

**WARREN CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 19, 2015 – 7:30 PM**

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Cashman opened the Public Hearing. Mr. Hildebrand stated that it was for the purpose of receiving public comment regarding a proposed Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) funding application under the Small Communities Program (SCP). He further stated that City staff proposes the submission of an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development under the Small Communities Program (SCP) for \$274,500 in FFY 2015 Entitlement Funds. The proposed use of the funding is for street and road improvements on Franklin Street between Pennsylvania Avenue East and Jackson Avenue. These funds are available for community development activities which will benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons, address slums or conditions of blight, or meet a community development need of particular urgency. At least 70 percent of such funds must be spent on activities benefiting low- and moderate-income persons.

Also proposed is utilization of funding for the Public/Community Facilities (CDBG) Activity for the elimination of slum and blight on an area basis within the designated downtown redevelopment area (Streetscape I Project loan repayment).

Two (2) public hearings must be held in accordance with program guidelines. Therefore, a public hearing was held on September 8, 2015, at 9:00 AM and this evening's public hearing was held immediately prior to the regular City Council meeting. These public hearings were held within the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Pauline Steinmeyer, City resident, addressed Council and outlined her understanding of the proposed grant application. In closing, Mrs. Steinmeyer stated that she proposes that a portion of future Small Communities Program funding be utilized to provide grants to low- and moderate-income residents to make repairs to their critical infrastructures.

There being no other citizens present wishing to speak, Mayor Cashman closed the Public Hearing.

**OPENING OF REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor Cashman presided over the October 19, 2015 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, Dr. Howard Ferguson, Gregory Fraser, Samuel Harvey, Richard Kolcharno, John Lewis, and James A. Zavinski, Sr. Mr. Hildebrand, Mr. Holtz, Mrs. Leary, Ms. Nau, Chief Pascuzzi, Mrs. Risinger, Mr. Sceiford, and Ms. Stapleford of City staff were also in attendance. Officer K. Grey was also in attendance.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Mayor Cashman welcomed all visitors. Present were:

- Andrew Moore: City Firefighter observing
- Pauline Steinmeyer: Resident
- Josh Cotton: Times Observer Reporter

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mr. Zavinski and second by Mr. Lewis, the minutes of the September 21, 2015 Regular Meeting were unanimously approved.

Upon motion by Mr. Zavinski and second by Mr. Lewis, the minutes of the October 15, 2015 Special Meeting were unanimously approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to come before Council.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2987: AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR FFY 2015 COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CDBG) FUNDING**

(See Public Hearing)

Upon motion by Mr. Fraser and second by Mr. Lewis, Council members voted unanimously to approve the resolution authorizing submission of the application for FFY 2015 Community and Economic Development Block Grant Funding.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2988: FAIR HOUSING REVISED**

Mr. Hildebrand stated that City staff prepared a Fair Housing Resolution in accord with requirements of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's Community Development Block Grant Program. He noted that changes included language regarding the aged, ancestry, and familial status.

Upon motion by Dr. Ferguson and second by Mr. Lewis, Council members voted unanimously to approve the Fair Housing resolution.

**ORDINANCES: PENSION PLANS**

Mrs. Risinger stated that, in order to satisfy the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code and bring Pension Plans up to date, it is necessary to amend the plans as they pertain to IRS Code Section 415(c) – Limit on Annual Additions.

**Ordinance No. 1860: Municipal Employee Pension Plan**

Upon motion by Dr. Ferguson and second by Mr. Harvey, Council members voted unanimously to approve the ordinance.

**Ordinance No. 1861: Police Pension Plan**

Upon motion by Dr. Ferguson and second by Mr. Harvey, Council members voted unanimously to approve the ordinance.

