

BETHLEHEM CITY COUNCIL MEETING
10 East Church Street - Town Hall
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
Tuesday, January 21, 2020 - 7:00 PM

INVOCATION

Reverend Dale Miller, Pastor Edgeboro Moravian Church, offered the Invocation which was followed by the pledge to the flag.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

1. ROLL CALL

President Waldron called the meeting to order. Present were Michael G. Colón, Grace Crampsie Smith, Olga Negrón, J. William Reynolds, Paige Van Wirt, and Adam R. Waldron, 6. Bryan G. Callahan was absent, 1.

PUBLIC HEARING

President Waldron announced prior to the consideration of the regular Agenda items, City Council will conduct a Public Hearing to accept public comment concerning a privately proposed Zoning Map amendment request from Fitzpatrick Lentz & Bubba requesting an amendment to the City's zoning map by changing the zoning district of 2015 City Line Road from CS - Shopping Center to PI - Planned Industrial. The petitioner intends to lease the subject property to a tenant that will engage in manufacturing use, which is generally permitted in the PI zoning district.

Communication 6 A - City Planning Commission - Zoning Map Revision Request - CS to PI

The Clerk read a memorandum dated October 14, 2019 from Darlene Heller, Director of Planning and Zoning related to a private request for a zoning map amendment to rezone a parcel of land located at 2015 City Line Road, in the City of Bethlehem, from CS-Shopping Center, to PI-Planned Industrial. At their October 10, 2019 meeting, the City Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of this requested rezoning. Attached to Ms. Heller's October 14th memo is a separate memorandum from Ms. Heller, addressed to the City Planning Commission, containing background information on the rezoning request and a statement of support for the request.

Communication 6 B - Lehigh Valley Planning Commission - Zoning Map Amendment - CS to PI

The Clerk read a memorandum dated December 20, 2019 from Peter Barnard, Director of Community Planning of the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission in connection with the private request for a zoning map amendment to rezone a parcel of land located at 2015 City Line Road, in the City of Bethlehem, from CS-Shopping Center, to PI-Planned Industrial. Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission Comprehensive Planning Committee reviewed the proposed zoning map amendment and found it consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission also

recommended that the City potentially consider rezoning one or more additional parcels in the vicinity from Shopping Center to Planned Industrial.

Attorney Thomas Schlegel of Fitzpatrick, Lentz & Bubba explained he represents the applicant, City Line Associates, LLC who is the owner of the property in question at 2015 City Line Road. Also with him is Matthias Fenstermacher, Principle of the applicant and can answer any questions Council may have on this request. The information in the memorandum prepared by the City Clerk is really everything we have to say on this subject. Essentially the property is in Lehigh Valley Industrial Park I and historically had Planned Industrial Zoning dating back to the 1970's. The zoning was changed to Shopping Center with a goal he believes of capturing some commercial uses off of Schoenersville Road. However, the property in question is a few properties in from Schoenersville Road and is much more consistent with industrial uses in Lehigh Valley Industrial Park I. It also contains a 53,000 square foot building which is an appropriate facility for manufacturing or light industrial uses, the type of uses that are generally permitted in the Planned Industrial Zone. Attorney Schlegel remarked that is really the overview of the request. We welcome any questions from Council or the Administration.

President Waldron related they will wait to hear from the Administration and then if we have any questions we will follow up with those.

Darlene Heller, Director of Planning and Zoning remarked they thought of this as a straight forward request. We did rezone the property to CS in 2004 and at that time we did speak with each of the property owners that did not front specifically on Schoenersville Road to talk about their future intentions and reuse of the parcels. So we did include them at that time, this parcel at that time. Some of the other parcels have been redeveloped in keeping with CS but clearly this property has languished. It has an existing industrial style building on it and it would be challenging to adapt use for some retail use. So we support the rezoning back to PI.

President Waldron queried if there would be any negative impact on any of the neighboring property owners or adjacent properties.

Ms. Heller does not think so, she believes there is a vacant parcel to the rear and to the east of this parcel and the other parcels in LVIP I are already developed with some type of industrial use.

Mr. Colón asked if there was any outreach from City Hall to the surrounding property owners or from any of the surrounding property owners to the City about including any additional parcels in the rezoning.

Ms. Heller stated they did not; they did not do any outreach. The request came from a private property owner and that is really what we reviewed. The property is posted and so that is public notice in the neighborhood about the requested change.

Mr. Colón wondered how long this sat vacant.

Mr. Fenstermacher stated at least 10 years, somewhere along those lines.

Mr. Colón asked who the previous tenant was.

Mr. Fenstermacher noted it was a manufacturer of dying fabrics from what he understands; he did not own it at that point.

Mr. Colón queried if he has a potential tenant lined up already.

Mr. Fenstermacher stated yes.

Ms. Crampsie Smith asked if they have any idea at this point in time what will be manufactured at the site.

Mr. Fenstermacher informed he does not.

Mr. Reynolds remarked with the original zoning, CS is that what we would consider what Westgate Mall is zoned.

Ms. Heller stated Westgate Mall is zoned CS and everything else on the frontage of Schoenersville Road is, the hotel was created under CS zoning, the Sheetz, and the strip mall there with several restaurants in it, and that development all occurred under CS zoning.

Mr. Reynolds commented with this rezoning it seems to make sense considering both the history of the property and what surrounds it. He believes just in general the conversation we have going forward is about CS zoning. When you look at this type of zoning around it can lead to a lot of vacancies, he does not know if we need more of it. We have the potential development going on with Martin Tower with some commercial uses there with this particular type of CS Shopping Center zoning. When we look at some of the challenges that surrounding municipalities have with similar types of zoning this makes sense as far as redeveloping this property. It seems consistent with what is there and what surrounds it.

