

City of Morgantown

MINUTES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING August 30, 2022

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Morgantown was held in Monongalia County Commission Chambers, on Tuesday, August 30, 2022, at 7:23 p.m.

PRESENT: City Manager Kim Haws, Assistant City Manager Emily Muzzarelli, City Attorney Ryan Simonton, Mayor Jenny Selin, Deputy Mayor Danielle Trumble, and Council Members Joe Abu-Ghannam, Bill Kawecki, Ixya Vega, Dave Harshbarger, and Brian Butcher.

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Trumble.

PRESENTATIONS:

A. Recognition of the Ruby Summer Concert Series

Director of Arts & Cultural Development Vincent Kitch thanked everyone who has been involved with the Summer Concert Series.

B. Urban Deer Archery Hunt 2022- Coordinator Rick Bebout

Moved to a future agenda for presentation.

C. Green Team – City’s Climate Action Plan – Jim Kotcon

Chair of the Morgantown Green Team Jim Kotcon gave a brief summary of the Action Plan Ideas and Proposals to Implement the Resolution in Support of the Paris Climate Agreement.

D. Morgantown Police Department Update – Chief Eric Powell

Chief Eric Powell gave a general overview of the police department, such as staffing issues, officer pay, and the changes to the city’s benefits structure with eliminating the shift differential.

E. ARPA Funds Action Plan Project Highlights

City Manager Kim Haws gave a brief overview of the Strategic Plans.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Deputy Mayor Trumble opened the public portion and asked if there was anyone wishing to speak.

Danielle Walker, 26 Addison Circle, spoke about the 1st Pride Parade and working with the City Ambassadors. She mentioned some concerns regarding the Bon Vista Apartment Fire and why it took so long for the Volunteer Fire Department to get there; Uneven sidewalks in the downtown area is a safety concern; She would like to see more police officers be available for any future parades; Firefighters and their pay.

Mickey Geisel, 3282 University Avenue Colonial Park, spoke regarding Big Daddy Guns.

Alice Meehan, 888 Vandalia Road, spoke regarding a city’s need for an indoors plan for those who are sleeping under overhangs, in front of buildings, and forced to walk the street all night.

City of Morgantown

Travis Cadalzo, 649 Villa Place, spoke regarding the Big Daddy Guns store.

Andrea Straight, A-9 Bon Vista Apartments, spoke regarding the fire that happened. She was the one that lost her puppy in the fire. She wanted city council to know that the owner of the apartment complex was told about the sprinklers not working and nothing was done about it. The whole unit, 12 apartments was gone within 5 minutes. She would like the Fire laws changed.

Kenneth Dufalla, 374 High Street, thanked Rickie on helping get the pedlet done in front of his business on High Street. Spoke about downtown and what has been happening with all those staying on the street and doing drugs. He also spoke about funding the police and fire to protect the downtown area and the businesses.

Johnathon Cook spoke regarding Big Daddy Guns and his concerns with them coming to the downtown.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Deputy Mayor Trumble closed the Public Portion.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

A. A Resolution authorizing application for Governor's Highway Safety Program Grant

After discussion, this item was moved to the September 6, 2022, Regular Meeting Agenda

B. A Resolution approving agreement with Monongalia County Board of Education providing a School Resource Officer for Morgantown High School

After discussion, this item was moved to the September 6, 2022, Regular Meeting Agenda

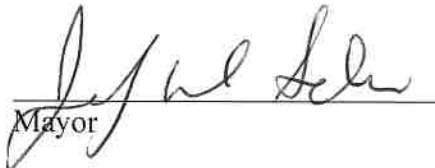
C. A Resolution approving agreement with Monongalia County Board of Education providing a Prevention Resource Officer for Suncrest Middle School

After discussion, this item was moved to the September 6, 2022, Regular Meeting Agenda

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to West Virginia State Code section 6-9A-4(b)(2)(A) to discuss matters relating to Personnel Matters. Motion by Councilor Abu-Ghannam, second by Councilor Vega, to go into executive session. Motion carried by acclamation. Time: 9:31 p.m. Present: City Council, City Manager, City Attorney.

There being no further business, motion by Councilor Vega, second by Mayor Selin, to adjourn the meeting. Time: 11:03 p.m.


City Clerk


Mayor