**Ordinance No. 1862: Firefighters' Pension Plan**

Upon motion by Dr. Ferguson and second by Mr. Harvey, Council members voted unanimously to approve the ordinance.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2989: DISTRIBUTION OF STATE AID TO PENSION PLANS**

Mrs. Risinger stated that, as required by the provisions of Act 205, the City must distribute the Commonwealth's 2015 Allocation of State Aid to Pension Plans among the City's three plans. The allocation for 2015 is in the amount of \$325,429.28. Accordingly, it was recommended that the allocation be distributed as follows:

Firefighters Pension Plan	133,309.00
Police Pension Plan	94,100.00
Municipal Employee Pension Plan	98,020.28
Total Allocation	<u>\$325,429.28</u>

Upon motion by Mr. Lewis and second by Mr. Kolcharno, Council members voted unanimously to approve the resolution providing for the distribution of State Aid to Pension Plans.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2990 AND AGREEMENT: PENNDOT WINTER MAINTENANCE SERVICES**

Mr. Holtz stated that the Department of Public Works performs winter maintenance services for all state roads within the City limits and is reimbursed for those services as specified in an agreement that is renewed and updated every five (5) years. The last agreement was signed in 2010 and expired at the end of the 2014-2015 winter season.

PennDOT submitted a proposed agreement covering those services for the winter seasons of 2015-2016 through 2019-2020. The projected compensation varies from \$42,989.08 for the first year to \$48,147.71 in the fifth year, totaling \$227,841.98 for the five-year term of the agreement. This amount reflects an increase of approximately 90% over the prior 5-year agreement which was in the amount of \$119,480.19. Mr. Holtz noted that the increase in the amount of compensation is largely the result of Act 89 of 2013 which provided for an increased gas tax.

Upon motion by Mr. Fraser and second by Mr. Lewis, Council members voted unanimously to approve the Winter Maintenance Services Resolution and Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) for the winter seasons of 2015-2016 through 2019-2020.

**EQUIPMENT PURCHASES: SKID STEER AND SERVICE TRUCK**

Mr. Holtz reported that work is progressing on the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant Capital Project. The initial financing plan for this project anticipated additional Project costs not directly related to the construction itself. Therefore, the PENNVEST funding application included the purchase of items that will assist in the proper and reliable operation and maintenance of the new Treatment Plant. Two of these items are a skid steer loader and a one-ton four wheel drive truck with plow attachment, service body box, and a dropped lift gate. Upon purchase, these items would become part of the overall Wastewater Treatment Plant Project grant/loan package.

Mr. Holtz indicated that the items would be purchased through COSTARS, the Pennsylvania Cooperative Purchasing program, at a cost of \$38,809.72 for the skid steer with bucket attachment and \$42,545.75 for the pickup truck.

In response to questions from Council members, Mr. Holtz indicated the following:

- A skid steer is needed to facilitate movement of sludge as part of the new process;
- A pickup truck needs to be of sufficient size to pull pumps and be loaded with tools;
- A pickup truck needs to be of sufficient size to accommodate a snow plow and to accomplish snow removal at the Plant; and
- It is necessary to have a plow truck available at the Plant as the new Plant has more surface area to be cleared and it is necessary to be able to clear the

appropriate areas in the event of an off-hours callout. It was noted that the use of a contracted plowing service is not practical as it could not provide an immediate response in the event of an off-hours callout to the Plant.

Mr. Fraser made the motion to approve the purchase of the skid steer with bucket attachment and the pickup truck. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ferguson.

Mr. Lewis made the motion to amend Mr. Fraser's motion by calling for a vote on the items individually. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harvey and approved unanimously.

Council then voted on Mr. Fraser's motion, as amended, with the vote being unanimous in favor of the purchase of the skid steer with bucket attachment and the vote in favor of the purchase of the pickup truck being unanimous.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS – SEPTEMBER, 2015**

The following reports were presented for Council's review:

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

### **APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Council acknowledged receipt of the following approved minutes:

Parks and Recreation Commission	– August 4, 2015	Regular Meeting
Street Landscape Committee	– August 25, 2015	Regular Meeting
Special Event Status Report		

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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