Dr. Van Wirt remarked she has a question about the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission's recommendation that we consider rezoning the parcels because this parcel is adjacent to two vacant undeveloped parcels that are currently zoned Shopping Center. She would think that even though this one has a building on it the same dynamics that apply to the lack of development of this parcel would probably apply to these as well. She wonders if it would behoove us to do some outreach to those property owners as well because otherwise it looks like we have just this tooth of industrial property with whatever trucks and everything that may follow situated between two CS properties. Maybe we could do more of a comprehensive approach.

Ms. Heller explained this parcel is on a corner and it already has an industrial use on it and we felt that rezoning was appropriate. The parcel that is zoned CS is closer to Schoenersville Road; this is not in between parcels. There are parcels within this CS zoning district that have been redeveloped in compliance with CS zoning that do not front that road. We did not do outreach but we did feel that it is still appropriate that those properties would be able to benefit from their location along Schoenersville Road.

President Waldron thanked Ms. Heller.

Public Comment

None.

President Waldron stated the zoning map amendment ordinance will be placed on the February 4, 2020 Council agenda for First Reading.

President Waldron adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:14 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from December 3, 2019 and December 17, 2019 were approved.

Communication 6 H and Resolution 10 F removed from agenda

President Waldron announced the Administration has requested that two items be removed from tonight's agenda pending further internal discussion. Agenda items 6 H, a communication and 10 F, a resolution are removed from tonight's agenda.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (on any subject not being voted on this evening - 5 Minute Time Limit)

Goodman Building/Block Watches

Lisa Rosa, 822 Fernwood Street, stated she wanted to ask a question about a building on Third Street, the Goodman Building. She wondered if anything has been done with this building.

President Waldron replied yes, there is work going on although he is not sure of the current state. This is something that the office of Community and Economic Development would have a better handle on.

Ms. Rosa knows that building has been horrible for many, many years. She keeps passing by it and wondered if anyone was working on it. Ms. Rosa continued to say that she works with the Block Watches and she is mentoring another person because it is in his area. She just wanted to let Council know that she will ask them to sit with her at one point so she can discuss things with them.

Westgate Restaurant/Block Watch Meeting/Marijuana

Eddie Rodriguez, Main Street, explained he wanted to find out about the restaurant at Westgate that has been shut down for many years and has a lower level with stairs leading downward and he wondered what is happening with that and if taxes are being paid over the years. Besides the restaurant that is the Italian restaurant that is on the corner of Schoenersville Road and the Sunoco gas station, around that area, what other restaurant can be established in that particular area? He thinks there is a need for a restaurant there. He goes to a restaurant every day sometimes two and three times a day and he is in that particular area. Mr. Rodriguez wants to know what can be done about that. The other thing he wanted to mention is that he had attended a block watch meeting and it did not turn out right, there were comments made and he thought that Mr. DiLuzio would know something to add more to that. Comments should be reserved as he has spoken to him about the actions of some Police Officers, but not all Police

Officers. He has learned over the years and has overcome certain things but when he hears someone that impulsively makes comments they should reserve them. This put him in an embarrassing situation where he had to leave. He felt bad about it because he wanted to make his public input and see if he could help but it did not. As he was leaving there was someone who came out and said, "Well, goodbye." That is uncalled for and is a comment that should be reserved. At another block watch meeting many years ago on the south side of Bethlehem there were conversations with bad language with a block watch Captain and that should not have happened. That is why he stays away from that type of situation. Mr. Rodriguez stated he does want to help like Ms. Rosa has spoken about but when he went to a store at the Sunoco the lady at the store came up to him and told him that he she had been notified that he had attended a block watch meeting and she made comments. He will stay out of block watches. Mr. Rodriguez knows who he will vote for on Council in the next coming elections. He saw something on the agenda that has to do with marijuana and he would like to hear comments on that tonight. Be watchful, there are a lot of drugs in this City.

Historical Vignette

Dana Grubb, 2420 Henderson Place, explained he will be reading the Bethlehem Moment concerning the Portuguese Heritage and adding the fabric to South Bethlehem. The information he will provide is compliments to the South Bethlehem Historical Society and in particular the late Armindo Sousa and Ken Raniere who authors the newsletter. "The Portuguese not only brought pride and a particular "flavor" to their adopted steel town in Pennsylvania—but also made vast contributions to the Nation. Immigrants arriving in South Bethlehem during 1860-1880, 1900-1920, and 1940-1950, did so for economic reasons as regional industry expanded. The Portuguese community began to develop in the early 1900s, attracted by jobs in Pennsylvania at the steel mill in South Bethlehem, the New Jersey Zinc Co. in Palmerton, and in coal mines in Ashland and Centralia. In the past, the Portuguese community has been recognized for its soccer teams and folklore groups. There are more than 2,000 Portuguese-Americans living in Bethlehem, more than 5,000 in the Lehigh Valley. Portuguese immigrants coming to South Bethlehem, stepped off the Lehigh Valley Railroad at Union Station, and were greeted by Portuguese leaders who found them refuge, lodgings and employment. While many of the immigrants who settled in South Bethlehem came from regions in Portugal many others came from Brazil, South America who also spoke the Portuguese language. Their place of worship began in the basement of Holy Infancy Roman Catholic Church on E. Fourth St. They eventually heard their own Mass on the main floor of the church. To assist Portuguese immigrants and newcomers into the South Bethlehem community, the concept of an association or "club" originated—an ideal place to play cards, kick a soccer ball, play music, socialize—for without a club, the Portuguese would never have retained their ethnic identity or successfully assimilated into the community. In 1928, a group of dedicated Portuguese men who were proud of their ethnicity and their new community established the first social club at East Third St. It was located on a second floor apartment house, across from Bethlehem Steel's Main Office. They called it Portuguese Recreation. Later, the association moved to E. Fifth St. and was renamed, the "Portuguese Sporting Club." Outgrowing the space, the club relocated this time, to the basement of Pasquale Castiello's bank building on E. Fourth St., the former Windish Hall. Renamed the "Portugal Athletic Club," it was incorporated in 1935, the same year as the Hungarian Catholic Club. By 1941, the Portugal Athletic Club moved into their own building, located at 424 Pierce St. Finally, the club moved to its present location at 337 Brodhead Avenue, when it became the "Portuguese American Club" (PAC). Today, it is the only Portuguese Social Hall in the Lehigh Valley with a following of 5,000

