



**CITY OF WASHINGTON  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
JUNE 6, 2024 6:00 P.M.**



*JoJo Burgess, Mayor*

*City Council  
Ken Westcott, Councilman  
Joe Pintola, Councilman  
Andrew Callan, Councilman  
Joseph DeThomas, Councilman*

**ROLL CALL:**

|                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Councilman Joseph DeThomas | Present |
| Councilman Andrew Callan   | Absent  |
| Councilman Joe Pintola     | Present |
| Councilman Ken Westcott    | Present |
| Mayor JoJo Burgess         | Present |
|                            |         |
| Solicitor: Jack Cambest    | Present |

**MOMENT OF SILENCE: IN MEMORY OF FORMER MAYOR SONNY SPOSSEY WHO PASSED AWAY THIS WEEK.**

**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 the 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:**

**John Benco-120 Maple Alley:** Complaint about speeding in Maple Alley. Stated that if someone speeding hurts a child or animal that he would turn them into a pretzel. Mayor Burgess warned Mr. Benco that he would not accept anyone making threats.

**Fern Sibert-486 Addison Avenue:** Advised that next Thursday they are heading to Indiana to pick up 20 more benches, 2 picnic tables timbers and a bird bath. Thanked Jeff and everyone who cleaned up during the City Clean Up Day. Stated that since the NFL Draft will be in Pittsburgh next year that the City needs to promote itself.

**CLOSED TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Civil Service Chairman, Richard Beck, to present Council with the Police Department Civil Service Hiring List and List of Three.**

**Motion** made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and unanimously carried to approve the Police Department Civil Service Hiring List.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to approve the Police Department Civil Service List of Two.

**Motion** made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and unanimously carried to approve the hiring of Bryce Graham, effective June 24, 2024, pending all required background checks and amend the Salary Resolution.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to approve the hiring of Brady Stallings, effective June 24, 2024, pending all required background checks and amend the Salary Resolution.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to approve the resignation of Brittan Laird effective June 16, 2024, amend the salary resolution, and pay all monies due.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes from the May 2, 2024, Regular Council Meeting.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to approve the following payments (A.-DD.) in the amount of \$1,691,110.65.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to approve the following refunds (A.-E.) in the amount of \$1,057.77.

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

**Motion** made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to accept Pyrotecnico's Fourth of July Fire Works Display Proposal for \$17,000.00 and pay subsequent invoice. **CHARGE:** 52.00/454-459

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to approve submission to add 1415, 1440 and 1444 Jefferson Ave to the City's Demolitions program on behalf of the Brownson House.

**COMMENT:** Councilman Westcott stated that the City is just the pass thru on this project.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to approve the hiring of Bob Wilson as part time-temporary employee, retro-active to April 23, 2024.

**Motion** made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to approve the resignation of Jeff Donatelli, effective June 14, 2024, amend the Salary Resolution and pay all monies due.

**COMMENT:** Councilman Westcott thanked him for his service. Councilman DeThomas stated that Jeff did a fine job and wished him well. Mayor Burgess wished Jeff well also.

Jeff Donatelli stated that he wanted to make a comment on the record: "I'm amazed that the person starting is going to make more money than me."

**Motion** made by Councilman Pintola, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and unanimously carried to advertise for the 2024 Road Paving Projects.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to repair the Street Sweeper at a cost not to exceed \$36,000 by Elite Equipment Maintenance and make subsequent payment.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to authorize Treasurer Nicolella to pay off the 2024 TAN loan to Washington Financial Bank in the amount of: Principal \$1,000,000.00. **CHARGE:** 01.90/471-600 & Interest (as per payoff quote.) **CHARGE:** 01.90/472-600.

