



**CITY OF WASHINGTON  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 6:00 P.M.**



*Scott J. Putnam, Mayor*

***City Council***

*Ken Westcott, Councilman*

*Joe Pintola, Councilman*

*Andrew Callan, Councilman*

*Joseph DeThomas, Councilman*

**ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Joseph DeThomas	Present
Councilman Andrew Callan	Present
Councilman Joe Pintola	Present
Councilman Ken Westcott	Present
Mayor Scott Putnam	Present
Solicitor: Jack Cambest	Present

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Individuals or group representatives who have signed in prior to the meeting, will have 5 minutes of microphone time to address Council during the public participation portion of the meeting. We prefer if there is a group, a representative be chosen to speak. Audience comments will not be permitted following the public participation portion of the meeting; therefore, we ask that you please review the agenda for any item(s) you may wish to discuss. We have, in the past, had individuals' direct comments to Mayor and Council that were not correct or could not be documented. For that reason, we ask that your information be to the point and factual. Although we may not be able to answer your question at this meeting, we will refer your request or recommendation to the proper department for any necessary action.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Diane Ambrose & Kathy Piznoski/Citizens Library:** Presented Council an invoice for the 2023 Contribution and advised Council of all of their current programs and updates.

**Fern Sibert/486 Addison Avenue:** Reminded everyone to continue collecting caps for benches and picnic tables through September. Advised that the Rotary will be at the Glass Recycling bins at the Public Works Department on Saturday, September 16, 2023 to collect glass from residents. She thanked the Citizen Library for their efforts to collect bottle caps for her project. Advised that today is the Day of Giving and that all \$25.00 donations are being matched today.

**John Keirs/645 Ewing Street:** Asked that the properties at 655 Ewing be cited for overgrown grass, shrubs, trash. Mayor Putnam instructed Code Enforcement to have the property boarded up and cited.

**Georgianne Farkas/395 West Chestnut Street:** Inquired as to what the cost of Solid Waste Bids were. Suggested that Council eliminate a position in the Treasurers Office. Asked when 40 ½ East Prospect area was going to be paved. Asked if Council was going to have bike and scooter racks placed in the City.

**Kim Watters/147 Rosewood Avenue:** Explained why and where she hopes to have a handicap parking space placed on her street. Chief Richer is going to look at the street with Street Department Superintendent.

**Public Comment Closed.**

### **Palermo & Kissinger 2022 Audit Report**

**The City of Washington “Pride In Washington” Awarded to Fern Sibert for her dedication to cleaning up and beautifying the City of Washington through her non-profit organization Clean and Tidy our County Inc.**

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to accept the Regular Council Meeting minutes from August 3, 2023.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve the following payments (a.-l.) in the amount of \$88,601.41.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to approve the following refund (a.) in the amount of \$3,390.24.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve the following transfer (a.) in the amount of \$5,000.00.

**Motion** made by Councilman Pintola, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to approve agreement between the City of Washington and Washington School District for the annual cost of \$30,000.00 for the Treasurer’s Office Collection of the 2024 School District Mercantile and Business Privilege Taxes, effective January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024.

**Motion** made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve the use of City property located at the corner lot on E. Chestnut and Main Street for the Life Church Annual Back to School Block Party on Sunday, August 27, 2023. (**NOTE:** MOU approved August 23, 2023)

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve payment to PNC Bank, in the amount of \$398,508.82 for Act 205 Pension Collections through 8/31/2023. **CHARGE:** 79.00/483-000. Act 205 Distressed Pension Fund.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to to adopt the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligations as prepared by Cowden & Associates:

Police Fund:	\$848,038.00
Fire Fund:	\$218,159.00
O & E Fund:	<u>\$ 83,900.00</u>
	\$1,066,197.00

**Motion** made by Councilman Callan, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to approve purchase and subsequent payment of side door replacement at Headquarters Station. Replacement costs not to exceed \$4,100.00 to Custom Door Systems INC, Houston, PA. **CHARGE:** 52.00/409-374

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve destruction and disposal of or listing for auction the following items currently in care of the police department:

- 6 ASUS desktop computers
- 21 assorted model DELL desktop computers
- 1 Gateway laptop
- 2 Fax machines
- 1 flatbed document scanner
- \*\*The device hard drives will be removed and destroyed prior to sale.

**Motion** made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to have the Solicitor complete title searches for a public hearing and place the following properties on the Demolition list to certify and release the Redevelopment Authority for demolition:

<p>989 Arch St Washington, PA 15301 770-022-00-02-0002-00 <b>Listed Owner:</b> Mark W Miller 989 Arch Street Washington, Pa 15301</p>	<p>45 Burton Ave Washington, PA 15301 730-008-00-01-0027-00 <b>Listed Owner:</b> Marcus Chatman 333 Central Avenue Washington, PA 15301</p>
<p>493 Ewing St Washington, PA 15301 780-006-00-01-0005-00 <b>Listed Owner:</b> Catherine Adams &amp; Irene Beasley 220 Elm Street Canonsburg, PA 15317</p>	<p>475 Ewing St Washington, PA 15301 780-006-00-01-0010-00 <b>Listed Owner:</b> Debra Gray 475 Ewing Street Washington, PA 15301</p>
<p>352 S Main St <b>COMMERCIAL PROPERTY</b> Washington, PA 15301 740-007-00-01-0017-00 &amp; 740-007- 00-01-0018-00 <b>Listed Owner:</b> Kush Prop Management LLC 352 S Main Street Washington, PA 15301</p>	<p>916 Addison St Washington, Pa 15301 780-017-00-03-0014-00 <b>Listed Owner:</b> Keith Dryer 916 Addison Street Washington, PA 15301</p>

23 Gibson Ave Washington, PA 15301 730-008-00-02-0004-00 <b>Listed Owner:</b> Twenty Three Gibson LLC 23 Gibson Avenue Washington, PA 15301	801 ½ E Maiden St Washington, PA 15301 750-032-00-02-0015-00 <b>Listed Owner:</b> Joan Reese & Ruth Reese 801 ½ E Maiden Street Washington, PA 15301
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**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve change order in the amount of \$70,300.00 for Skelly and Loy for the American Legion Project.