Portuguese-Americans. The club maintains three soccer groups (P.A.C. Soccer Team): midgets, juniors and seniors; one dramatic group and a folklore group. It also accommodates members of the Portuguese Beneficial Societies, Lodge No. 31, and Lodge No. 52 of the Portuguese Continental Union. After several generations, the Portuguese share their ethnicity with the Bethlehem community during Portuguese Heritage Day—celebrated in the second week in June with a parade—the event in its 30th year in 2009. During the American Revolution, no soldier did more to win America’s liberty than the first Portuguese patriot, Peter Francisco (1760-1831). At the age of sixteen, the 6-foot, 6-inch tall soldier, weighing 260 lbs., joined the continental troops of the Tenth Virginia Regiment. This so-called “Virginia Giant” was recommended, chosen and honored by Gen. George Washington to be the bodyguard of the Marquis de Lafayette. At the Battle of Brandywine in 1777, Francisco and Lafayette were wounded in the battlefield and sent to the Moravian Hospital in Bethlehem, where they were treated by the Boeckel family. Gen. Washington once said that Francisco’s prowess directly enabled American victories in two battles further stating that the war might have been lost without his participation. Jose Francisco Corriera da Serra (1750-1823), was a scientist. A famous lawyer of Madeiran Portuguese descent, John Rodrigo DosPassos (1896-1970), was a novelist, playwright, poet, journalist, painter, and translator; he was considered one of the Lost Generation writers; his major work was the U.S.A. trilogy. Musician, John Philip Sousa (1854-1932), was best remembered for conducting his musical compositions in the late Romantic era. He was particularly known for his American military and patriotic marches.”

Robert’s Rules

Ed Gallagher, 49 West Greenwich Street, remarked the last meeting was powerful; in fact it was two meetings. There was a range of things going on with a range of emotions. There were a lot of interesting things that could be said about that last meeting. Mr. Gallagher will speak about one. He noted that one of the last people to speak was Peg Church and she raised the question if Council gets any training in Robert’s Rules. Mr. Gallagher noted that Robert’s Rules have been a kind of hot spot over the past year or so that he has been watching at these meetings. President Waldron explained his soft gavel in terms of First Amendment and Robert’s Rules. There have been some discussions about whether you can address each other by name or whether you can talk directly to each other. He thinks that Councilman Callahan received a ruling from Solicitor Spirk about that at a meeting. The main topic of people who spoke at the last meeting was what they would call a breach of decorum which seems to interfere with the working relationships of Council. It seems to be darkening the image of Council to the public as these things get reported in the newspaper. Mr. Gallagher wondered if there is any training for City Council people, not just the President but Ms. Church asked if it was for everyone on Council. Mr. Gallagher mentioned Robert’s Rules are the rules of the game here and you might expect that there would be some training. That question had the ring of commonsense to him. Mr. Gallagher made a modest proposal on his blog today about adding Robert’s Rules training and maybe coupling it with the ethics training that you folks go through. Some things could be talked out and straightened out before the meetings or outside the meetings and avoid the kind of nasty interaction at the meetings. He would think that any new City Council member would go out right away and get a copy of Robert’s Rules. Mr. Gallagher stated he did when he knew he was going to be coming to meetings. This is not a book that is easy to read. In his work he has read some of the densest and boring things. So there should be some type of workshop or training where a specialist would come and say these are the five things people having jobs like you need to know. These are the five rules you need to know, these are the five moves you should know

you can make, these are the five moves you do not want to make, that are against Robert's Rules. He queried if a copy of Robert's Rules is in the house, here tonight?

President Waldron stated there are two or four Robert's Rules books in front of Council.

Mr. Gallagher noted the books are here but it seems to him that everybody could benefit from knowing the rules. The main thing is the talk about the breach of decorum that has to be talked about. It was clear with so many people who spoke. His modest proposal is that you add some sort of training for everybody of the rules of the game, not just the President of Council.

