

MINUTES
City Council Meeting
City of Butler, Pennsylvania
December 19, 2024

Mayor Dandoy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Mayor Dandoy and Council members Douthett, Shearer, Christy and Herr were present. The pledge of allegiance to the flag followed an invocation given by Deacon Mitch Natali, All Saints Parish.

The following actions took place at the Forum Meeting held on December 5, 2024.

There were no "Persons to be heard".

Motion by Mayor Dandoy a second from CM Shearer to approve the agenda items for the forum meeting of December 5, 2024. All voted aye.

1. Motion to approve the conditional lateral hiring of **Bryce Foreback** for patrol officer in the City of Butler Bureau of Police to fill the vacancy from the resignation of Patrol Officer Eric Klopfer. Motion by Mayor Dandoy. Second by CM Christy. All voted aye.

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Motion by Mayor Dandoy with a second from CM Shearer to approve the agenda for the regular meeting of December 19, 2024. All voted aye.

Motion by CM Shearer with a second from CM Christy to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 21, 2024. All voted aye.

Motion by CM Douthett with a second from CM Shearer to acknowledge receipt of the monthly minutes from RACB, including the CDBG/HOME Program activities. All voted aye.

MONTHLY BOARDS AND AUTHORITIES LIAISON REPORTS

Liaisons gave brief reports from boards and authorities that met in November.

MONTHLY & ANNUAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS
(Note: Department Reports Distributed to Council electronically)

Motion to accept the monthly reports from the Office of the City Clerk, the Police Department, Fire Department, Office of Business & Community Development/Code Enforcement, Department of Public Works and Parking Department for the month of November. Motion by Mayor Dandoy. Second by CM Shearer. All voted aye.

COUNCIL REPORTS/ACTIONS

Councilman Shearer

1. 1.Motion to approve a payment in the amount of \$77,036.22 to NexTier Bank for the City's **2021-Series General Obligation Bonds**. (Note: This payment includes principal of \$61,204.18 and interest of \$15,832.04; due December 31st.) Second by CM Christy. All voted aye.
- 2.Motion for the second reading and adoption of **City Ordinance No. 1829**, an ordinance of the City of Butler fixing the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2025. Second by CM Herr. All voted aye.
- 3.Motion for the second reading and adoption of **City Ordinance No. 1830**, an ordinance of the City of Butler adopting the annual budget and appropriating specific sums estimated to be required for the specific purposes of the City government as set forth therein during Fiscal Year 2025. Second by CM Christy. All voted aye.
- 4.Motion for the second reading and adoption of **City Ordinance No. 1831**, an ordinance of the City of Butler fixing the wages and salaries of employees of the City in conformance with the budget for Fiscal Year 2025. Second by CM Herr. All voted aye.
- 5.Motion to approve a proposal submitted by **Maher Duessel Certified Public Accountants** for auditing services for Fiscal Year 2024 through 2026 as outlined in their engagement letter of December 4, 2024, and to authorize the City Clerk to sign said letter on behalf of City Council. Second by CM Christy. All voted aye.
- 6.Motion to proceed with the domain controller server upgrade as recommended by PSI. Second by Mayor Dandoy. All voted aye.

Councilman Christy

- 7.Motion to approve the conditional hiring of **Austin J. Dunbar** as a full-time Firefighter in the City of Butler Bureau of Fire. Second by CM Shearer. All voted aye.
- 8.Motion to approve the promotion of **Lieutenant Timothy Iman** to the rank of Captain within the City of Butler Bureau of Fire, effective December 29, 2024. Second by CM Shearer. All voted aye.
- 9.Motion to approve the promotion of **Firefighter Jonathan Feicht** to the rank of Lieutenant within the City of Butler Bureau of Fire, effective December 29, 2024. Second by CM Herr. All voted aye.
- 10.Motion to approve the promotion of **Firefighter Sean Sokolowski** to the rank of Lieutenant within the City of Butler Bureau of Fire, effective December 29, 2024. Second by CM Herr. All voted aye.
- 11.Motion to approve Pennsylvania Heart & Lung Act benefits for **Firefighter Dean Selfridge** beginning on May 9, 2023 and ending on November 26, 2023, for a work-related injury he sustained on March 29, 2021. Second by CM Shearer. All voted aye.

