

WEIRTON CITY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING - REGULAR MONDAY, March 7, 2016 7:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Weirton, Hancock and Brooke Counties, West Virginia was held on Monday, March 7, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers of the Weirton Municipal Building.

Councilmembers in Attendance:

Tim Connell	Councilmember Ward 1
Charles Wright	Councilmember Ward 2
Fred S. Marsh	Councilmember Ward 3
George E. Ash, Sr.	Councilmember Ward 4
Douglas L. Jackson	Councilmember Ward 5
Enzo Fracasso	Councilmember Ward 6
Terry Weigel	Councilmember Ward 7

City Officials in Attendance:

Rob Alexander	Police Chief
Travis Blosser	City Manager
Vince Gurrera	City Attorney
Thomas J. Maher, Jr.	Finance Director
A.D. Mastrantoni	Utilities Director
Rik Rekowski	Library Director
Rod Rosnick	Chief Code Official
Gary Hinchee	Captain
David Smith	Public Works Director

Mayor Miller led everyone in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Marsh to approve the minutes of the:

February 8, 2016 Regular Meeting

The motion passed, 7/0

A motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Marsh to approve the minutes of the:

February 17, 2016 Special Meeting

The motion passed, 7/0

A motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Jackson to approve the minutes of the:

February 17, 2016 Budget Workshop

The motion passed, 7/0

A motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Jackson to approve the minutes of the:

February 29, 2016 Budget Workshop

The motion passed, 7/0

Mayors Awards and Proclamations:

Mayor Harold Miller presented Specialist 4th Class Perry Orr with a Proclamation from the City of Weirton honoring him for his dedicated military service for our country.

Citizens Remarks:

NONE

Communications:

NONE

Request by Council to convene into Executive Session consistent with WV Code 6-9-A-4-A(9) to consider personnel matters.

N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution to Place Liens Against Real Properties for Costs Incurred in Demolition of Unsafe Properties Pursuant to Ordinance 250 (1062 Second Street) (\$3,750.00) (City Manager)

Motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Connell

Motion passed 7/0

2. Resolution to Place Liens Against Real Properties for Costs Incurred in Demolition of Unsafe Properties Pursuant to Ordinance 250 (4031 Washington Street) (\$14,750.75) (City Manager)

Motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Connell

Motion passed 7/0

3. Resolution Authorizing City of Weirton to Serve as Co-Sponsor for the 2016 Renaissance (City Manager)

Motion was made by Councilman Connell, second by Councilman Jackson

Motion passed 7/0

Councilman Fred Marsh

Question is there any monetary value?

Travis Blosser, City Manager

There is no monetary value attached to it.

Mayor Harold Miller

To the city's contribution?

Travis Blosser, City Manager

I should further explain on that the cost incurred for the use of personnel for police being out there. No direct sponsorship.

.4. Resolution to enter into Contract for the Purchase of one 2016 Ram 1500 4x4 Supervisor Truck for the Public Works Department (\$25,127.00) (City Manager)

Motion was made by Councilman Wright, second by Councilman Fracasso

Motion passed 7/0

5. Ordinance to the Amendment No. 766 To The Traffic Control Map Ordinance No. 214 of the City of Weirton to establish double yellow lines in center of Walnut Street as well as yellow lines and

No Parking Signs along the left side of Walnut Street (North Side) next to Library down to Library Parking Lot. (Councilman Ash)

Motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Weigel
Motion passed 7/0

6. Ordinance to the Amendment No. 767 To The Traffic Control Map Ordinance No. 214 of the City of Weirton to establish "Parking Restricted to 1 Hour from 8 am to 5 pm" on both sides of Main Street starting at Main Street and Cove Road Intersection ending at Main Street and Taylor Intersection. (Councilman Ash)

Motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Fracasso
Motion passed 7/0

Councilman Weigel

Mayor if I might, I just would like to thank the Traffic Commission for the time that they put in. I know that this specific case, and all cases, they go out of their way to go check with local residents and local businesses, and they find out the whole prospective of it, and that they went out and ask all the surrounding citizens about this situation. I would like to thank them for their time.