Sewage Traps

Artie Curatola, 813 Laufer Street, stated he would like to reflect on the grandfathering in of the Article of the common sewer trap. Our Christmas City of Bethlehem was named after the City that Jesus Christ was born in. Any elected official who condones this common sewer trap Article to remain as it stands is stating that they do not care about the slum lords. They are also saying that they do not care about sanitary and safety conditions in the City. It will cost a little bit of money to the perpetrators and bring thousands of dollars into the City and employ more people with jobs that need to be done. Mr. Curatola noted when he purchased his home from Northampton County on January 5, 2010 for fair market value this problem was conveniently hidden from him. It was neglected to be mentioned to him and not at all placed on the deed. It was not in a language that he could clearly pick out or understand. The individuals responsible for the County of Northampton knew that he or no one in their right mind would purchase the property for fair market value if they knew that this problem exists. For him to correct this problem would cost him a great deal of stress, time and money to the tune of at least \$60,000 dollars. That is at least \$10,000 for all six dwellings to each have their own sewage trap to the main sewer of the City. In view of this if the City does not take control of this matter he and others strongly feel that the County owes him at least a rebate of \$60,000 for the extra sewage work needed in addition to the interest he had to pay the Bank of America for a mortgage on the property. If they were truly up front and honest with him about this condition and if he was crazy enough to purchase it, he would have been able to pay for it outright because it would have cost him a lot less at a price he could have afforded. Mr. Curatola stated he should also be compensated for the stress it has cost him throughout the years. Since January 4, 2010 he should also receive at least 50% if not all of the sewage charge to all of the other 5 owners paid to the City because they were permitted by the City to use a cast iron pipe that runs through his house to flush out all their contaminated water, urine and feces and other things out of his trap and into the main sewer of the City. If the City did not use his sewer trap the City would not have had them as customers for sewage waste unless the City would have provided them their own traps. If the City would have asked him back in 2010 if they could use his sewer trap and pay him 50% or all of the sewage money collected from them, it would have been an ethical thing to do. However, they knew he would have strongly disagreed and turned down the offer to be forced to put up with their mess in his basement. Since the City took the liberty to do this without ever confronting him about this and the problems he would have he should have received all that money plus \$50,000 for pain and suffering of the aggravation placed onto him. In addition, he should be compensated for the loss that he acquired of not being able to rent a few rooms with the full use of his house for approximately \$400 dollars for each month. Everyone who visited him stated there was a bad smell like a sewage problem. This trap most likely needs to be replaced as well as the cast iron pipe that carries the sewage waste to his trap. These row homes

when they were built 100 years ago were built and owned by one owner and back then it was okay for one common trap. Today there are different owners for almost every individual row home, so that means the waste goes out the cast iron pipe and out of the house on the end in the trap. If there is a block in the cast iron pipe it will eventually go to the trap and block the trap in the end house. This will cause sewage waste in the basement of the end house. Also, they have to clean this up by themselves and spend their own money to have it professionally done. That is what Mr. Curatola is up against and he wonders how many people have the same problem in our City. He wonders how many have died from this neglect. The time is right for a change to come. People need to be responsible for their own problems and mess. This is a safety and health problem for him. Let's do what is right and amend the Article or make a new one that fits the time. The amendment to the Article should read "unless houses connected are owned by one party, every house needs their own sewage trap to go into the main trap of the City." If the City would push this Article and have the water department place all of individuals on their own lines the City would make millions of dollars and have more jobs. All the City officials taking charge of this matter will be stating that they will no longer be the kings of the queens of the slum lords.

Council Presidency

Stephen Antalics, 737 Ridge Street, mentioned going back to the last Council Meeting a number of citizens supported a person to be President of Council but that did not happen and another person was chosen. Between then and now Mr. Antalics has received and also read on the blog that there were comments being made unofficially that the people here represent the majority in this building but they are not representing the majority of the citizens because the majority of citizens of Bethlehem would have supported the person who was chosen. So there is a conflict there. The best way to resolve that conflict would be to do a study which is unreasonable because it would cost money and who would pay for it? A few years back there was a competition and a number of people applying in that competition asked the voters to support them. These citizens who responded to that competition were over 16,000 and they made clear their choice, who was the favorite choice. The catch is this; those numbers are certified because they were certified by the Northampton County voting board. Their results are very interesting. The two persons concerned with the Presidency in that competition, the person named Negrón received 4,277 votes and another person in that competition got 3,705 votes. So the citizens made very clear who was their choice. Mr. Antalics noted we can assume the majority. That confirms a majority here at the last Council Meeting were also a majority voice of the public. That is confirmed by the State Election Board. The question then becomes, there are Members of Council chosen by us that do not support the will of the majority of the people. The question then is whose will do they support?

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (on ordinances and resolutions to be voted on by Council this evening – 5 Minute Time Limit)

Zoning Change

Lisa Rosa, 822 Fernwood Street, stated she has a question about the zoning change to Industrial. She does not have a problem with that but she does have a problem with wondering what they plan to build. The fact that he did not know what they plan to build kind of throws a red flag at her.

President Waldron explained Council is not voting on that this evening.

Ms. Rosa just wanted to let Council know.

President Waldron added that will be on the next Council agenda on February 4, 2020 for First Reading. Ms. Rosa will have a chance to make her comments then.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Members of Council
- B. Tabled Items
- C. Unfinished Business

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- C. *Director of Water and Sewer Resources – Recommendation of Award – Gannett Fleming Valuation and Rate Consultants, LLC – 2020 PA PUC Water Rate Case*

The Clerk read a memorandum dated January 2, 2020 from Edward Boscola, Director of Water and Sewer Resources recommending a contract with Gannett Fleming Valuation and Rate Consultants, LLC for the preparation of the 2020 PA PUC Water Rate Case filing documents. The contract shall run from the Notice to Proceed until June 30, 2020 for Tasks I through VII and until March 31, 2021 for Task VIII. The cost to the city for the contract is \$234,000 with no renewals.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 A is on the agenda.

- D. *Director of Water and Sewer Resources – Recommendation of Award – Entech Engineering, Inc. – Wastewater Treatment Plant Air Quality Permit Renewal*

The Clerk read a memorandum dated January 2, 2020 from Edward Boscola, Director of Water and Sewer Resources recommending a contract with Entech Engineering, Inc. for engineering services to prepare an air quality synthetic minor operating permit renewal application for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The contract shall run through July 31, 2020 and the fee for the contract is \$5,200 with no renewals.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 B is on the agenda.

