

**CITY OF WEIRTON  
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023 7:00 PM  
COUNCIL MEETING – REGULAR  
WEIRTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING - COUNCIL CHAMBERS\*  
200 MUNICIPAL PLAZA, WEIRTON, WV 26062  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**PRAYER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**MAYOR’S AWARDS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

- **Proclamation - Poverty Awareness Month – Weirton Housing Authority**
- **Certificate – Cub Scout Pack 334**

**CITIZENS’ REMARKS**

*Executive Session shall be held only if a majority vote of the members of the governing body vote to hold an executive session and the items for consideration shall consist of any and all of those contained within West Virginia Code 6-9A-4, to discuss personnel matters.*

**READING OF MINUTES**

- December 12, 2022 – Regular Council Meeting

**FINANCE COMMITTEE COMMENTS/FINANCIAL REPORT**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**None**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. A Resolution to Authorize Revisions to the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year General Fund Budget.  
(City Manager, Mayor Miller)
2. A Resolution to Enter into a Contract to Replace Protective Fire Fighting Coats, Pants, and Boots for Structural Firefighting in the Amount of \$16,771.00. (City Manager, Mayor Miller)

\*Accessible entrance is located at the Police Department entrance on the east side of the building.

3. A Resolution to Purchase a Road Lazar Roadpack for the Street Department of Public Works for the Purpose of Striping and Marking City Streets, Roads, Curbs, and Other Traffic Surfaces (\$55,270.00). (City Manager, Mayor Miller)
4. A Resolution to Purchase One (1) Tarco Windy Vacuum Leaf Loader for the Public Works Department (\$89,734.00). (City Manager, Mayor Miller)
5. An Ordinance for the Sale of Property Located Across from 669 Della Street, Weirton, Assessor's Map and Parcel W43F-95 to Trisha Pratt (\$600.00). (City Manager, Mayor Miller)

## **CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

## **PRAYER**

\*Accessible entrance is located at the Police Department entrance on the east side of the building.

**INFORMATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**Monday, January 9, 2023**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**6:55 p.m.**

\*Accessible entrance is located at the Police Department entrance on the east side of the building.

# MEETING MINUTES WEIRTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Council Meeting  
Weirton Municipal Building – Council Chambers  
200 Municipal Plaza, Weirton, WV 26062  
Monday, January 9, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

**Councilman Timothy Connell** recited the opening prayer.

**Cub Scout Pack 334** led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mayor Harold Miller** called the meeting to order.

**City Clerk Kimberly Long** conducted roll call.

## ROLL CALL

### Mayor and Council Members in Attendance

Harold E. Miller	Mayor	IN PERSON
Timothy C. Connell	Councilmember Ward 1	IN PERSON
Chris Jonczak	Councilmember Ward 2	IN PERSON
Fred S. Marsh	Councilmember Ward 3	IN PERSON
George E. Ash, Sr.	Councilmember Ward 4	IN PERSON
Flora Perrone	Councilmember Ward 5	IN PERSON
Enzo Fracasso	Councilmember Ward 6	IN PERSON
Terry Weigel	Councilmember Ward 7	BY TELEPHONE

### City Officials in Attendance

Michael A. Adams, Esq.	City Manager	IN PERSON
Vincent S. Gurrera, Esq.	City Attorney	IN PERSON
Diana Smoljanovich	Finance Director	IN PERSON
Allen Hess	Public Works Director	IN PERSON
Mark Miller	Planning and Development Director	IN PERSON
Matt Burskey	Code Enforcement Official	IN PERSON
Kevin Himmelrick	Fire Chief	IN PERSON
Scott Cook	Deputy Police Chief	IN PERSON
DeeAnn Pulliam	Assistant City Manager	IN PERSON
Butch Mastrantoni	Utilities Director	IN PERSON
W. Coty Shingle	Parks & Recreation Director	IN PERSON
Rik Rekowski	Library Director	IN PERSON
Phil Gilchrest	Weirton Transit Manager	IN PERSON
Kimberly Long	City Clerk	IN PERSON

## **MAYOR'S AWARDS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

### **Certificate of Recognition – Cub Scout Pack 334**

*Thank you for your dedication and loyalty to our community. The character qualities and respect you demonstrate and encourage are admirable. Your service is truly appreciated.*

### **Proclamation – Poverty Awareness Month – Weirton Housing Authority**

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harold E. Miller, Mayor of the City of Weirton do hereby proclaim January, 2023, as Poverty Awareness Month and thank the members of the Weirton Housing Authority for their commitment in helping low-income residents with their housing needs.***

### **Certificates of Recognition – Members of the Weirton Housing Authority: Wesley Anderson, James Davis, Jr., Rudy McAllister, Joseph Paolo, George Vargo, and Rose Volpi**

*We honor you for your great contributions to the City of Weirton. Your commitment to the Weirton Housing Authority has been instrumental in helping residents in our community. Thank you for your dedication and service.*

## **CITIZENS' REMARKS**

**Brenda Mull, President, Weirton Chamber of Commerce,** expressed gratitude for all those involved in helping with the Christmas lights and the continued support during the Holiday Season.

