SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

The Clarksburg City Council met in CONFERENCE (Work) SESSION on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the Clarksburg Municipal Building – Council Chambers, 222 West Main Street, Clarksburg, West Virginia.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marshall Goff
Lillie Junkins
Gary Keith
Jim Malfreegot
Jimmy Marino, Vice Mayor
Ryan Kennedy, Mayor

ALSO PRESENT:

Annette Wright, Interim City Manager
James Cann, City Attorney
Paula Hardman, Interim City Clerk
Tom Brown, City Engineer
Charles R. “Rusty” Webb
Paul Bump
Chad Weaver

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Frank Ferrari

Following roll call, Council proceeded with the following agenda:

At this time Interim City Manager Wright discussed with Council a Bus Tour of the surrounding areas considering a date sometime in October, 2019.

Discussion regarding opiate litigation (Charles R.”Rusty “Webb, Esquire)

Interim City Manager Wright introduced Mr. Webb at this time with Mr. Webb discussing the Opioid crises and the National Prescription Opiate Litigation, the largest mass litigation in the history of the United States also providing a handout for their review and consideration offering his services to represent the City explaining the same as such. He informed he currently represents 35 entities and the current filing fee is $200.00 also encouraging the City of Clarksburg to file along with almost all of the counties that have already filed in the State of West Virginia. A detailed discussion ensued with Mr. Webb addressing any are of concern.

At this time, Councilmember Keith, along with Councilmember Goff stated this was a “no-brainer” encouraging the City to follow suit. Everyone was in agreement for Interim City Manager Wright to move forward on this matter.

Discussion regarding Zuercher (public safety suite for First Responders) (Paul Bump)

Interim City Manager Wright introduced Mr. Paul Bump who addressed Council on the above-captioned item. He informed Council of all the details including cost addressing any area of concern. Once on line and working we would have instant access on line, with the CAD report and a live phone application also, it would be a virtual private network (VPN) with built in mapping and once installed, he explained, they would discuss with each department separately a cost per size of each department. It would also include an auto vehicle location service built in (AVL) that would include important data using the best ambulance to send as an example. There would also be an annual maintenance fee to maintain the servers and if everything goes right they would be able to go live January 1st hopefully. Plans are scheduled soon for training with a timeline beginning in March to be ready to go live in January. Interim Chief Snider informed there would be sharing across multiple agencies and this would include animal control. Mr. Bump also explained there would be safeguards for hacking also.

Interim City Manager Wright explained at this time that this was not an option and the City would definitely be doing this as it is already a budgeted item.

Discussion regarding CKG Consulting proposal (Chad Weaver)

Interim city Manager Wright informed Mr. Weaver of CKG Consulting left early due to personal reasons and will address council regarding this issue at a later date.

Discussion regarding Building Codes/Engineer/Department Certifications

Interim City Manager Wright introduced Mr. Tom Brown, part time Engineer for the City of Clarksburg at this time with Mr. Brown informing Council of a complete list of those working within the Code Enforcement Department along with certifications and credentials for each employee, including himself also providing a handout for their review. Vice Mayor Marino inquired at this time to Mr. Browns status with direction to the Public Works Department with Mr. brown informing the same as such informing he was not a structural engineer. He also informed of how zoning was handled within the department. Vice-Mayor Marino expressing at this time the importance of continuing education and updated certification inquired as to Mr. Barberio’s certification with Mr. Brown informing as such. A detailed discussion ensued addressing any area
of concern with Vice-Mayor Marino directing Interim City Manager Wright to oversee that all code employees maintain their certifications and continuing education. At this time Councilmember Goff stated he would like to see the City Manager have the department head over code enforcement have all the necessary certifications as a full time Engineer also serving as Director of Public Works. He stated he would like to see a full time engineer. Mayor Kennedy agreed at this time. Vice Mayor Marino commended Mr. Brown at this time for his qualifications and time explaining everything in detail. Interim City Manager Wright also passed out a salary comparison for council to review with council requesting a detailed job description and a list of job duties with everyone in the code and zoning departments.

(Deviating from agenda)

Discussion regarding proposed ordinance to require utility and/or service companies (or other parties) to repair/replace streets and/or sidewalks when disturbed for digging, etc., as well as requiring a report to the City of the date/location of such disturbance of said property:

Interim City Manager Wright provided handouts for Council’s review explaining the same as such addressing any area of concern. She informed the city currently pays the water board to use the Fire Hydrants explaining permit restrictions and such. Council inquired as to Interim City Manager Wright, along with Mr. Brown to check and see if the city has any kind of franchise agreement or such and report to council their findings at the next work session.

(A recess was provided at this time)

Further discussion regarding proposal of ordinance(s) to address:

a. Possession and carrying of weapons
b. Sit[ting/lying on public sidewalks, etc.

Interim City Manager Wright informed council of emailing her opinion the night before explaining the same as such also providing a handout for their review. She also explained along with Interim Chief Snider the current curfew within the city explaining in detail everything addressing any area of concern. City Council directed Interim City Manager Wright to have the City Attorney draw up the Ordinances accordingly.

Discussion regarding proposed resolutions for the creation of the following committees:

a. Task Force Committee
b. Beautifcation Committee

A detailed discussion took place at this time with regard to creating a committee by Resolution and to designate Mr. Wayne Worth as chair of said committee explaining the same as such directing him to report to council his findings to implement. It was also discussed that Councilmember Junkins head up a Beautification Committee. This will be looked into and discussed at a future meeting.

Discussion regarding the purchase of a sign for Jackson Square (request by Clarksburg Uptown)

Interim City Manager Wright discussed said agenda item in detail, providing a handout for review, addressing any are of concern at this time explaining her plans to attend the next Uptown meeting as such.

Discussion regarding proposal of a “Stop Work Order” for non-payment of license fees and/or Business & Occupation Taxes

Finance Director, Kim Karakiozis explained in detail the proposal of a “Stop Work Order” for non-payment of license fees and/or Business & Occupation Taxes addressing any area of concern providing a memo for their review. At this time, Council requested the City Attorney to draft an ordinance accordingly.

Discussion regarding the Auditor’s On-Line Transparency Program:

A detailed discussion took place at this time regarding the Auditor’s presentation of an On-Line Transparency Program and the benefits of said program. Concluding discussion, it was decided to pass a resolution of support with finance director Kim Karakiozis in agreement.

Discussion regarding Home Rule Regarding Certificate of Need:

The Mayor discussed at this time with council the need for a Public hearing as such to amend our application and the need to still go in front of the Home-Rule Board explaining the Ordinance of the City of Clarksburg to exempt Health Services being acquired, offered, or developed within the City of Clarksburg from
requiring a Certificate of need pursuant to West Virginia Code and West Virginia Code of State Rule. Interim City Manager Wright along with Councilmember Junkins both voiced concerns at this time.

At this time, Councilmember Malfregeot voiced concerns with Police Department salaries requesting Interim City Manager Wright to do a salary analysis and to fast track this with everyone in agreement.

Meeting adjourned.

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Ryan Kennedy, Mayor

Approved

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Paula Hardman, Interim City Clerk