- E. *Director of Water and Sewer Resources – Recommendation of Award – S. C. Engineers, Inc. – 2020 Annual Consulting Services for the Industrial Pretreatment Program, WIMS Data base, and Miscellaneous Assignments*

The Clerk read a memorandum dated January 2, 2020 from Edward Boscola, Director of Water and Sewer Resources recommending a contract with S. C. Engineers, Inc. for the 2020 Annual Consulting Services for the Industrial Pretreatment Program, WIMS Data base, and Miscellaneous Assignments. The term of the contract runs from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. The fee for the contract is not to exceed \$50,000. There are no renewals.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 C is on the agenda.

- F. *Director of Water and Sewer Resources – Recommendation of Award –K. L. Fulford Associates, Inc. – Operation of the East Allen Township Well Systems*

The Clerk read a memorandum dated January 2, 2020 from Edward Boscola, Director of Water and Sewer Resources recommending a contract with K. L. Fulford Associates, Inc. for the operation of the East Allen Township Well Systems, including 24/7 emergency call out. The contract runs to December 31, 2020. The cost is \$36,000 and there are two additional yearly renewal options.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 D is on the agenda.

- G. *Director of Water and Sewer Resources – Recommendation of Award – Emerson Process Management Power & Water Solutions, Inc. – 2020 Licensed Software Support for SCADA System at Water Treatment Plant, Water Distribution Control, and Wastewater Treatment Plant*

The Clerk read a memorandum dated January 2, 2020 from Edward Boscola, Director of Water and Sewer Resources recommending a contract with Emerson Process Management Power & Water Solutions, Inc. for licensed software support for SCADA System at Water Treatment Plant, Water Distribution Control, and Wastewater Treatment Plant. The contract runs to December 31, 2020. The cost to the city for the contract is \$46,096.44 plus potential hourly support costs. There are no renewals.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 E is on the agenda.

- H. *Recreation Director – Recommendation of Award – Celebration Fireworks – Fourth of July Fireworks*

This item has been removed from tonight's agenda.

- I. *Director of Community and Economic Development – Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Grant Awards – (RACP) – ArtsQuest, Boyd Theater, and Riverport Market*

The Clerk read a memorandum dated January 6, 2020 from Alicia Karner, Director of Community and Economic Development requesting adoption of three resolutions authorizing the City to act as a conduit for the following three (3) Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Grants:

- \$500,000 RACP grant for ArtsQuest for the ArtsQuest Community Cultural Center project.
- \$750,000 RACP grant for Jefferson-Werner LLC for Boyd Theater Redevelopment Project.
- \$750,000 RACP grant for Lehigh Riverport Investors Fund, LP for Riverport Market project.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 G, 10 H, and 10 I are on the agenda.

- J. *Director of Water and Sewer Resources – Recommendation of Award – Coastal Technical Sales, Inc. – Water Filtration Plant Zinc Orthophosphate Tank Replacement*

The Clerk read a memorandum dated January 2, 2020 from Edward Boscola, Director of Water and Sewer Resources recommending a contract with Coastal Technical Sales, Inc. to remove an existing bulk chemical storage tank at the Water Filtration Plant and install a new tank for Zinc Orthophosphate. The term of the contract shall run nine (9) months from the Notice to Proceed. The cost is \$70,699.10. There are no renewals.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 J is on the agenda.

K. Penn Technology Consulting – Creek Investors, LLC – Rezoning Request – 2105 Creek Road

The Clerk read a rezoning petition dated December 11, 2019 and submitted by Penn Technology Consulting on behalf of Creek Investors, LLC and Exchange 9, LLC, requesting an amendment to the City's Zoning Map by changing the zoning district of two parcels of land located at or around 2105 Creek Road in the City of Bethlehem. The petitioners request that the parcels be rezoned from RR-Rural Residential to R-RC Residential Retirement Complex. This rezoning request is related to the proposed development of a forty (40) unit residential retirement complex.

Scheduling Public Hearing

President Waldron stated he will accept a motion and a second to schedule a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM in Town Hall.

Mr. Colón and Mr. Reynolds moved to schedule a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM in Town Hall.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Motion passed.

President Waldron stated the Public Hearing will be on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM in Town Hall.

L. Director of Public Works – Recommendation of Award – Pennoni – Amendment of Consulting and Engineering Services for Structural Evaluations at City Hall

The Clerk read a memorandum dated January 9, 2020 from Michael Alkhal, Director of Public Works recommending and amendment to a contract with Pennoni for consulting and engineering services for structural evaluations at City Hall. The term of the contract will be extended until July 1, 2020. The cost would increase from \$5,100 to \$25,600. There are no additional renewals anticipated.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 K is on the agenda.

M. Councilman Reynolds – Request for Public Safety Meeting – Marijuana Enforcement

The Clerk read a memorandum dated January 13, 2020 from Councilman J. William Reynolds to Council President Adam Waldron, requesting a meeting of the Public Safety Committee to receive an update from the Police Department on the status of the City's marijuana

decriminalization policy and whether there are identifiable enforcement disparities and patterns in different regions of the City.

President Waldron stated a Public Safety Committee Meeting is being scheduled. The date and time of the committee meeting will be announced at the next City Council meeting.

N. Director of Purchasing – 2020 Vehicle Auction

The Clerk read a memorandum from Sandra Steidel, Director of Purchasing to which is attached a list of vehicles to be sold at the next on-line auction to be held within the next 60 days.

President Waldron stated if Council has no objection the property listed; the same may be added to the on-line auction. If Council would like to discuss a specific item, the same shall be removed from the list and discussed at the next Council Meeting on Tuesday, February 3, 2020. President Waldron queried if any Member of Council would like to discuss a specific item, have it removed from the list, and discussed at the next City Council Meeting on Tuesday, February 4, 2020.

President Waldron stated a memo will be sent to the Purchasing Director that City Council has no objections to the property listed.

