

(NO PRE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY)

**AGENDA FOR PARKERSBURG CITY COUNCIL,
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017, 7:30 PM
SECOND FLOOR, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Council President, JR Carpenter
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. MINUTES - Council meeting December 12, 2017
- IV. REPORTS FROM STANDING OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES
 - A. Election for President of City Council for 2018
 - B. Election for Vice President of City Council for 2018
- V. MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE
 1. Communication from Mayor Tom Joyce re-appointing Mr. Tom Eagle, 1031 Juliana Street, to the Juliana Square Architectural Review Board (ARB) through March 31, 2019. (requires Council's confirmation)
 2. Communication from Mayor Tom Joyce appointing Mr. Justin Roedersheimer, 1111 Juliana Street, to the Juliana Square ARB for an unexpired term to end December 31, 2018. (requires Council's confirmation)
 3. Communication from Mayor Tom Joyce re-appointing Mr. Phil Kincaid, Mr. Matt Shea, and Ms. Amber Haid to the Washington Avenue/PHS Historic District board for terms to expire in 2020. (requires Council's confirmation)
 4. Communication from Mayor Tom Joyce re-appointing Mr. Wayne Waldeck, 1000 Market Street, to the Downtown Façade Committee for a term to expire January 1, 2020. (requires Council's confirmation)
- VI. PUBLIC FORUM
- VII. RESOLUTIONS
 5. Resolution authorizing travel expenses by City Council to attend a Municipal League meeting in Charleston January 20th and 21st, 2017. (Sponsored by Finance Committee contingent upon their approval prior to this meeting.)
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT (NOTE – NEXT MEETING JANUARY 9, 2018)

December 12, 2017

The Council of the City of Parkersburg met in regular session Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 7:30 PM in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Municipal Building at One Government Square, Parkersburg, and joined in the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance prior to the beginning of the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Council President, JR Carpenter, who presided over the meeting.

The Clerk noted those members attending as Councilmen Dave McCrady, Sharon Kuhl, Bob Mercer, Eric Barber, Mike Reynolds, John Reed, Zach Stanley, Jeff Fox, and JR Carpenter.

MINUTES – Mr. Reynolds moved, seconded by Mr. Mercer, to approve the City Council minutes from November 28, 2017, and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

REPORTS FROM STANDING OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES – No reports this evening.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE – Mayor Tom Joyce expressed his appreciation for all the events on December which included the Christmas parade and Winterfest activities. He then asked Wendy Shriver, Executive Director for Downtown PKB, to report on their projects for 2017. She told Council they have had eight new businesses open downtown, and are working on four more that plan to open. Their events continue to grow with record attendance. Their Artoberfest was made possible by a grant from the McDonough Foundation, and their merchants and artists downtown walk was a success, as well as Winterfest. They have a partnership program to move to be a Main Street Program, and their re-branding is giving her more resources. There will be new banners downtown quarterly, and they had a Clean-Up, Green-Up program that had youth involved. She thanked Council for their support and stated there was a survey on their website for community involvement.

PUBLIC FORUM – Mr. Al Collins asked Council what they have done for the spirit of our City this past year, and said a lot of unkind things have been said about them.

Ms. Kim VanRijn, 608 13th Street, opposed to the increases on the agenda this evening, and said her Council district is 46% within the poverty rate. Not voting for the non-discrimination ordinance and having the fire at the Ames Company brought negative attention to our City, she said.

Jennifer Briant, Market Street, said that passing these increases all at once is detrimental. In households, they have to cut something in their budgets if an unexpected expense arises – they can't ask for more money.

Mr. Glenn Brookover, Lynn Street, asked Council to save money – not spend it. He asked where the Home Rule money was spent, and did not agree with spending money on Friendship Park because undesirable people use it most of the time.

Ms. Sue Ellen Waybright, Division Street Extension, asked Council to cut their expenses. She had looked at our budget and found that the \$400,000.00 they propose to cut is only 1.4% of the entire budget and she thinks we can do better. She also suggested we not spend the \$750,000.00 for the splash park, and asked them to cut the budget 5%.