7. Resolution to Enter into Contract for Professional Services By and Between the City of Weirton and Urban Design Ventures, LLC (\$15,000) (City Manager)

Motion was made by Councilman Fracasso, second by Councilman Jackson
Motion passed 7/0

8. Ordinance Resolution to Approve the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year General Fund and Coal Severance Fund Budgets (\$20,002,588.00) (City Manager)

Motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Jackson

Councilman Marsh

Mr. Mayor, I am going ahead, to step out on this, it was a hot topic. We all have our differences will call them the Park Board, but I know the minimum wage will hurt them and it has hurt me to a point. I would like to offer an amendment to the Budget for the \$35,000 for the minimum wage.

Mayor Miller

Is there a motion to second it?

A motion has been made to second by Councilman Marsh.

Councilman Ash

I would like a discussion on that. My discussion is the same thing I had at the meeting. I don't understand how you go from \$120,000.00 down to \$35,000.00 just like that. So if you really did not need the \$121,000.00, or whatever it was, are we definitely sure they need the \$35,000.00.

Councilman Wright

I don't think it is an issue adjusting it down because they asked for \$122,000.00 it is an issue what they reasonably get because there was some opposition to it. Nobody wanted to go along with the total \$122,000.00 except for me. So I think right now we are trying to do something else as far as the minimum wage goes. I can't debate the rest that they ask for, what I am saying is I see a need here and we have an obligation to sit here and address it. That is my opinion.

Councilman Marsh

I would also step into this discussion saying that we still need two council members over there somehow someway so we better understand this.

Councilman Jackson

Then I think we should Table it.

Councilman Ash

I second that motion.

Mayor Miller

Motion has been made and seconded in favor of the amendment. Call for a vote on it. All in favor of tabling the amendment?
Motion to table is defeated 5/2

Mayor Miller

I think we all agree that there are issues as we discussed before with the Park Board on the amount of money. But I do think they tried to work it down because we had the issue with services and also minimum wage. They tried to work it down to a reasonable amount.

Councilman Jackson

May I speak?

Mayor Miller

Yes

Councilman Jackson

Then I am going to leave this meeting and leave Chambers. I will not be railroaded at any time in my four years that I sit here to give money when it is not even yet identified. I rallied to give the \$5,000.00 against Transit because there was no clear explanation as to what it was used for. We were asked for over \$120,000.00 and now it is \$35,000.00. Now, we did not need the additional \$90,000.00, and we still don't know what those funds are used for. For the first time in a very long time, this City is in a financial place of stability and the budget has been balanced. At T-Minus one second you want to pull something fast and slick because of \$30,000.00. I will take it to every press, every media, every social. I will post every non funding event, non grant writing event that has happened. I will not allow this City and the constituents who pay taxes in this City to be railroaded. If there is a justifiable means, by all means, we are an intelligent group of people who dedicated a lot of our time, weekends, and hours to make sure things are done the appropriate way. But the budget, you want to make a budget cut make a salary cut. You want to make a budget cut, what did we talk about, \$60,000.00 we are paying because nobody wants to clean the floors so we hire it out because nobody in Parks and Recreations wants to clean the dam floors so we hire it out. We have 250 people per weekend who cannot even get a hot dog or coke because we lose money on it 83% profit margin. This is why the City has never been able to balance the budget to come out on top and for the first time there is a glimmer of hope and you pull this. I would like to be excused.

Councilman Ash

I would appreciate you staying for the vote.

Councilman Jackson

I think my vote is pretty dam well clear.

Councilman Ash

You stay for it.

Councilman Jackson

Ridiculous and I will post it everywhere \$106,000.00 compensation package while our Director played basketball and my Finance Director doesn't even make that nor does my City Manager. This is what you are paying for folks this is where your tax dollar is going ... let's vote.

Mayor Miller

The first vote will be to Amend the Resolution.