### **Request by Council to convene into Executive Session consistent with West Virginia Code 6-9A-4.**

Council will convene into Executive Session after all other topics on tonight's agenda have been completed.

**Mayor Miller** thanked Hancock County Commissioner Eron Chek for attending tonight's meeting.

## **READING OF MINUTES**

### **December 12, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

### **Motion to Approve the November 7, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes:**

**Councilman Ash**

**Motion Approved: 6/0**

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE COMMENTS/FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Councilman Marsh** reported that the Finance Committee approved all items on tonight's agenda.

**Ms. Smoljanovich** stated that there are two invoices that need to be paid. One invoice is from the Thrasher Group in the amount of \$5,035.00 for the first 25% completion of the building assessment contract. This will be paid out of the General Fund. The other invoice is from Raze International in the amount of \$66,848.00 for the demolition of the Marland Heights pool. This invoice will be paid from ARPA funds.

**Councilman Marsh** further explained that the invoice from Thrasher is for the resolution about prioritizing the municipal building repairs. The other invoice was to tear down the Marland Heights pool. There was one other invoice from AlignHR that the Finance Committee did not approve for payment at this time, and **Councilman Ash** asked why it was not being paid. **Councilman Marsh** responded that management was not satisfied with the product they were getting for the price they were paying. **Mr. Adams** explained that at the time of the Finance Committee meeting he was still waiting for a progress report from AlignHR. After reaching out to them, he received a long report today but has not had a chance to review it yet. His recommendation is to hold off on paying the invoice right now. There are a couple priority items he would like to see be addressed sooner rather than later.

**Councilman Marsh** made a motion to approve the invoices from Thrasher Group and Raze International.

**Motion Approved: 6/0**

**Finance Director – Diana Smoljanovich** – gave the cash report as follows:

### **General Fund Cash Report for December 2022:**

Beginning Cash Balance:	\$5,352,466.12
Deposits:	\$ 472,722.01
Interest:	\$ 5,991.68
Disbursements:	(\$1,743,403.89)
Petty Cash:	\$ 800.00
Total Cash on Hand:	\$4,088,575.92

**Motion to Accept the Financial Report: Councilman Marsh**

**Motion Approved: 6/0**

At this time, Councilman Weigel joined the meeting.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**None**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. A Resolution to Authorize Revisions to the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year General Fund Budget. (City Manager, Mayor Miller)

**Motion to Approve: Councilman Marsh**

**A Roll Call Vote was Required for the Motion:**

Councilman Fred Marsh	<u>Yes</u>
Councilman George Ash	<u>Yes</u>
Councilwoman Flora Perrone	<u>Yes</u>
Councilman Enzo Fracasso	<u>Yes</u>
Councilman Terry Weigel	<u>Yes</u>
Councilman Tim Connell	<u>Yes</u>
Councilman Chris Jonczak	<u>Yes</u>

**Motion Approved: 7/0**

2. A Resolution to Enter into a Contract to Replace Protective Fire Fighting Coats, Pants, and Boots for Structural Firefighting in the Amount of \$16,771.00. (City Manager, Mayor Miller)

**Motion to Approve: Councilman Connell**

**Motion Approved: 7/0**

3. A Resolution to Purchase a Road Lazar Roadpack for the Street Department of Public Works for the Purpose of Striping and Marking City Streets, Roads, Curbs, and Other Traffic Surfaces (\$55,270.00). (City Manager, Mayor Miller)

**Motion to Approve: Councilman Fracasso**

**Motion Approved: 7/0**

4. A Resolution to Purchase One (1) Tarco Windy Vacuum Leaf Loader for the Public Works Department (\$89,734.00). (City Manager, Mayor Miller)