Mr. Mark Belyus, Little Hocking, Ohio, has rental property in Parkersburg and this increase will be \$250.00 more per month on his fees. If he passes these on to his renters, they he will have to pay more in B & O taxes. He tries to keep his properties up, but renovations cost a lot, he said.

Ardon Ayers, 616 32nd Street, said he worked 30 years, and sometimes he only has one meal a day. He said he appreciates the police and fire departments, but asked Council to walk through their communities.

Jack Dowler, 33 Willowbrook Drive, said this increase was too much for seniors to pay.

RESOLUTIONS

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE CITY OF PARKERSBURG BECOMING A PARTICIPATING EMPLOYER OF THE WEST VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR MUNICIPAL PAID PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS

WHEREAS the City of Parkersburg by Resolution duly made and lawfully passed by the majority vote of its City Council and dated October 24, 2017 did elect to become a participating employer and join the Municipal Police Officers and Firefighters Retirement System pursuant to Chapter 8, Article 22A, Section 28 of the West Virginia Code; and

WHEREAS by said action the City thereby will include all of its municipal paid professional firefighters who are eligible for membership in the said Municipal Police Officers and Firefighters Retirement System.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARKERSBURG AS FOLLOWS:

The Municipality hereby agrees to pay its employer contributions, and withhold applicable employee contributions monthly and remit same to the Municipal Police Officers and Firefighters Retirement System no later than fifteen (15) days following the end of each calendar month. This municipality understands that if contributions are delinquent, the employer will be required to pay the actuarial rate of interest lost, on the total employee and employer contributions per day, with a minimum charge of fifty dollars. This municipality further

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understand that once it becomes a participating employer of the Municipal Police Officers and Firefighters Retirement System, the municipality may not withdraw from participation in the retirement system without express statutory authority.

MOTION – Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Mr. Mercer, to adopt the resolution.

City Attorney, Joe Santer, explained to Council that this supplemental resolution was required by the new retirement board to adopt language according to State law concerning the due dates for employee contributions.

VOTE – the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE CITY OF PARKERSBURG
BECOMING A PARTICIPATING EMPLOYER OF THE WEST VIRGINIA
MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM
FOR MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS

WHEREAS the City of Parkersburg by Resolution duly made and lawfully passed by the majority vote of its City Council and dated October 24, 2017 did elect to become a participating employer and join the Municipal Police Officers and Firefighters Retirement System pursuant to Chapter 8, Article 22A, Section 28 of the West Virginia Code; and

WHEREAS by said action the City thereby will include all of its municipal police officers who are eligible for membership in the said Municipal Police Officers and Firefighters Retirement System.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARKERSBURG AS FOLLOWS:

The Municipality hereby agrees to pay its employer contributions, and withhold applicable employee contributions monthly and remit same to the Municipal Police Officers and Firefighters Retirement System no later than fifteen (15) days following the end of each calendar month. This municipality understands that if contributions are delinquent, the employer will be required to pay the actuarial rate of interest lost, on the total employee and employer contributions per day, with a minimum charge of fifty dollars. This municipality further understand that once it becomes a participating employer of the Municipal Police Officers and Firefighters Retirement System, the municipality may not withdraw from participation in the retirement system without express statutory authority.

MOTION – Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Mr. Mercer, to adopt the resolution, and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RE-ENACTING SUBSECTIONS (a) and (b) of Section
781.05~ ASSESSMENT OF FIRE PROTECTION FEES, INCREASING THE SAME

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARKERSBURG that Subsections (a) and (b) of Section 781.05, Assessment of Fire Protection Fees, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Parkersburg be and they are hereby amended and re-enacted to increase said fees as follows:

781.05 ASSESSMENT OF FIRE PROTECTION FEES.

- (a) There is hereby imposed upon the respective owners of all buildings in the City an annual fire protection fee for each fiscal year, in an amount equal to the total number of square feet contained in the building multiplied by 0.08775 cents.
- (b) There is hereby imposed upon the respective owners of all buildings in the City containing three or more stories an additional annual fire protection fee for each fiscal year, the sum of one hundred ninety-five dollars (\$195.00) for the third story and each story in addition thereto.