O. Fire Chief – Records Destruction

The Clerk read a memorandum from Fire Chief Warren Achey requesting Council to consider a Resolution for the Destruction of Records from the Fire Department listed on the attached exhibit. Chief Achey has reviewed the Municipal Records Retention Act and the records fall within categories where destruction is permitted.

President Waldron stated the Resolution can be placed on the February 4, 2020 agenda.

P. Human Resources Director – Recommendation of Award – St. Luke’s University Health Network – DOT Drug/Alcohol Testing

The Clerk read a memorandum from Michelle Cichocki, Director of Human Resources recommending a contract with St. Luke’s University Health Network for drug and alcohol testing. The term of the contract shall run to December 31, 2020. The cost is \$7,000 per year. There are no renewals.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 L is on the agenda.

Q. Deputy Director DCED – Recommendation of Award – Property Registration Champions, LLC, dba PROCHAMPS – Foreclosure Registration Services

The Clerk read a memorandum from Amy Burkhart, Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development recommending a contract with Property Registration Champions, LLC, dba PROCHAMPS for property registrations and property transaction services. There is an initial two (2) year term with up to three (3) one year extensions. The vendor will retain \$100 of each

collected registration fee and remit the balance of \$100 to the City. There are 3 one year extensions.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 M is on the agenda.

- R. *Director of Water and Sewer Resources – D’Huy Engineering, Inc. – Wastewater Treatment Plant Clarifier Upgrades*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Edward Boscola, Director of Water and Sewer Resources recommending a contract with D’Huy Engineering, Inc. for services related to Wastewater Treatment Plant Clarifier Upgrades. The contract shall run for a period of 12 months from the Notice to Proceed. The cost is \$91,300. There are no renewals.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 N is on the agenda.

- S. *Business Administrator – Potential Transfer of City Properties – Minsi Trail Street and E. Washington Avenue, Walters Street and E. Washington Avenue, Center Street and Illick’s Mill (north side) and Center Street and Illick’s Mill (south side)*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Eric R. Evans, Business Administrator related to the proposed Transfer of City-owned real estate located at or around the following locations:

- Minsi Trail Street and E. Washington Avenue,
- Walters Street and E. Washington Avenue,
- Center Street and Illick’s Mill (north side) and
- Center Street and Illick’s Mill (south side)

President Waldron stated he will refer this to the Public Works Committee.

- T. *Business Administrator – Potential Transfer of City Property – Intersection of W. Broad and W. Market Streets*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Eric R. Evans, Business Administrator related to the proposed Transfer of City-owned real estate located at or around the following location:

- Intersection of W. Broad and W. Market Streets

President Waldron stated he will refer this to the Public Works Committee.

- U. *Assistant City Solicitor – Proposed Zoning Amendments Pertaining to Short Term Lodging and Hotels, Bed and Breakfast Homes Uses and Proposed Resolution*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Edmund Healy, Esq., Assistant City Solicitor with two proposed zoning ordinance text amendments related to short term lodging and hotels and Bed and Breakfast Homes Uses. Also attached to the memorandum is a proposed pending ordinance resolution.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 O is on the agenda.

Scheduling Public Hearing

President Waldron stated he will accept a motion and a second to schedule a Public Hearing on both proposed Zoning Text Amendments on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM in Town Hall.

Dr. Van Wirt and Mr. Reynolds moved to schedule a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM in Town Hall.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Motion passed.

President Waldron stated the Public Hearing will be on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM in Town Hall.

V. *City Solicitor – Use Permit Agreement – Musikfest 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024*

The Clerk read a memorandum from City Solicitor William P. Leeson with an attached Resolution and associated Use Permit Agreement. The Permittee is ArtsQuest and the agreement covers the following Musikfest events at various City locations: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.

President Waldron stated Resolution 10 P is on the agenda.

7. REPORTS

A. *President of Council*

1. *Councilmanic Appointment – Olga Negrón – Bethlehem Area Public Library Board*

President Waldron reappointed Olga Negrón to membership on the Bethlehem Area Public Library Board. This reappointment is effective until January, 2023. Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-008 to confirm the reappointment.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6.

President Waldron added that City Council is undergoing a pilot study in trying out tablet devices which he and Vice President Colón have in front of them this evening. This is in an effort to reduce the amount of paper that we consume here. Tonight's agenda is a rather thick one and if you multiply that out by all the folks up here as well as the Administration that is a fat stack of paper we are putting out. In an effort to be a little more environmentally conscious and take advantage of technology available to us we are testing out some tablets to see if that is something that will be feasible for replacing the amount of paper we are producing. We will be testing these out tonight and at other meetings and President Waldron will look at the other Members of Council for feedback as well to hear their thoughts on specific tablets to be more conscious to the amount of paper we are producing.

B. *Mayor*

Mayor's State of the City Speech/Packer Avenue Temporary Closure Meeting

Mayor Donchez announced the Mayor's State of The City speech will be given on April 2, 2020 at 7:30 AM at ArtsQuest. He added that there will be a public meeting on Thursday, January 23, 2020 from 6-8 PM at Broughal Middle School dealing with the temporary closing and study of Packer Avenue.

8. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

None.

9. NEW ORDINANCES

None.