A motion was made by Councilman Marsh, second by Councilman Wright

Role Call:

Councilman Ash	No
Councilman Weigel	Abstain
Councilman Marsh	Yes
Councilman Wright	Yes
Councilman Fracasso	Yes
Councilman Jackson	No
Councilman Connell	Yes

Motion passed 4/2

Mayor Miller

Approval of the budget as amended.

Do I have motion?

A motion was made by Councilman Marsh, second by Councilman Fracasso
Motion passed 4/2

Role Call:

Councilman Ash	No
Councilman Weigel	Yes
Councilman Marsh	Yes
Councilman Wright	Yes
Councilman Fracasso	Yes
Councilman Jackson	No
Councilman Connell	Yes

Motion passed 5/2

Councilman Jackson excused himself from the Council Chambers.

APPOINTMENT: BHJ - MPC

(2 Council Members)
Councilman Wright
Councilman Connell

Motion was made by Councilman Marsh, second by Councilman Fracasso

Motion passed 6/0

(1 Community At-Large)

The Council did not have a recommendation.

The Mayor's Office will take a look at it.

APPOINTMENT: Human Rights Committee

Dave Parker – 108 Heights Street, Weirton WV -

Motion was made by Councilman Wright, second by Councilman Fracasso

Motion passed 6/0

Mayor Miller

I do want to mention to council that Debbie is in the process bringing up to date all the Boards and Appointments. There are some dates in conflict so she is researching all the appointments and amendments. We got to get the right dates because some of these appointments are expiring. We will get these updated in the next couple of days.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Police Department – Chief Alexander

Nothing additional to add to the submitted reports.

Utilities – Water and Sewer – A. D. Mastrantoni

Nothing additional to add to the submitted reports.

Code Department – Rod Rosnick

Nothing additional to add to the submitted reports.

Fire Department – Captain Hinchee

Nothing additional to add to the submitted reports.

Library – Rik Rekowski

I would like to make an announcement. Weirton's finest has a workshop at the Library on Thursday 7:30 – 4:30 literally all day for emergency training. I was able to sit in for about an hour and half of it. I would like to say to our Council there was a lot more training going on more than a having it down on your hip radio and an automobile. These men have to care for people before the other emergency services arrive. It was really impressive to have this

training here in the city with 35 – 40 police officers. I mentioned to the Chief I said we really need to talk about it and letting you know that it did occur.

I also would like to say that on Saturday, we did have a Terrorism West Virginia fusion presentation talking about the preparedness of this area Hancock and Brooke County regarding being prepared for emergencies and that went very well. The people who were there actually took notes and which you would walk away from that meeting is how interrelated and how many times our agencies are communicating and have to deal with a mass communication structure. I would like to report that and I would like to also say that tomorrow night at 5:30 pm the Weir High 100th celebration committee some of us have graduated from Weir High this 100 year program just happens once. I am holding a 1925 year book (I am not going to read to you tonight) there is a poem in here that they very much were concerned about cigarettes. When you think about today's drugs they also talked about obtaining a radio and they were able to listen to Coolidge inaugural speech and that radio had by subscription to Popular Mechanic. There is so much to hear what these children and our past parents had and how they made this city great. I hope you will hear in the next four to five months about the big celebration in July. With that I am just going to stop.

Public Works – Rod Rosnick

Nothing additional to add to the submitted reports.

Park & Recreation – Terry Weigel

Nothing additional to add to the submitted reports.

Finances– Thomas Maher - Absent

Travis Blosser, City Manager gave the report.

General Fund Cash Report for February 2016

Beginning Cash Balance:	\$3,470,401.04
Interest on Checking:	\$818.73
Deposits:	\$708,012.36
Draw-downs on Investment:	\$0.00
Disbursements:	\$1,169,635.35
Deposits to Investments:	\$0.00
Ending Cash Balance:	\$3,009,596.78
Beginning Investment Balance:	\$0.00

Interest on Investments:	\$0.00
Investment Proceeds:	\$0.00
Change in Value:	\$0.00
Deposits:	\$0.00
Withdrawals:	\$0.00
Ending Investment Balance:	\$0.00
Petty Cash:	\$800.00
Total Cash and Investments Available:	\$3,010,396.78

No Additional Invoices to be paid.

