to approve the request by the United Fund to place the 2020 fundraising tracking sign in the City Park from August 15 until November 15, 2020; the motion was seconded by Mr. Roche and carried unanimously.

(6) Mayor Mitchell made a motion to receive and file letter dated June 9, 2020 from Chief of Police and City Manager related to their recommendation for the termination of Officer Gary Doolittle employment; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Hamilton and carried unanimously.

G DOOLITTLE
TERMINATION

Mayor Mitchell made a motion to approve the termination of Officer Gary Doolittle effective immediately as formal discipline related to the incident which occurred while the officer was off duty on March 14, 2020; the motion was seconded by Mr. Roche and carried unanimously.

(7) Mayor Mitchell made a motion to receive and file the May 2020 District Judge Report; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Hamilton and carried unanimously.

DJ REPORT

(8) Mr. Sproveri made a motion to receive and file the May 2020 Fire Report; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Hamilton and carried unanimously. Chief Lathrop stated that calls up in May, a donation of \$6,000 was received by the Volunteer Fire Company and the hydrant flushing has been completed.

FIRE REPORT

(9) Mayor Mitchell made a motion to receive and file the May 2020 Police Report; the motion was seconded by Mr. Sproveri and carried unanimously. Chief Shopene stated that the thefts have picked up last month. He stated that there are charges being filled regarding these thefts. Also stated, there was a burglary in progress this morning that is related to these thefts.

(10) Mr. Roche made a motion to receive and file the May 2020 New Vendor List; the motion was seconded by Mr. Sproveri and carried unanimously.

(11) Mayor Mitchell made a motion to approve Resolution 20-06 authorizing budget revisions for the 2017 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG); the motion was seconded by Mrs. Hamilton and carried unanimously.

(12) Mayor Mitchell introduced Hannah Brewer, Senior Class President of 2020, and Kaitlyn Webb, 2020 Valedictorian. Mr. Biondi read a Proclamation to the Corry Area High School Class of 2020 on behalf of the entire City Council supporting and congratulating all the students who will continue to influence our community long after this current pandemic has ended.

(13) Mayor Mitchell stated this has been a trying week for the Country and everyone is being tested to their limits. The City's main concern is public safety. He stated that he was on the phone with Senator Michele Brooks today regarding the fight to get Erie County out of the yellow phase of the COVID-19 regulations.

(14) Mr. Roche made a motion for the approval of the payment of the bill list when funds are available and vouchers are signed; Mr. Sproveri seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

(15) Mr. Sproveri thanked Leory's Towing for donating to the volunteer fire department the funding to switch the lighting on the new ladder truck to LED lighting.

(16) Mr. Sproveri made a motion to open City parks and ball fields including baseball, basketball and soccer to the public; Mrs. Hamilton seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

(17) Council discussed the opening of events in the City to the green phase recommendations and all voiced their concerns.

Mr. Sproveri made a motion to allow events to begin June 16, 2020 on the following conditions: They are able to meet the state established green phase recommendations including but not limited to social distancing protocols, and limit of 250 individuals as a maximum including attendance and individuals working or volunteering at the event. A review of the organizers plan to be compliant to the green phase protocols must be reviewed and approved by the City management team (Police, Fire, Public Works, and City Manager); Mrs. Hamilton seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

(18) Mr. Drake reminded everyone that the Public Works crews are out patching the street and cautioned drivers to keep their eyes open and be careful in work zones.

(19) Mrs. Hamilton made a motion to receive and file the event request related to Black Lives Matter March which was held on June 5, 2020; the motion was seconded by Mr. Sproveri and carried unanimously. Mr. Biondi stated the event request was incomplete with no liability insurance and was held during the COVID-19 restrictions.

POLICE REPORT

NEW VENDOR LIST

**20-06
CDBG 2017
BUDGET REV
RESOLUTION**

**PROCLAMATION
2020 CAHS**

**MAYOR
COMMENTS**

BILL LIST

**DONATION TO
VOLUNTEER FIRE**

**OPEN CITY
PARKS**

**OPEN EVENTS
TO GREEN
PHASE
REQUIREMENTS**

**PUBLIC WORKS
COMMENTS**

**EVENT REQUEST
BLACK LIVES
MATTER MARCH**

**EVENT REQUEST
ST PAUL'S
OUTDOOR
SERVICES**

**ENGINEER
COMMENTS**

**FINANCIAL
UPDATE**

**HEARING OF THE
PUBLIC**

**MEETINGS
SCHEDULE**

ADJOURN

(20) Mrs. Hamilton made a motion to receive and file the event request related to St. Paul's Lutheran Church holding outdoor services from June 21 – July 26, 2020; the motion was seconded by Mr. Drake and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Hamilton made a motion to approve the event request related to St. Paul's Lutheran Church holding outdoor services from June 21 – July 26, 2020; the motion was seconded by Mr. Drake and carried unanimously. This event includes a closure of E South St from Concord to King Streets.

(21) City Engineer Maas stated that the water project is going well and he is preparing specs for the paving of City streets that were recommended and hope to award the bid at the July meeting.

(22) Mr. Heil gave a financial update: 2020 real estate is down 5% from 2019; 2020 earned income tax is down 5% from 2019; income and expenses in the general fund is increased in 2020 this includes CDBG funding; water/sewer/trash is similar with a 3% increase in 2020; there is an uptick in the number of delinquent water/sewer/trash accounts due to the lift of shut-offs during the COVID-19; golf fund has a profit of \$4,000 so far for 2020 – this is with the course being closed during April due to COVID-19.

Hearing of the Public:

Bill Roche asked for an update on the building study. Mr. Biondi stated the STMP project should be completed near the end of this month. It was stated that DCED will not move forward until the STMP report is completed to aid in prioritizing the projects.

Mary Matteson asked for clarification of the number of people allowed to gather. Mr. Biondi stated that the vote tonight approves a maximum of 250 individuals. She also asked for the additional cost to the City for overtime and extra coverage during the BLM march.

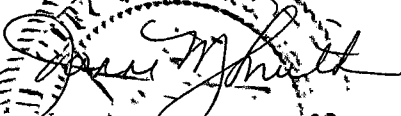
Rex Messenger stated he gives the Police Chief a thumbs up for the good work during the BLM protest. He voiced his concerns over some people at the protest with their weapons. He also stated concerns regarding the upcoming drag racing events at the airport. He hoped that the residents of the area were contacted to address any concerns prior to the event. He asked with the cars needing to be street legal if they are required to have inspections. It was confirmed that all current standards for the particular vehicle would need to be met. He asked if release forms need to be signed by individuals attending the event. It was stated that the participants in the race will need to sign a waiver. Further questions could be followed up with the event organizers.

(23) Announcement of meetings:

- Thursday, July 2, 2020, 4 pm – planning session – Community Center
- Monday, July 6, 2020, 7 pm – regular meeting – Community Center
- Thursday, July 16, 2020, 4 pm – planning session – Community Center
- Monday, July 20, 2020, 7 pm – regular meeting – Community Center

(24) Mayor Mitchell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.; the motion was seconded by Mr. Sproveri and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Jeanne M. Smith
City Clerk