10. RESOLUTIONS

A. *Approve Contract – Gannett Fleming Valuation and Rate Consultants, LLC*

Ms. Crampsie Smith and Mr. Colón sponsored Resolution No. 2020-009 that authorized to execute a contract with Gannett Fleming Valuation and Rate Consultants, LLC for the preparation of the 2020 PA PUC Water Rate Case filing documents.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

B. *Approve Contract – Entech Engineering, Inc.*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-010 that authorized to execute a contract with Entech Engineering, Inc. for engineering services to prepare an air quality state-only synthetic minor operating permit renewal application for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

C. *Approve Contract – S. C. Engineers, Inc.*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-011 that authorized to execute a contract with S. C. Engineers, Inc. for the 2020 Annual Consulting Services for the Industrial Pretreatment Program WIMS Data base, and Miscellaneous Assignments.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

D. *Approve Contract – K. L. Fulford Associates*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-012 that authorized to execute a contract with K. L. Fulford Associates, Inc. for the operation of the East Allen Township Well Systems, including 24/7 emergency call out.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

E. *Approve Contract – Emerson Process Management Power & Water Solutions, Inc.*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-013 that authorized to execute a contract with Emerson Process Management Power & Water Solutions, Inc. for licensed software support for SCADA System at Water Treatment Plant, Water Distribution Control, and Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

F. *Approve Contract – Celebration Fireworks*

This item has been removed from tonight's agenda.

G. *Approve ArtsQuest RACP Grant Award*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-014 that authorized and directed to execute all application forms necessary to apply for the \$500,000 grant which will be passed through the City of Bethlehem to ArtsQuest for the purpose of their project.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

H. *Approve Boyd Theater RACP Grant Award*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-015 that authorized and directed to execute all application forms necessary to apply for the \$750,000 grant which will be passed through the City of Bethlehem to Jefferson-Werner LLC with the Boyd Theater Redevelopment project for the purpose of their project.

Dr. Van Wirt remarked for the principles for all of these entities, we have gone through some motions that we are making sure that we are not doing anything with entities that currently owe back taxes to the City. She understands this is a State grant and not really within our purview but at the same time do we have any assurances from the principles, not just the LLC's themselves but the principles of the LLC's that they are not in debt to the City for any back taxes for any other properties they own.

Alicia Karner, Director of Community and Economic Development explained what they have done is both of the principles historically have set up payment plans. She just requested some information on any of the 2019 back taxes. She does not have that information yet so she cannot tell you without absolute certainty that there is no 2019 tax owed but our cooperation agreements that are executed as a result of this resolution and the application to the Commonwealth will indicate that we do not have to pass on the reimbursement payments if they are not in compliance with our laws and regulations of the City.

Dr. Van Wirt queried if City Council will be made aware of any of those findings.

Ms. Karner asked if she means of all of the taxes owed to the City.

Dr. Van Wirt stated yes.

Ms. Karner informed she will. She asked for these developments in general or the City as a whole?

Dr. Van Wirt stated just for these projects in particular.

Mr. Reynolds remarked that taxes technically do not become delinquent until January 1st.

Eric Evans, Business Administrator replied yes, the list with references is on his desk, some are small and there are a few large ones but most are on the small variety, a few hundred dollars.

Mr. Reynolds asked if we have an estimate of an aggregate number yet.

Mr. Evans stated he will get that to Council.

Mr. Reynolds is just curious overall. He understands we go through this every year with delinquent taxes but he would just like to see that number.

Mr. Evans will get Council those numbers as well as the overall percentage.

Mr. Reynolds remarked we have someone who tries to go after the delinquent taxes but he is guessing that is probably more about processing the letter but for the larger ones is that something that whoever handles our delinquent taxes covers as well.

Mr. Evans explained they are all handled in the same fashion for consistency. We will be more inquisitive as to what the solution and problem is and who it is. That is in review and is on his desk now. We will have a conversation internally about this and then speak to Council.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

I. Approve Riverport Market RACP Grant Award

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-016 that authorized and directed to execute all application forms necessary to apply for the \$750,000 grant which will be passed through the City of Bethlehem to Lehigh Riverport Investors Fund, LP for the purpose of their project.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

J. Approve Contract – Coastal Technical Sales

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-017 that authorized to execute a contract with Coastal Technical Sales, Inc. to remove an existing bulk chemical storage tank at the Water Filtration Plant and install a new tank for Zinc Orthophosphate.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

K. *Approve Contract – Pennoni*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-018 that authorized to execute an amendment to a contract with Pennoni for consulting and engineering services for structural evaluations at City Hall.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

L. *Approve Contract – St. Luke’s University Health Network*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-019 that authorized to execute a contract with St. Luke’s University Health Network for drug and alcohol testing.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

M. *Approve Contract – Property Registration Champions, LLC, dba PROCHAMPS*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-020 that authorized to execute a contract with Property Registration Champions, LLC, dba PROCHAMPS for property registrations and property transaction services.

Dr. Van Wirt then asked for an overview of what we are contracting for. She wondered if this is new or a continuation of something we have done before.

Ms. Karner explained Council passed an Ordinance around 2012 that enabled a collection of \$200 dollars for every foreclosed property. We contracted with PROCHAMPS, they have changed names over the years but it is the same entity who we have only ever contracted with as a City. They will collect the \$200 dollars and they give us a contact name, they help us with the banks primarily, assign a single point of contact so when we have maintenance issues we know who to call. So we are not chasing around a property owner who does not live there anymore. It very much provides us with information we need to insure these properties in most cases, we have an awareness of who to reach out to when there is a problem with the property.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

N. *Approve Contract – D’Huy Engineering, Inc.*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-021 that authorized to execute a contract with D’Huy Engineering, Inc. for services related to Wastewater Treatment Plant Clarifier Upgrades.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

O. *Approve Resolution – Short Term Lodging Zoning Text Amendments*

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-022 that:

1. Exhibit "A" attached hereto, a proposed zoning ordinance text amendment related to short term lodging and hotels is declared as of this date to be a pending ordinance of the City of Bethlehem.
2. Exhibit "B" attached hereto, a proposed zoning ordinance text amendment related to Bed and Breakfast Home Uses is declared as of this date to be a pending ordinance of the City of Bethlehem.
3. The actions of the Director of Planning and Zoning, the City Clerk and all other City officials in connection with obtaining comments and recommendations from the City Planning Commission and Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, advertising and conducting public hearings for the purpose of receiving public comment and recommendations, and/or take any other actions in the manner required by the Municipalities Planning Code and City ordinances are hereby ratified and/or otherwise authorized.
4. The City Council shall consider all comments and recommendation from the City Planning Commission, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, and members of the public obtained in the manner required by the Municipalities Planning Code prior to formal enactment of the said pending ordinances.