Councilman Herr

- 12.Motion to review the Butler County Conservation District draft of a "**Ritts Park Invasive Management Plan**". Second by CM Christy. All voted aye.

Mayor Dandoy

13.Motion to approve the attendance of Mayor Dandoy to the annual **PELRAS** Conference held in Hershey, PA from February 26-28, 2025. Second by CM Christy. CM Douthett, CM Shearer, CM Christy and CM Herr voted aye. Mayor Dandoy abstained.

14.Motion to approve the employment renewal agreement with **Robert S. O'Neill** for the year 2025 contingent upon review by the city solicitor. Second by CM Shearer. All voted aye.

15.Motion for approval of the Professional Services Agreement between the City of Butler and the **Pennsylvania Economy League, Central PA LLC**, as submitted, and subject to the Solicitor's approval of the Agreement. Second by CM Douthett. All voted aye.

16.Motion to reappoint Derek Delaney to the **City of Butler Parks, Recreation Grounds & Facilities Authority** for a 5 year term which expires January 1, 2030. Second by CM Shearer. All voted aye.

17.Motion to approve the Tentative Agreement by and between the City and **AFSCME, Local No. 757**, for the duration effective January 1, 2025 and terminating on December 31, 2027. Second by CM Shearer. All voted aye.

18.Motion to appoint Larry Christy as the **BASA OPEB Trustee**. Second by CM Shearer. CM Douthett, CM Shearer, CM Herr and Mayor Dandoy voted aye. CM Christy abstained.

Mayor Announcement:

You are invited to enjoy the holiday season in Downtown Butler with free parking December 21, 2024, through January 1, 2025, at any street metered parking space. There are also 2 hours of free parking on Main Street. Enforcement will continue at the garages and parking lots. Come downtown. Get in the holiday spirit and enjoy the free parking and support your local shops and restaurants.

The City Treasurer presented a Monthly Intake Report for November 2024.

The City Controller presented bills for payment as follows: from the general fund - \$657,014.09; from the parking fund - \$63,409.74; and from the liquid fuels tax fund - \$21,626.40; for a **grand total of \$742,050.23**. Motion by Mayor Dandoy with second from CM Walter to approve payment of bills as presented. All voted aye.

December Public Announcement - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)

As part of an ongoing education plan, we would like to remind local residents to follow the manufacturer's recommendations for salting driveways and sidewalks. If too much salt is applied, it will runoff into the storm sewer system and impact our local waterways. Please keep the de-icing materials away from landscaping and keep it isolated to the walkway or driveway. Also, if you change the fluids in your automobile, please recycle the used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations. Do not dump these chemicals down the storm drains or dispose of them in the trash. If you want to temporarily store any of these chemicals on your property, just make sure that they are in sealed containers that will not rust or leak and try to keep them in a dry place.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- City building will be closed on December 25, 2024 and January 1, 2025.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

Bruce Beichner spoke about concerns about the drug problems in the City.

Dave Gold spoke about the confusion in contacting PAWC for sewer issues. He spoke about his concerns with a drive-way issue at one of his properties (Fairview).

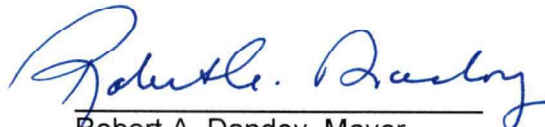
Jeff Weber spoke about the online forms for the new rental inspection ordinance. He also spoke about the City's TRUST that will be set up for the BASA sale funds.

Mayor Dandoy adjourned the meeting at 8:02 PM.

SUBMITTED:

APPROVED


Melinda F. Gall, City Clerk


Robert A. Dandoy, Mayor