The same shall be effective July 1, 2018.

MOTION – Mr. Reynolds moved, seconded by Mr. Stanley, to adopt the ordinance on final reading.

PUBLIC HEARING – President Carpenter declared a public hearing open at 7:58 PM to give the citizens an opportunity to voice their opinion on this ordinance.

The first lady, (name unclear) asked what Council had done about alternative ways of funding the pension funds, and why are they rushing this vote. She also questioned the need for the \$750,000.00 for the proposed splash park at City Park, and said we need something different because St. Mary's and

December 12, 2017

Marietta both have splash parks.

Mr. Reed explained that the matter had been discussed in Finance since May 1st, and explained the several options they had discussed, and that they had cut \$405,000.00 out of our upcoming budget. He said they were giving direction to the Administration for the upcoming budget.

Concerning the splash park, Mr. Reed explained that that was a one-time capital improvement, and you would not have those funds the second year. The splash park is revenue producing, and some of the costs can be recouped.

President Carpenter stated that Council has not cut \$405,000.00 – but they can make suggestions when they get the budget. The pension funds are a national problem, he said, with 71% of the cities with the same problem. This should have been addressed twenty years ago, he said.

Carrie Adams said she did not like increases either, but she understands why Council is trying to increase these fees. She said she was an engineer who could work anywhere, but she wants to live here. Fully funding these departments is important, she said, and if we aren't safe, people will leave. Investing in our community costs money, but you have to have amenities that people want and need. She hopes they will continue to look for cuts, but we have to invest in our community, or we will lose people who will move elsewhere.

Mark Belyus, Little Hocking, Ohio, said the police and firemen deserve their retirement, but the splash park will require maintenance and staffing. He wanted to be assured that the increases will go to the pension funds. Finance Director, Eric Jiles, stated that the pension funds are separate from the general fund and we are required by law to pay the pensions.

Ms. Kuhl said she would not vote for the ordinance if the funds did not go to the pension funds, and she is sure they will.

Ms. Briant, Market Street, suggested they send the ordinances go back to committee until they receive the budget.

Jack Dowler, Willowbrook Drive, asked them to postpone the decision until we get the budget. He said that former Councilwoman Nancy Wilcox said they had collected \$1,400,000.00 in delinquent fees.

Ms. Kuhl explained that in 2014 there was no extra money from the carryover put toward the pension funds. From 2015 there was \$788,000.00 toward police pension and over \$200,000.00 toward fire pension. The carryovers were not used for pensions, but this year they did, she said. They have worked seven months on this, and by 2050 it will be fully funded. If we don't increase the funds by 2034 the budget will be 92% for salaries and pensions. They don't want another council to have to deal with this same problem, she said.

The public hearing closed at 8:37 PM.

MOTION TO AMEND – Mr. Fox moved, seconded by Mr. Barber, to amend the ordinance as follows: 1.5% utility tax on gas, electric and water; 30% increase in fire fees; 30% increase in police fees; and move \$600,000.00 from our paving line item.

VOTE – the amendment failed with all members voting “no” with the exception of Mr. Barber, Mr. Fox, and Mr. Carpenter voting “yes”.

MOTION TO COMBINE – Mr. Reynolds moved, seconded by Mr. Mercer, to combine the vote on the fire fee increase and the police fee increase, and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RE-ENACTING SUBSECTIONS (a) and (b) of Section 789.04, ASSESSMENT OF POLICE PROTECTION FEES, INCREASING THE SAME

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARKERSBURG that Subsections (a) and (b) of Section 789.04, Assessment of Police Protection Fees, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Parkersburg be and they are hereby amended and re-enacted to increase said fees as follows:

789.04 ASSESSMENT OF POLICE PROTECTION FEES;

- (a) For the continuance, maintenance and improvement of the special service of police protection by the City, there is hereby imposed upon the users of all institutional and commercial premises, as defined in Section 789.01, an annual fee or charge of one-hundred and ninety-two dollars (\$192.00) per unit.
- (b) For the continuance, maintenance and improvement of the special services of police protection by the City, there is hereby imposed upon the users of all residential premises, as defined in Section 789.01, an annual fee or charge of ninety-six dollars (\$96.00).