**Motion** made by Councilman Callan, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve payment to BAYCOM in the amount of \$25,292.00 for purchase and installation of 4 in-car police computers. **CHARGE:** 77.00/410-700 (Police Capital Improvements) This will be reimbursed by the PCCD Technology Grant.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to reject El Grande Paving bid for 7<sup>th</sup> Ward Park.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve sponsorship of the City Mission Statewide LSA Grant Application.

**Motion** made by Councilman Callan, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to approve the proposal and pay invoice from SE Schultz Electric to install (2) lighting contactors with 12 poles each at the Washington Park Tennis Courts at a cost not to exceed \$2,711.22. **CHARGE:** 94.00/489-000

**Motion** made by Councilman Callan, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to rescind the Covid Policy effective June 1, 2023.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Callan, and carried unanimously to approve Trick or Treat to be held on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, from 5:30 P.M. until 7:00 P.M.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola and carried to TABLE the motion to award the Solid Waste Bid to \_\_\_\_\_, effective January 1, 2024.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve **RESOLUTION 24 of 2023** to amend the handicap parking Ordinance and add 1 handicap

parking space at 115 Hall Avenue, add 1 handicap parking space at 726 Fayette Street and add 1 handicap parking space at 147 Rosewood Avenue.

**ORDINANCES**

**Motion** to approve **ORDINANCE 1970 BILL NO. 5 of 2023** to amend **ORDINANCE 1922 Bill No 2 of 2019 Ch 335 Article IV, ss335-35** Parking shall be prohibited in the following locations at all times on the days and between the hours indicated in this section to include the following verbiage:

<b><u>STREET</u></b>	<b><u>SIDE</u></b>	<b><u>BETWEEN</u></b>	<b><u>DAYS</u></b>	<b><u>HOURS</u></b>
DUNN AVENUE (ALL)	EAST	PARK ROAD & PARK MAIN GATE STONE PILLARS	MAY 1 THROUGH SEPT. 1	(ALL)

**\*\*\*NO VOTE REQUIRED\*\*\***

**Motion** to approve **ORDINANCE 1971 BILL NO 6 of 2023** to amend **ORDINANCE 1836 of 2010**, now Section 325-41 of the City Code, limiting the area for availability of the business privilege tax abatement offered therein and clarification of requirements.

**\*\*\*NO VOTE REQUIRED\*\*\***

**Motion** to approve **ORDINANCE 1972 BILL NO. 7 of 2023** to amend **ORDINANCE 1922 BILL NO. 2 of 2019**, Article II Section 335-24 of the City Code to add the following Stop intersection; Stop Street-Taylor Avenue, intersecting or Through Street-Arch St, Direction of Travel-North and South.

**\*\*\*NO VOTE REQUIRED\*\*\***

**Motion** to approve **ORDINANCE 1973 BILL NO. 8 of 2023**, An Ordinance of the City of Washington relative to the establishment and Maintenance of the City Employees' pension, annuity, insurance and benefit fund or funds to amend certain provisions of the fund relative to the Full-time Police Officers and the Deferred Limited vested benefit per the Third-Class City Code.

**\*\*\* NO VOTE REQUIRED\*\*\***

**DEPARTMENTAL DISCUSSION:**

**Councilman Joseph DeThomas** –Thanked the Citizen Library and Code Enforcement for their work.

**Councilman Andrew Callan-** Stated that the Walking trail project is completed and is ADA Accessible.

**Councilman Joe Pintola** – Shared that they will be hiring one more employee prior to winter months. Stated that Elm Street and Springfield Avenue have been addressed.

**Councilman Ken Westcott** – Commended Fern on all that she has done for the City of Washington and encouraged everyone to donate today for the Day of Giving. Stated that although the audit was good that we need to be mindful of spending.

**Mayor Scott Putnam** – Gave a shoutout to the Police Fire and Code Departments for all of their hard work. Announced that after the meeting that Council would be having an executive session.

**Solicitor Jack Cambest** – No Comment

- The next scheduled Regular Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers. The next scheduled Agenda Meeting will be held on Monday, October 2, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.
- Demolition Hearing at 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 2, 2023 prior to the Regular Council Meeting.
- Washington Rotary Club will assist with recycling of empty bottles and jars this Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. at the Log Cabin Drive Entrance to the Washington Park recycling center. (No mirrors, light bulbs, window glass or ceramics permitted) Plastic caps and lids will also be collected by Clean & Tidy Our County
- Art in the Park, Saturday, September 16, 2023 11:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
- Italian Festival, Saturday, September 23, 2023 12:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. Community Pavilion
- 7<sup>th</sup> Ward Fall Festival, Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> 4:30 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. 7<sup>th</sup> Ward Playground
- Creativity Crawl on North Main, October 14<sup>th</sup> 3:00 P.M. – 8 P.M.
- Dark in the Park, Light Scare on Friday, October 27, 2023 / Full Scare, October 28, 2023 at 6:30 P.M.

**Motion** was made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.