

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMETOWN
JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS
January 9, 2018**

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Hometown was called to order by Mayor Kevin Casey on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 8:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by retiring Sgt. Dilling and Sgt. Tregoning

Roll Call: Roll call indicated that the following were present: Aldermen Scheckel, Barnhouse, Reynolds, Touchie, Kurysz, Finnegan, Grochowski, Zak and Banasiak.

Absent: Alderman Walsh

Also present: Michael Cainkar, City Attorney, Mike Ringbauer, Director of Public Health and Safety, Mark Trlak, Director of Public Works, James Forbes, Building Commissioner and Tom Piszczor, Chief of Police.

Press: Kelly White, Hometown Hi-Lites.

Journal December 12, 2017: Moved by Alderman Walsh, seconded by Alderman Finnegan to approve as published the Journal of December 12, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting.
 AYES: (9) Aldermen Banasiak, Finnegan, Scheckel, Barnhouse, Reynolds, Grochowski, Touchie, Zak and Kurysz
 NAYS: (0)
 ABSENT: (1) Aldermen Walsh
 MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

CITIZEN'S HEARING

NONE

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Office of the Mayor:

Mayor Casey turned the meeting over to Deputy Chief Rowland and Josie Murphy. DC Rowland asked Sgt. Dilling to step forward. Sgt. Dilling was honored for his 25 plus years with a plaque presented by the HPA, Josie Murphy and DC Rowland wished him well in his retirement. DC Rowland then asked Sgt. Tregoning to step forward. Sgt. Tregoning was honored for his 27.5 years of service and presented with a retirement badge and watch from the HPA. Sgt. Tregoning was wished a happy retirement by Josie Murphy and DC Rowland. Mayor Casey thanked both Sgt's for their years of service and putting their life on the line for us. On behalf of the City of Hometown residents and City Council Mayor Casey wished them well in their retirement.

Mayor Casey turned the meeting over to John Hoffman, the City Auditor from Wagner Sim & Co. Mr. Hoffman presented the Annual Audit and advised the City Council to call him with any questions.

Mayor Casey stated Treasurer Roti will speak more on this later in the meeting but we are now beginning the budget process. This budget will be a challenge as we have several issues that need addressing as well as the need for additional revenue. Mayor Casey stated we will be looking into smart water meters, the EPA offers some great programs for them. Mayor Casey stated at the recent Park Board meeting there was discussion about finishing the park without spending much in city funds. Mayor Casey stated he plans to go to our vendors and possible sell bricks or stones to residents to generate funds. The plan is to have benches installed and having each bench dedicated to a former Mayor, so all former mayors have something named for them.

Office of the City Clerk:

Clerk Hacker reported that her office received notification from the Department of Revenue that the Sales Tax collected in the month of October 2017 was in the amount of \$15,850.51. The amount collected in the month of October 2016 was in the amount of \$14,500.82.

Clerk Hacker reported that her office received notification from the Department of Transportation that the MFT collected in the month of October 2017 was in the amount of \$9,793.52. The amount collected in the month of October 2016 was in the amount of \$9,837.77.

Office of the Treasurer:

Treasurer Roti stated everyone should have copies of the two reports generated by his office, everything is going pretty well. Treasurer Roti stated as Mr. Hoffman stated, reading the summary in the audit will give you very good information. Treasurer Roti also directed everyone to page 29 of the audit, there you will see we have zero debt so by calculations our debt limit is over 3 mil. so we can use that information in the discussion of the smart meters during the budget process.

REPORTS FROM CITY APPOINTED OFFICIAL

City Attorney: Michael Cainkar, City Attorney had no report

Police: Tom Piszczor, Chief of Police reported that as previously reported we hired two new certified officers, one is training already and the other is awaiting his employer sign off to start training with us. We have more certified candidates we are looking at. There are two Ordinances on the agenda tonight that update our code to meet the state standards that recently changed. We are also working on a distracted driver ordinance. We have recently replaced vendors for the online training company our officers use. The company we switched to we used to use in 2012, in 2012 it cost us 5,248.00, and with negotiations we will now be paying 2,200.00.

Public Works: Mark Trlak, Director reported that we have been doing routine snow removal, salting and water breaks. We had a hit and run on the Southwest Highway guard rail, it was pushed five feet into the frontage road. IDOT came out and is taking responsibility for the repair.

Building Dept.: James Forbes, Building Commissioner had no report.