**COMMENT:** Councilman Westcott stated that the City is paying off about three months earlier than anticipated.

**Motion** made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and unanimously carried to approve a contribution in the amount of \$2,000.00 to the Bradford Historical Association for the 2024 Whiskey Rebellion. **CHARGE:** 01.55/459-541

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to transfer \$5,000.00 from the General Fund Reserve Fund 46.00/492-900 to the Health Care Deductible Fund 63.00/392-900 for 2024 Teamsters Health Care Expenses.

**Motion** made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to remove P.B. from Heart and Lung effective June 1, 2024.

**Motion** made by Councilman Pintola, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to approve the lot consolidation of the Independent Political Club from 6 lots to 1 lot. (750-019-00-01-0014-00, 750-023-00-01-0005-00, 750-023-00-01-0006-00, 750-023-00-01-0007-00, 750-023-00-01-0009-00, 750-023-00-01-0008-00), as recommended by the Planning Commission on 5/29/2024.

**COMMENT:** Jeff Donatelli stated that the Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to approve the Washington Park application for the Special Occasion Permit for the July 6, 2024 and December 6, 2024 special events.

**Motion** made by Councilman Pintola, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and unanimously carried to approve the Park Seasonal employee list.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to approve the LED Lighting Conversion Project Bid as recommended by the engineer, to Westmoreland Electric Services, LLC., in the amount of \$125,500.00.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to authorize purchase of and subsequent payment for a lamp post from Spring City Manufacturing not to exceed \$6,000.00 from special fund Downtown Revitalization Project 60-489-000.

**Motion** made by Mayor Burgess, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and unanimously carried to Table the motion to appoint Harshman CE Group as the Code Enforcement Officer effective 6/17/24.

**Motion** made by Mayor Burgess, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and unanimously carried to Table the motion to appoint Harshman CE Group as the Zoning Officer effective 6/17/24.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to authorize Stifel Public Finance to proceed with refinancing of the City Bond issue payments, extending the payment for one year until Sept. of 2027.

**Motion** to approve the amended Colt Field Lease with Washington Youth Baseball.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to approve **RESOLUTION 11 of 2024** to add one handicap parking space at 1280 Sycamore Street and add one handicap parking space at 1381 Allison Avenue.

**Motion** made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and unanimously carried to approve **RESOLUTION 12 of 2024** to approve the 2024 Pony League World Series Banner.

**Motion** made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and unanimously carried to approve **RESOLUTION 13 of 2024** to approve the Italian Festival 2024 Banner.

## **DEPARTMENTAL DISCUSSION:**

**Councilman Joseph DeThomas** – Thank Jeff Donatelli and wished him well. Thanked the Civil Service for their work.

**Councilman Andrew Callan**- ABSENT

**Councilman Joe Pintola** – The street sweeper should be repaired soon.

**Councilman Ken Westcott** – Stated that the refinancing of the City Bond will free up \$500,000 per year over the next three years.

**Mayor JoJo Burgess**- Stated that the city is happy with the UPMC merger and that UPMC has already approached the city to see how they can help the city. Advised that the County voted to send the city a letter of intent to purchase the parking garage. He wants to make it clear that the city will be transparent during this process.

**Solicitor Jack Cambest** – No Comment

- The next Regular Council Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, July 11, 2024, in Council Chambers. The Agenda Meeting will be held on Monday, July 8, 2024.

- Juneteenth Celebration will be held Saturday, June 15, 2024 from 11 A.M. until 7 P.M. at the Lemoyne Community Center.
- Market in the Park will be every second Saturday at the Washington Park (between Main Pavilion and The Log Cabin) beginning June 8, 2024 through October 12, 2024. And a Pop-Up Market the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of December.
- The Community Pavilion Farmer's Market will open on Thursdays from 3-6 P.M.
- The Whiskey Rebellion Festival at the Community Pavilion will be held on July 12 and 13, 2024.
- First Friday at the Community Pavilion "Back to the 80's" will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup> 4:00-8:00 P.M.
- First Friday at the Community Pavilion with Pony League is August 2, 2024.
- Back to School Bash with W&J will be held on Saturday, August 24, 2024.

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