Mayor Harold Miller made a Motion to Approve
 Motion was made by Councilman Weigel, second by Marsh
 Motion passed 6/0

I do have to mention one thing this month is the International Festival at the Community Center I think it is Saturday the 19th. It is a great event and I encourage everyone to attend sometime during the course of the day.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miller called for a motion to adjourn the meeting after the closing prayer which was recited by Councilman Connell.

Motion was made by Councilman Ash, second by Councilman Fracasso.
 The motion passed, 6/0.

**WEIRTON CITY COUNCIL
CDBG WORKSHOP MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016 3:00 PM**

A regular meeting of the Common Council for the CDBG Workshop of the City of Weirton, Hancock and Brooke Counties, West Virginia was held on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 3:00 P.M. in Room 201 of the Weirton Municipal Building.

Councilmembers in Attendance:

Tim Connell	Councilmember Ward 1	ABSENT
Charles Wright	Councilmember Ward 2	
Fred S. Marsh	Councilmember Ward 3	
George E. Ash, Sr.	Councilmember Ward 4	
Douglas L. Jackson	Councilmember Ward 5	ABSENT
Enzo Fracasso	Councilmember Ward 6	
Terry Weigel	Councilmember Ward 7	

City Officials in Attendance:

Rob Alexander	Police Chief
Travis Blosser	City Manager
Vince Gurrera	City Attorney
Thomas J. Maher, Jr.	Finance Director
A. D. Mastrantoni	Utilities Director
Rik Rekowski	Library Director
Rod Rosnick	Chief Code Official
Jerry Shumate	Fire Chief
Regina Anderson	Planning & Development Director

TOPIC:

Proposed Fiscal Year 2016 CDBG Funding Requests – Entitlement \$374,089

OBJECTIVE:

Funding to facilitate the effective management of the CDBG Program in accordance to Federal Regulations to meet the Community Development needs of the City of Weirton.

DISCUSSION:

Regina Anderson, Planning & Development Director reviewed the CDBG FY 2016 Funding Requests sheet and explained to the Council Members the different columns – Requested Amount – Recommended Amount and Amount Received FY 2015. The entitlement amount keeps on decreasing. We have made some recommendations and this meeting is to open up as to how you would like to funnel that money. The caveat of course is this federal money used to benefit low and moderate income households (LMI). Infrastructure project for example, street paving, and certain things: If it is in a census tract or a block group (which is smaller than a census tract) that is more than 51% low and moderate income households than you can do paving on that street. All our census tracts have low and moderate income households. We did get a new map this year – Ward 4 and Half Moon and there is a new area that also dropped into more than 51% LMI and that is Greenbrier - we have more concentrations of people underneath the moderate income level.

Councilman Marsh stated instead of starting with the Public Services category let us start with bricks and mortar (Infrastructure category). I will tell you personally I want as much as we can put to our bricks and mortar projects especially paving.

Councilman Ash stated that the \$11,000 that the Fire Department needs for new hoses we need to make sure that stays in there. Weirton Senior Center the sewage problem is bad so the \$10,000 for that stays. I agree with Fred the rest should be bricks and mortar.

Regina Anderson – Planning & Development Director- Ok, just quickly, the Planning and Administration category - The \$55,000 will go to general program administration.

Councilman Ash – Whose salary is that? Whose salary is it?

Travis Blosser, City Manager – The salary is broken up between the two individuals that are working on it. As we talked before, that number we left it the same as what it was, but next year we plan that number will come down. This year you will have more work being done on it because we are getting everything situated back where it should be, and then next year that number will come down.

Councilman Ash – So the general fund money should come down now since we are putting \$55,000 in it.

Travis Blosser, City Manager – It probably can once we break it down. What we will do we essentially will bill back for those funds actually used. We cannot say give us \$55,000 for the whole salary. We have to show what we are doing.