Public Health & Safety: Mike Ringbauer, Director of Public Health and Safety reminded residents they have to pull their garbage cans into the rear yard.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Accounts Payable and Payroll December 26th, 2017: Moved by Alderman Touchie seconded by Alderman Banasiak to approve for payment the accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$68,988.51 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$49,977.67 for a total expenditure of \$118,966.18.

(List of vouchers marked "EXHIBIT A" attached to and made a part of this Journal)

Roll Call Indicated:

AYES: (9) Aldermen Banasiak, Finnegan, Reynolds, Grochowski, Touchie, Zak, Scheckel, Barnhouse and Kurysz

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Alderman Walsh

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Accounts Payable and Payroll January 9, 2017: Moved by Alderman Touchie seconded by Alderman Zak to approve for payment the accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$164,646.92 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$54,962.70 for a total expenditure of \$219,609.62.

(List of vouchers marked "EXHIBIT A" attached to and made a part of this Journal)

Roll Call Indicated:

AYES: (9) Aldermen Banasiak, Finnegan, Reynolds, Grochowski, Touchie, Scheckel, Barnhouse, Zak and Kurysz

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Alderman Walsh

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Alderman Banasiak acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Report and the Clerk Collector's report.

STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Alderman Glen Zak, Chairman had no report.

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE

Alderman Scheckel, Chairman had no report

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Alderman Robert Reynolds, Chairman stated the Mayor covered everything.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Alderman Barnhouse, Chairman, gave the December Building Report.

LICENSE COMMITTEE: Alderman Donna Grochowski, Chairman had no report.

CODE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE: Alderman Bob Reynolds, Chairman had no report.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE: Alderman Rick Banasiak, Chairman had no report.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE: Alderman Luci Kurysz, Chairman had no report.

POLICE COMMITTEE: Alderman Finnegan, Chairman welcomed Chief Piszczor, then he gave the November report.

337 Station Complaints 235 MSI P Tickets 119 State Tickets 13 Local Ord. Tickets

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Library: Alderman Grochowski reported that the circulation for December 2017 was 513 and December 2016 was 600. They have plans for a Game Night and Story Hour in February.

Legislation: Alderman Spencer Touchie, Chairman had no report.

Fire Department Alderman Daniel Walsh, absent. Everyone had a copy of the report.

Personnel Review: Mayor Kevin Casey, Chairman and member Chief Piszczor had no report

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS RESOLUTIONS,
ORDERS AND ORDINANCES BY ALDERMEN**

ORD. NO. 1-2018: MOVED BY ALDERMAN FINNEGAN, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN KURYSZ TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 1- 2018, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 19, MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES, ARTICLE 4, OTHER OFFENSES, SECTION 19.122, POSSESSION OF CANNABIS, OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF HOMETOWN.

AYES: (9) Aldermen Banasiak, Finnegan, Reynolds, Grochowski,
Touchie, Scheckel, Barnhouse, Zak and Kurysz

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Alderman Walsh

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

ORD. NO. 2-2018: MOVED BY ALDERMAN BANASIAK, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN TOUCHIE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2- 2018, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 19, MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES, ARTICLE 4, OTHER OFFENSES, SECTION 19.121, PARAPHERNALIA ASSOCIATED WITH CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES OR CANNABIS, OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF HOMETOWN.

AYES: (9) Aldermen Banasiak, Finnegan, Reynolds, Grochowski,
Touchie, Scheckel, Barnhouse, Zak and Kurysz

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Alderman Walsh

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Special

Events: Alderman Grochowski thanked everyone that supported, worked and attended the Breakfast with Santa. The event raised over \$500.00 for the food pantry and filled their shelves. A big thank you to Joe Burke for gathering the toys for us through the Toys for Tots program. Mayor Casey thanked Hancock Engineering for the donation they make to the Food Pantry every Christmas. Father Tom sent a wonderful thank you letter from the food pantry. Alderman Kurysz suggested we do a proclamation honoring Joe Burke for the hard work he does every year with the Toys for Tots program. Alderman Grochowski reported the next event will be Breakfast with the Easter Bunny.

Health, Welfare & Community Awareness: Upcoming events were reported by Alderman Grochowski. Mayor Casey stated that we lost Vince from Vince's Towing over the holidays, he had been sick for a while; we send our condolences for the family.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Alderman Barnhouse asked if there have been issues with people parking on the streets after 2 inches of snow. Director Trlak stated he has had no issues, if one arises, he calls the PD and they handled it.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

CITIZEN'S HEARING: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Alderman Touchie, seconded by Alderman Finnegan to adjourn the regular meeting of the Hometown City Council.

MOTION STATED CARRIED
The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm