



**CITY OF WASHINGTON
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 12, 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	Present
Councilman Joe Pintola	Present
Councilman Ken Westcott	Present
Mayor JoJo Burgess	Present
Solicitor: Jack Cambest	Present

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

RECOGNITIONS:

Recognition of Washington High School Senior, K’Nisha Brown.

Promotional presentation and swearing in of Firefighter Devon Hoskins by Mayor Burgess and Chief Richer.

Awards and Proclamation presented to Firefighters Scott, Danley, Normand, Lascola and Koker by Mayor Burgess and Chief Richer.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Steve Woods- 59 ½ West Katherine: Asked Mayor and Council for their support of the 2025 Juneteenth Celebration. Mayor Burgess asked Mr. Woods to put his request in writing.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

The Council of the City of Washington held a Public Demolition Hearing on Thursday, September 12, 2024 from 5:15 p.m. until 6:15 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers, 55 West Maiden Street, Washington, PA 15301 for the purpose of receiving public testimony on the proposed demolition of structures and property as follows:

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to declare the properties listed below as public nuisances and authorize the release of the following properties to the Redevelopment Authority for scheduled demolition:

15 S. College Street Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 740-001-00-01-0003-00	17 South Street Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 740-007-00-01-0015-00	205 Linn Avenue Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 760-004-00-01-0011-00
249.5 Elm Street Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 750-023-00-01-0002-00	276 Locust Avenue Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 760-019-00-03-0014-00	293 Locust Avenue Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 760-019-00-02-0003-00
340 Duncan Avenue Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 770-002-00-02-000014-00	35 Seminole Avenue Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 760-016-00-04-0022-00	169 Church Street Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No. 720-008-00-03-0029-00
40 Victoria Street Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 720-007-00-03-0007-00	447-449 Extension Ave. Washington, PA 15301 Parcel No: 780-004-00-02-0014-01	

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Callan, and carried unanimously to approve the Minutes from the August 1, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to approve the following payments (A.- P.) in the amount of \$413,050.37.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to approve the following refunds (A.- B.) in the amount of \$15,259.48.

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to purchase and approve payment to Rogue Fitness in the amount of \$1,958.73 for a 3-tier storage system. **CHARGE:** (PEMA Fire Grant Account: 99.00/400-260.)

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to adopt the Accounts Payable Procedure Policy effective 9-12-24.

Motion made by Councilman Pintola, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to approve payment to Integra Realty Resources for Crossroads Parking Garage appraisal in the amount of \$1,667.00. **CHARGE: 01.13/404-314**

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to pay Global Industrial in the amount not to exceed \$3,500 for evidence storage lockers. **CHARGE:** 81.00/489-00

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to pay In-Synch (Police Report Management System) 1 of 2 payments each in the amount of \$10,000 for data conversion. **CHARGE:** 77.00/430-330. (2nd payment to be paid in 1st quarter of 2025.)

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve 2024 Trick or Treat as Thursday, October 31, 2024 from 5:30 P.M. until 7:00 P.M.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve the resignation of Andrew Newman effective September 9, 2024, amend the salary resolution and pay all monies due.

COMMENT: Councilman Westcott wished Fire Fighter Newman well.

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Pintola, and carried unanimously to approve a \$500.00 performance bonus to City Clerk Michelle Sperl and amend the salary resolution.

COMMENT: Councilman DeThomas thanked the City Clerk for going above and beyond and helping with the Code Enforcement duties over the past few months.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to approve the UPMC / Washington Hospital PILOT Agreement effective January 1, 2024 until December 31, 2033.

ORDINANCE:

FIRST READING of ORDINANCE NO. 1976 NO. 3 of 2024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, ARTICLE XI – EARNED INCOME TAX, PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF THE SPECIAL TAX, UNDER ACT 205 OF 1984, FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF RAISING REVENUE TO DEFRAY COSTS RELATED TO THE PENSION PLANS OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Washington, Washington County, Pennsylvania, is desirous of repealing the special tax, pursuant to Act 205 of 1984, which established a special tax of .02% under the City of Washington Pension Distress status.

NO VOTE REQUIRED

DISCUSSION:

Councilman Joseph DeThomas – Shared how proud he is of the Public Safety Department and how he appreciates the City employees.

Councilman Andrew Callan- Advised that the City will be meeting with El Grande regarding the 7th Grade Playground on Wednesday, September 18, 2024. He congratulated the Public Safety Department. Stated that they are currently working on the Twist Road drainage and it should be paved soon.

Councilman Joe Pintola – Shared that the Street Sweeper had to go back for additional repairs.

Councilman Ken Westcott – Stated that the City has a Tremendous police and fire department. Shared that there is a ribbon cutting ceremony tomorrow morning for both Uptown Nutrition and Munch Ladies on West Chestnut Street.

Mayor JoJo Burgess- Stated that regarding the Appraisal of the Parking Garage, that the City is going to be responsible to its residents. Shared that he is very proud of our police and fire departments. Thanked both City Clerk Michelle Sperl and City Administrator Donn Henderson for their work assisting with the Code Enforcement Department.

Solicitor Jack Cambest – No Comment

- The next Agenda Meeting will be held on September 30, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. The next Regular Council Meeting will held at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 3, 2024 in Council Chambers.
- Market in the Park will be held Saturday, September 14, 2024. The Market will be held every second Saturday at the Washington Park (between Main Pavilion and The Log Cabin) through October 12, 2024. And a Pop-Up Market the 2nd Saturday of December.
- The Community Pavilion Farmer’s Market open on Thursdays from 3-6 P.M.
- STEMFEST will be held Saturday, September 14, 2024 from 11:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. at the Community Pavilion.
- The Italian Festival will be held at the Community Pavilion Saturday, September 21, 2024 from Noon – 9:00 P.M.
- Dark in the Park Light Scare will be held Friday, October 18, 2024 from 6:45 PM until 10:00 P.M.
- Dark in the Park Full Scare will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2024 from 6:45 PM until 10:00 P.M.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 P.M.