Regina Anderson – Planning & Development Director – Let us go down to bricks and mortar. Regina went through the list in infrastructure explaining the recommended amount to Council:

Weirton Area Museums & Culture Center – requested amount \$24,950 – Recommended Amount - \$0 – The reason we thought we should not recommend it is because it is not likely the low and moderate income families are not the ones using it.

Street Improvements – Recommended \$168,000 – Even last year we were unable to completely fund. They asked for \$250,000 last year.

Fire Department – It is also difficult when we have equipment that is purchased and it is suppose to stay in low and moderate income areas. You buy a new hose and it is going up to Weirton Heights it is not suppose to be bought by CDBG. I think the idea was that General Fund could cover that kind of thing. It would be better to have that general fund otherwise, we would have to have some kind of verification either it stays in Ward 4 which they could do. Then they do not have much flexibility with that piece of equipment.

Councilman Marsh – On the street improvements the \$168,000 does it include the \$45,000?

Regina Anderson – Planning & Development Director – Yes it does.

Councilman Ash – I would like to know the General Fund is it \$805,000 divided by 6 Wards.

Travis Blosser, City Manager - Yes

Councilman Marsh – That leaves \$35,000 to pave. I want to go to \$300,000 on the street improvements.

Travis Blosser, City Manager – You would have to remove the recommended amounts from the other areas and shift it all to street paving.

Councilman Ash – The only objection I have to that is I want the foot patrol. The Police Department fights for that every year. The second is that the \$11,000 for the Fire Department. We need new hoses and they do not pass any of the tests. The sewage system down at the Weirton Senior Center is terrible. We need \$10,000 for that.

Regina Anderson – Planning & Development Director – The funding amounts are up to Council to decide.

Councilman Fracasso – Questioned the \$12,000 to provide facility passes to the Millsop Community Center and Starvaggi pool?

Councilman Weigel – It is for the passes and paperwork.

Councilman Fracasso – Stated that he could not see charging the residents that fit the category for low to moderate income and just letting those residents come to Millsop Community Center and Starvaggi pool. The utilities and electric would be on anyway.

Councilman Ash – It is subsidizing the cost of the passes the \$12,000.

Travis Blosser – City Manager – Stated that adjustments need to be taken out of other categories to keep the total of Entitlement \$374,089.

Regina Anderson – Development Planning Director – There are unexpended funds and they are trying to expend the complete funds. She will be going through to see what is left in the other funds. Those that need to be expended, we will work on it. Those that need to be reprogramed we will come back to Council and say here is the pot of money that isn't getting spent what do you think we should do with it?

Councilman Ash – If it is more than two years they do not need the money.

Regina Anderson – Planning & Development Director – Yes and we will come back to Council with that.

Council members discussed the disbursements of the different streets and the cost associated with paving.

Councilman Fracasso – Stated he would like to see some monies go to A Child's Place CASA and the Comfort House for abused children.

Councilman Ash – Council has given them something and every year we tell them it may not be there next year.

Councilmen agreed to give A child's Place CASA \$3,700 and Comfort House \$6,000. Also, take the \$11,000 from the City of Weirton Fire Department for the fire hoses and add to paving and mortar. Then give \$2,300 for the playgrounds to maintain the safety play surface.

Regina Anderson – Planning & Development Director - Stated adjustments will be made to the spreadsheet per your recommendations which will be sent out to the Council Members for review prior to the Council Meeting on April 11, 2016 to be approved.

