

**WARREN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 16, 2018 – 7:30 PM**

OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor Cashman presided over the April 16, 2018 regular meeting of Warren City Council in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members present and responding to roll call were: Mayor Maurice Cashman, Elissa Davis, Gregory Fraser, Paul Giannini, Philip Gilbert, Richard Kolcharno, James A. Zavinski, Sr., and Junior Council Member Ryan Zavinski. Members of City Staff present were Mrs. Freenock, Mr. Hildebrand, Mr. Holtz, Mrs. Leary, Chief Pascuzzi, Mrs. Risinger, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Yuriscic, Capt. J. Zavinski, and Attorney Stapleford.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Zavinski and second by Mr. Kolcharno, the minutes of the March 19, 2018 Regular Meeting were unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Cashman welcomed all visitors. Present were:

- Tony Chimenti: Addressed Council regarding the Children's Advocacy Center
- Ariel Mickle: Addressed Council regarding the Children's Advocacy Center
- Josh Chimenti: Children's Advocacy Center
- Rebecca Chimenti: Children's Advocacy Center
- Pauline Steinmeyer: Observing
- Dan Ristau: Addressed Council regarding the Main Street Program
- Andrew Morrison: Times Observer Reporter

Dan Ristau addressed Council and provided an overview of his understanding of the history of the Main Street Program in Warren. Mr. Ristau stated his belief that should the Main Street Program again become active or a new organization be developed, the majority of board members should be business owners. Mr. Ristau noted that City Council approved funds to be utilized for the revitalization of the Main Street Program or development of a similar organization. He encouraged Council not to expend any of the designated funds until a full plan for the organization is in place.

Mr. Ristau stated his belief that the fines for parking violations in the downtown area have been a detriment to businesses and suggested that they be reduced.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to come before Council.

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER (CAC) PRESENTATION

Tony Chimenti, City of Warren Police Department Detective and CAC Board member, and Ariel Mickle, CAC Director and Forensic Interviewer, provided information regarding the Center's development, operation, and June opening. All children involved in reported cases of physical and/or sexual abuse will go to the Center for interviews. The Center, located at 110 E. St. Clair Street, is a 501(c)3 charitable organization which will provide a safe, child-friendly environment to minimize stress for the child and reduce duplicative interviews by multiple agencies.

**AGREEMENT: PENNDOT REGARDING JACKSON AVENUE PAVING PROJECT
RESOLUTION NO. 3064: AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF PENNDOT AGREEMENT**

Mr. Holtz stated that during the summer of 2018 PennDOT will complete a milling and paving project on Jackson Avenue. The portion of the project area which lies within the City will require that some sanitary sewer manholes be adjusted. PennDOT prepared an agreement under which PennDOT and the City will share the costs with the City providing the necessary materials and PennDOT making the adjustments.

Mr. Holtz noted that the reference to “Glade Township” in Paragraph 2 on page 2 of the agreement should read “City of Warren.” Ms. Stapleford noted that the same is true of the first “Whereas” statement. Mr. Holtz indicated that he will address the necessary changes with PennDOT prior to the document being executed.

Upon motion by Mr. Kolcharno and second by Mr. Fraser, Council members voted unanimously to approve the agreement, with corrections, between the City and PennDOT for the Jackson Avenue Paving Project.

Upon motion by Mr. Kolcharno and second by Mr. Fraser, Council members voted unanimously to approve the resolution authorizing execution of the agreement, with corrections, between the City and PennDOT for the Jackson Avenue Paving Project.

ORDINANCE NO. 1904: AMENDING SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE (NO. 1899)

Mrs. Williams noted that at the November 20, 2017 regular meeting, Council adopted an updated ordinance pertaining to the storage and disposition of solid waste. In reviewing various ordinances prior to the issuance of citations, the Codes Department noted that the ordinance includes the definition of an “Inoperable Vehicle”; however, the ordinance contains no further reference to such vehicles and their disposition. The storage of inoperable vehicles is addressed within the Property Maintenance Code which provides for the issuance of citations and the assessment of fines for violations. Therefore, it was suggested that the Solid Waste Ordinance, No. 1899, be amended by removing the definition of “Inoperable Vehicle.”

Upon motion by Mr. Fraser and second by Miss Davis, Council members voted unanimously to approve the ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1899 (Chapter 399, Section 399-3 of the Code of the City of Warren) by removing “Inoperable Vehicle” from “Definitions.”

WASHINGTON PARK TIMBERING PROJECT

Mr. Holtz noted that at the January 15, 2018 regular meeting, Council approved the conduct of a Washington Park Timbering Project with Dave Miller of Allegheny Forestry to determine the trees to be cut and to assist with the bid process. Bids were opened on April 13 with the highest bid being submitted by Allegheny Wood Products in the amount of \$63,629.

Upon motion by Miss Davis and second by Mr. Giannini, Council members voted unanimously to approve award of the Washington Park Timbering Project contract to Allegheny Wood Products in the amount of \$63,629.

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE PENSION PLAN AMENDMENT

Mrs. Freenock stated that the Municipal Employee Pension Plan is for the benefit of City employees who are not members of the Police or Fire Departments. She further stated that, in accord with the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding negotiated with I.B.E.W. Local Union No. 459 for the three-year contract period commencing January 1, 2018, it is necessary to amend the Municipal Employee Pension Plan. Randall Rhoades, Pension Counsel, drafted the ordinance providing for the implementation of a “New Hires Plan” and amending provisions pertaining to the Internal Revenue Code. Following brief discussion, Mrs. Freenock was asked to consult with

Mr. Rhoads for clarification regarding certain sections and to place this item on the May Council meeting agenda.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS – MARCH, 2018

The following reports were presented for Council’s review:

- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Department of Public Works
- Building Codes Department
- Community & Economic Development

Miss Davis commended the Fire Department for its response to a recent structure fire on East Street. She noted that the Department’s containment of the fire undoubtedly saved neighboring structures from damage.

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Council acknowledged receipt of the following approved minutes:

Blighted Property Review Committee	–	February 22, 2018	Regular Meeting
Parks and Recreation Commission	–	February 6, 2018	Regular Meeting
Planning Commission	–	February 21, 2018	Regular Meeting
Redevelopment Authority	–	February 21, 2018	Regular Meeting
Street Landscape Committee	–	February 27, 2018	Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Cashman declared the meeting adjourned.