**Motion to Approve: Councilman Ash**

**Discussion: Allen Hess, Public Works Director,** explained that there is enough manpower to use this equipment for City responsibilities only to clean out catch basins, ditch lines and curbing in areas where as much as 2-3 feet of leaves collect that the street sweeper is not able to pick up. The possibility of implementing a leaf picking program could be discussed at a later date. It was asked if there are four laborer positions budgeted for Public Works as mentioned at the last Finance Committee meeting and why the truck driver position was only being advertised and not the laborer. **Finance Director, Diana Smoljanovich,** replied that the four positions in the budget are for truck drivers contingent on further completion of the Park Drive project, not laborers. One truck driver has been hired; we're getting ready to hire another one, and filling the other two spots are currently on hold. It was expressed that laborers are very badly needed right

now for every section of Public Works. **Councilman Ash** stated that he wants four laborers to be hired.

**Motion Approved: 7/0**

5. An Ordinance for the Sale of Property Located Across from 669 Della Street, Weirton, Assessor's Map and Parcel W43F-95 to Trisha Pratt (\$600.00).  
(City Manager, Mayor Miller)

**Motion to Approve: Councilman Fracasso**

**Discussion:** Mr. Adams stated that the purchaser is Ms. Pratt's fiancé, Terry M. Board. This city-owned property is an unusable hillside located across from their residence.

**Motion Approved: 7/0**

## **CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**Police Department – Chief Charlie Kush** –Three officers will be retiring this month. We are in the middle of the hiring process for probationary patrolmen, and two officers will be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant at the end of the month.

**Assistant City Manager – DeeAnn Pulliam** – In celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr., there will be a performance titled "A Dream Deferred, A Prophet Ignored" at the Dunbar Center on January 16, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., following the walk that begins at 11:00 a.m. on Weir Avenue. All City administrative offices will be closed on January 16th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. The trash pick-up schedule will not be altered. DataMax payments for December 2022 totaled \$2,735.23, bringing the total collected to date to approximately \$86,000.00.

**Utilities Director - Butch Mastrantoni – Councilman Fracasso** extended thanks to the crew for the great job they did on South 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Parks and Recreation Director – Coty Shingle – Councilwoman Perrone** was appreciative of the excellent job of tearing down the Marland Heights Pool, and the respectfulness shown to the residents by the people involved in the demolition. Now that the structure is down, **Councilwoman Perrone** would like **Mr. Shingle** to put in a request to the Park Board for their consideration of placing a dog park at that location.

**Library Director - Rik Rekowski** – Income tax forms are not available yet.

**City Manager – Mike Adams** – The human resources initiative and the building assessment continues; Public Works was acknowledged for the great job they did on the roads during the recent snow storm; a reminder was given that when there are extreme



cold temperatures, residents should leave a very small stream of water run in their house to avoid pipes freezing and water line breaks; information on the ownership of Penco Road has been passed on to Senator Weld and Delegate Zatezalo; the WVML winter conference is taking place February 13 and 14 ; the new Form Energy plant coming to Weirton was discussed. This will be Form Energy's first iron-air battery manufacturing plant built on 55 acres of the former Weirton Steel Plant, it is about a \$790 million investment and will create about 750 jobs. Weirton was selected from 500 potential locations; gratitude was extended to the many people who were a part of this, with special thanks to Governor Jim Justice, WV Dept of Economic Development Secretary Mitch Carmichael, the Frontier Group and the BDC; the Park Drive project is on a winter break; \$5.6 million has been awarded from the state's ARPA funding for the water plant upgrade project; this serves as the local match to the previously awarded \$22.47 million in congressionally directed spending. Now both the water and sewer projects are fully funded. Having that kind of water capacity is needed to help bring in new businesses like Form Energy and other prospects. Once the designs and permitting is completed, the water project could go to bid in a couple of months and the sanitary project sometime in August; it is too early to discuss any potential customer rate reductions because we won't know what the project will truly cost until the bids are complete and there is the possibility of cost overruns.

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no Council comments/communications given.

**Councilman Ash** made a motion to convene into Executive Session.

**Motion passed 7/0**

**Councilman Ash** made a motion to come out of Executive Session.

**Motion passed 7/0**

**Attorney Gurrera** stated that in Executive Session potential litigation, the Park Drive contract change orders, and a personnel matter were discussed.

**Councilman Ash** requested that resolutions for the change orders be placed on next month's agenda.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to Adjourn: Councilman Ash**

**Motion Approved 7/0**

**Councilman Connell** recited the closing prayer.

Minutes approved at the February 13, 2023 Regular Council Meeting.

Signed: *Kimberly Long*, City Clerk