Meeting Ended

CDBG FY 2016 Funding Requests
Entitlement amount: \$374,089

Funding Request	Description	Requested Amount	Recommended Amount	Amount Received FY 2015
Planning and Administration				
	(Subject to 20% Cap = \$74,817.80)			
General Program Administration	Funding to facilitate the effective management of the CDBG program in accordance to federal regulations to meet the community development needs of the City of Weirton	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
	Total	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
PUBLIC SERVICES	(subject to 15% cap = 56,113.35)			
A Child's Placa CASA	Funding to support operating expenses for the care and advocacy of abused/negelected Weirton children as they enter the court system (rent and utilities) Requesting CDBG to cover 6% of overall program budget	\$7,409	\$3,700	\$7,000
Comfort House	Funding for one year of operational expenses for services provided to abused children of the community. Services include forensic interviews, mental health support, coordinated medical services, and coordination with local law enforcement. Requesting CDBG to cover 9% of overall program budget	\$12,000	\$6,000	\$10,000
Community Bread Basket	Funding for the purchase of immediate need resources to provide clients with food assistance. Requesting CDBG to cover .07% of overall program budget	\$10,000	\$0	\$0
Dunbar Recreation Center	Funding for operating expenses to provide services to assist children to developing into useful and productive citizens through the reception of quality educational and recreational activities. Requesting CDBG to cover 47.7% of overall program budget	\$9,000	\$0	\$3,000

Increased Police Patrol	Funding to provided increased police protection in the form of foot patrols, bike patrols, and vehicle patrols in low to moderate area Requesting CDBG to cover 3% of overall program budget of the City of Weirton.	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$20,000
Recreational Facility Passes	Funding to provide facility passes to the millsop Community Center and Starvaggi Pool for Low to Moderate income residents. Requesting CDBG to cover 100% of overall program budget	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000
Transportation - Weirton Christian Center	Funding for liability insurance on a van that will transport children to and from the center. Supportive and educational services include pre-school, and afterschool programs for the neighborhood families in the surrounding area are provided. Requesting CDBG to cover 67% of overall program budget.	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
Weirton Christian Center	Funding for utility expenses to Eyvenis's House of Hope. This provides safe enviroment for suprivised visitations, counseling, and parenting classes for the surrounding area. Requesting CDBG to cover 14% of overall program budget. Requesting CDBG to cover 30% of overall program budget	\$4,800	\$0	\$0
Weirton Senior Center	Funding for the ongoing operations of the center which provides programs for socialization, recreation, education, and nutrition for the Weirton area elderly population.	\$10,000	\$0	\$3,000
Total		\$84,209	\$26,700	\$57,000

INFRASTRUCTURE

<p>ADA Restrooms - Weirton Area Museum And Culture Center</p>	<p>Funding for renovations of existing restrooms to bring them into ADA compliance.</p>	<p>\$24,950</p>	<p>\$0</p>	<p>\$0</p>
<p>CDBG-Eligible Street Improvements - Public Works</p>	<p>Funding for the milling and paving of streets and other associated costs in low-mod income areas. Requesting CDBG to cover 30% of overall program budget</p>	<p>\$250,000</p>	<p>\$200,089</p>	<p>\$188,598</p>
<p>City of Weirton Fire Department</p>	<p>Funding for a "5 Supply Line that will replace an old hose that has failed the annual testing. Requesting CDBG to cover 100% of overall program budget</p>	<p>\$11,145</p>	<p>\$0</p>	<p>\$0</p>
<p>Play Ground Improvements - Weirton Board of Parks</p>	<p>Funding to provide safety play surface materials for playground in low to moderate income neighborhood playgrounds. Requesting CDBG to cover 100% of overall program budget</p>	<p>\$5,000</p>	<p>\$2,300</p>	<p>\$0</p>
<p>Weirton Senior Center</p>	<p>Funding for sewer system improvements of the center which provides programs for socialization, recreation, education, and nutrition for the Weirton area elderly population.</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>	<p>\$0</p>
<p>Total</p>		<p>\$301,095</p>	<p>\$212,389</p>	<p>\$188,598</p>

SLUM and Blight

Code Enforcement- Inspections Department	Funding to address environmental, property maintenance, and demolition of structures in low or moderate income areas. Inspections are complaint driven and systematic. Requesting CDBG to cover 25% of overall program budget	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Demolition - Inspections Department	Funding to raze dilapidated structures through enforcement of the building code. Requesting CDBG to cover 27.2% of overall program budget	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$60,000
Total		\$80,000	\$80,000	\$110,000
Grand Total		\$374,089		