Mr. Reynolds queried about the language used as far as the pending ordinance. We have scheduled a Public Hearing for these text amendments. For the benefit of everyone what is the purpose of this resolution.

President Waldron noted the Public Hearing will be on March 3, 2020.

City Solicitor William Leeson explained the significance is that new uses that arise from this date forward, they would come under these ordinances would be affected by these ordinances. Pre-existing uses or uses that are within the topics of these ordinances that arose and exist before this date would be treated under the ordinances pre-existing this date.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

P. Approve Use Permit Agreement – Musikfest 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-023 that authorized the execution of Use Permit Agreements between ArtsQuest and the City of Bethlehem for use of certain City streets identified in the Use Permit Agreement for Festival Sites, for Musikfest 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, for the times periods listed on the agreements, according to the terms and conditions.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

Q. Certificate of Appropriateness – 23 East Church Street

Mr. Colón and Ms. Crampsie Smith sponsored Resolution No. 2020-024 that granted a Certificate of Appropriateness to convert their existing carport into a garage at 23 East Church Street.

Voting AYE: Ms. Crampsie Smith, Ms. Negrón, Mr. Reynolds, Dr. Van Wirt, Mr. Colón, and Mr. Waldron, 6. The Resolution passed.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. *Committee Assignments – 2020-2021*

President Waldron announced the Committee Assignments for 2020-2021, as follows:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- Paige Van Wirt, Chairperson
- J. William Reynolds
- Grace Crampsie Smith

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- J. William Reynolds, Chairperson
- Michael G. Colón
- Paige Van Wirt

HUMAN RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

- Bryan G. Callahan, Chairperson
- Olga Negrón
- Paige Van Wirt

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

- Olga Negrón, Chairperson
- Michael G. Colón
- Bryan G. Callahan

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- Michael G. Colón, Chairperson
- Grace Crampsie Smith
- Olga Negrón

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

- Grace Crampsie Smith, Chairperson
- J. William Reynolds
- Bryan G. Callahan

Boards, Authorities, Commissions, Committees - City Council Appointees/Liaisons – 2020-2021

BETHLEHEM AUTHORITY
Grace Crampsie Smith

BETHLEHEM HOUSING AUTHORITY

Michael Colón

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

J. William Reynolds

LEHIGH VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION

Easton Council Member was the Appointee for the year 2019
Bethlehem Council Member will be the Appointee for the year 2020
Easton Council Person will serve in 2021

Bryan G. Callahan

LIBRARY BOARD

Olga Negrón

PARKING AUTHORITY

Paige Van Wirt

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BLIGHTED PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE

J. William Reynolds

President of Council

President Waldron thanked Council for their support in continuing with a second term. He takes this position seriously and is honored to serve as Council President for another two years. He stands by his legacy and the work that he has done in this role over the past two years. He hopes to build on that. He will continue to encourage as much public comment as possible as well as healthy debate among Members of Council. President Waldron reiterated that in his time over the past two years he has brought in live streaming in an effort to get more people engaged as well as have a visual and audio record that is accessible. He has made attempts to interact a bit more with speakers in a way, no offense to other previous Council Presidents that are here this evening, and try to answer some questions whenever it is appropriate and try to have a small dialogue without getting into a back and forth which is potentially challenging. He will continue to try to point people in the right direction or provide answers whenever he can do that for speakers. He has not been deaf to the criticisms of his style of allowing a very long leash and using a soft gavel. He will continue to try to reflect on that in ways to help guide the conversation in a more positive and productive way. He is serious about his commitment to listen to Members of Council and hearing their feedback on his management of the meetings. He would say that generally most of the criticisms directed at him are for not managing a specific Member of Council and not silencing them or gaveling them down. That is a fair criticism, however he has made attempts to guide that conversation to be a bit more productive and those attempts have not been successful. Ultimately he thinks if there is a single bad actor that does not reflect negatively upon Council, he thinks that reflects upon that individual and those comments are representative of that certain person, not of the entire Council. President Waldron will however try to continue and maybe a bit more aggressively help try to push that conversation to

a productive one. It is his hope that everyone can continue to work together. We have generally good working relationships among Council and the Administration and he hopes we can continue that over the next two years. President Waldron noted the City is in great shape and a lot of that has to do with those relationships that Members of Council can pick up the phone and speak to each other as well as speak to Members of the Administration and vice versa. He hopes we can continue to build on that. President Waldron thanked Members of Council and the public for their support and he is looking forward to another two years as Council President. He is very open to having a dialogue and a conversation about how we can continue to improve things here at City Council Meetings as well as in the City as a whole.

Marijuana Decriminalization

Mr. Colón mentioned with the marijuana decriminalization he has spoken to Councilwoman Negrón and Councilwoman Van Wirt prior to the memo that came out about the newspaper article that came out. It is not something that has gone unnoticed. He had stated to them that he wanted to wait until we knew who would be on the Committees. At the next Council Meeting for anyone interested in coming out to hear about the marijuana decriminalization where that is going with the application and enforcement, the possession ordinance, it will be likely before a Council Meeting a few meetings from now and he will announce the date of that Committee Meeting at the next Council Meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

Robert G. Vidoni, Esq.
City Clerk