The same shall be effective July 1, 2018.

December 12, 2017

PUBLIC HEARING – a public hearing was declared open on the police fee ordinance, at 8:46 PM. No one appeared and the hearing closed at 8:47 PM.

VOTE (on both ordinances) – the motion to adopt the ordinances was adopted by majority vote with all members voting “yes” with the exception of Mr. Barber, Mr. Fox, and Mr. Carpenter, who voted “no”.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Carrie Sledge

City Clerk


Council President



CITY OF PARKERSBURG
ONE GOVERNMENT SQUARE
P.O. BOX 1627
PARKERSBURG, WV 26102

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of Parkersburg City Council

FROM: Mayor Tom Joyce 

DATE: November 16, 2017

SUBJECT: Re-appointment to ARB

Council, the term for Mr. Tom Eagle, 1031 Juliana Street, Parkersburg, WV has expired on the Juliana Square Architectural Review Board, and he has expressed a desire to be reappointed.

I would appreciate your confirmation for Mr. Eagle to serve on this board for a term to expire March 31, 2019.

Thank you.

TJ:cs



Mayor Tom Joyce

CITY OF PARKERSBURG
ONE GOVERNMENT SQUARE
P.O. BOX 1627
PARKERSBURG, WV 26102

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of Parkersburg City Council
FROM: Mayor Tom Joyce
DATE: December 11, 2017
SUBJECT: Appointment to the Juliana Square ARB

Council, there is a vacancy on the Juliana Square Architectural Review Board due to the resignation of one of the members.

Mr. Justin Roedersheimer, 1111 Juliana Street, has expressed a desire to fill this vacancy, and I therefore would appreciate your confirmation for a term to expire March 31, 2019.

Thank you.

TJ:cs



CITY OF PARKERSBURG
ONE GOVERNMENT SQUARE
P.O. BOX 1627
PARKERSBURG, WV 26102

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of Parkersburg City Council

FROM: Mayor Tom Joyce



DATE: November 16, 2017

SUBJECT: Re-appointment to ARB

Council, the terms for the following members of the Washington Avenue/PHS Historic District board have expired, and they desire to serve another term. I would appreciate your confirmation of the following:

Mr. Phil Kincaid, 1702 Washington Avenue, through February 14, 2020;

Mr. Matt Shea, 1424 Washington Avenue, through February 14, 2020; and

Ms. Amber Haid, 1619 Washington Avenue, through June 24, 2020.


Thank you.

TJ:cs



CITY OF PARKERSBURG
ONE GOVERNMENT SQUARE
P.O. BOX 1627
PARKERSBURG, WV 26102

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of Parkersburg City Council
FROM: Mayor Tom Joyce 
DATE: November 16, 2017
SUBJECT: Re-appointment to ARB

Council, the term for Mr. Wayne Waldeck, 1000 Market Street, on the Downtown Façade Committee has expired, and he would like to serve another term.

I would appreciate your confirmation of Mr. Waldeck on this Board for a term to expire January 1, 2020.

Thank you.

TJ:cs

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER REPRESENTATION FROM
CITY COUNCIL TO ATTEND MID WINTER CONFERENCE TO
THE WEST VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE AND AUTHORIZE
PAYMENTS THERETO

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WHEREAS, Rule XIX, Expenditures of Council, (page 10) in City Council's rules and regulations state that "Before a member of the Council shall make any agreement to buy, purchase, or contract services, or in any way commit monies of the Council in excess of \$100.00, or request any monies for services, expenses or fees in excess of \$100.00, he or she will first have prior approval of the Finance Committee and a majority of the Council"; and

WHEREAS, some members of City Council have requested to attend the mid-winter meeting of the West Virginia Municipal League January 20-21, 2018 in Charleston, WV; and

WHEREAS, expenses are \$200.00 for registration, and room rates are \$124.00 per night; plus mileage or food expense.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARKERSBURG that ____members of City Council are hereby authorized to attend this meeting, as funds are available in the budget.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee of City Council