

**COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
www.lackawannany.gov**

Regular session of the Lackawanna City Council met in the Council Chambers, Council President Keith Lewis presiding. The meeting was preceded by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council President Lewis.

**Meeting called to order
NB: Meeting being recorded**

**Roll Call: Council: Present: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis
Excused: Jerge
Dept. Heads: Present: Law, Comptroller, Public Safety, Recreation
Excused: Public Works**

Approval of Minutes: of regular meeting of April 18, 2017

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo to adopt minutes as written
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Departmental Reports:

1. City Comptroller-A/P Check Listing #43, April 14, 2017
2. City Comptroller-A/P Check Listing #44, April 19, 2017

Moved by Lewis seconded by Noman receive and file departmental reports one and two
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Communications from the Council:

Recommendations/Procedures for Re-Naming Streets-Combined

3. To: City Council

We believe that having a large number of our City streets re-named, diminishes any distinction bestowed to those honorees. In order to make a determination on the appropriateness of a street being re-named, this Committee recommends the following:

****Any request made to the City or this Council to re-name a street would be sent to this Committee to review, and this Committee would then send a recommendation to the Council for Approval or Disapproval.**

****Any re-naming is approved by the Council; it would only be Honorary for that person or group identified. The current name of our streets will always remain, unless so deemed by the Council.**

****There needs to be evidence of support by one or more geographically relevant civic groups or associations.**

**Evidence of support by local businesses or other entities (e.g.: schools, churches, etc.) on the street that might be affected by the re-naming.

** Statement why the candidate(s) is/are historically or culturally significant.

** A map showing the exact geographic limits of the re-naming requests.

**A petition signed by local resident with the number of signatures proportionate to the length/section of the street proposed to be re-named.

** Any request, needs to be submitted with the above criteria and application include to the City Clerk. Also, with this application a check made payable to the City of Lackawanna for \$200.00. \$100.00 is a non-refundable processing fee and the other \$100.00 will pay for the “Honorary” street sign and installation that accompany the already existing street sign. If the street name is denied, only the check for the sign costs will be returned to the petitioner. The \$100.00 processing fee will not be returned.

Procedure and Timeframe

Street co-naming is made by an act of legislation. We firmly believe that large numbers of street co-naming diminish the distinction given to those we choose to honor. Therefore, I would like to suggest that the Council only reviews applications for co-naming once every 5 years. No more than one street should be co-named each 5 year period. If no candidate is deemed to meet the requirements, the Council may choose not to co-name a street in any given 5 year period.

The period for submitting requests should be July 1st-August 31st in the year commencing the 5 year period. It is the responsibility of the proposer to leave sufficient time for the numerous steps necessary before a request is included in legislation. The City Clerk will advertise for street co-naming at least three weeks prior to July 1st and no more that 7 first come-first serve applications will be considered. In the event some are disqualified, the next in line after the 7th should be considered in order of submission.

All Street co-naming requests would be submitted to the Clerk’s Office and a 30 day vetting period will commence to ensure accuracy and honesty on applications. A volunteer committee should be assembled by the Council with each Council Member appointing a member from their ward to undertake the vetting process. The Council President would be required to be on the vetting board. Appointed members of the vetting board cannot be employees of the City of Lackawanna, may not be elected officials, and may not be serving on any other City Board. This would be a total of five members. Four (4) residents, each from a different ward, and an elected official (Council President). Any untrue or false statements made on an application will result in disqualification for consideration. The board will present its findings to Council and will submit no more that 3 names to the Council for final consideration. The Council will have 30 days to consider the candidates before voting.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT LEWIS

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo, receive and file

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Commissioner of Deeds-Iafallo

4. To: City Council

I am requesting Commissioner of Deeds status within the City of Lackawanna, New York. I appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

ANNETTE IAFALLO-SECOND WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

Moved by Lewis seconded by Noman approve request

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Banner-Update

5. To: City Council

At the previous council meeting, I requested some information pertaining to the cost for banners to be placed on poles for advertisement so that we might formulate a plan to inquire to local businesses, to see if there would be a worthwhile interest.

JOE JERGE-THIRD WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

Moved by Lewis seconded by Surdyke to receive and file

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Code Violations-Uncollected Fines

6. To: City Council

At the previous Council meeting, I requested some information pertaining to the process for uncollected fines for code violations.

I asked that the Council be updated as to what the process is or what it will look like and what the anticipated time frame would be.

JOE JERGE-THIRD WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo to receive and file

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

1188 Ridge Road Conversion

7. To: City Council

At the previous Council meeting, I requested some information pertaining to the conversion of 1188 Ridge from a homestead property to a non-homestead property. It was determined at that meeting that a (or possibly some) mistake was made in allowing that property to be converted. During that meeting I asked what remedy we have to correct that mistake.

I asked the Director of Development to please update the Council as to what actions have been taken to correct this mistake. Additionally, what measures have we taken to ensure a mistake like this does not happen again?

JOE JERGE-THIRD WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

Moved by Lewis seconded by Surdyke receive and file

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

“Game Changers” Program Grant

8. To: City Council

I am asking the City of Lackawanna to sign a memorandum of understanding with NY/NJ HIDTA and the City of Lackawanna. This is a regional program funded by the office of National Drug Policy. The grant is for \$21,000.00 and will be using the Lackawanna High School gymnasium

for a program called “Game Changers” on various Fridays, starting June 2, 2017 through July 21, 2017. “Game Changers” is a program which will be used to reduce youth violence and youth drug use in neighborhoods plagued by violence crime.

“Game Changers” will offer free, professional and exceptional athletic training during the most vulnerable hours. The program will be offered to both, girls and boys, ages 12-18 that live within the City of Lackawanna. The City of Lackawanna will provide (2) police officers from 5pm-9pm for those days. The program will provide basketball skills for the first half of each session and the remainder of the time will be geared toward life building skills.

JOE JERGE-THIRD WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo receive and file, authorize the Mayor to sign memorandum of understanding

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Communications from Department/Division Heads:

Zombie Grant Services

9. To: City Council

The City of Lackawanna (Grantee) received on October 11, 2016, a Commitment Letter from the Local Initiative Support Corp (LISC) a grant in the amount of \$100,000 (the Grant) for its Zombie and Vacant properties remediation and prevention initiatives. The City received the initial disbursement on March 1, 2017, in the amount of \$70,000 to implement the Grant.

Our LISC representative, Helene Caloir, has approved the use of \$10,000 from its Consultant Budget Line Item to be used to hire a part-time Grant Services Intern to be defined as an Independent Contractor/Grant Services Coordinator. This will facilitate a timelier, efficient, effective and smooth operation of the LISC Grant.

The main duties of the part-time position will be to perform community outreach activities including but not limited to identifying programs for households and families that might be facing mortgage default and steering them to the programs. This will be accomplished by bringing all available resources together to address potential causes that may lead to mortgage default, by researching available resources for foreclosure prevention and homeowners counseling for at risk homeowners. This position will also have the responsibility of coordinating a community outreach work plan for the community which will consist of creating a brochure to be distributed throughout the entire community and holding two to three public forums to educate and disseminate information about the program and available resources. This will be achieved through establishing partnerships with local area non-profit organizations to assist with outreach efforts.

Additionally, this person will also research the possibility of purchasing advanced software to track at risk properties. The upgraded software will establish a vacant property database, establish an online reporting system for residents to report information about suspected vacant and abandoned properties within their neighborhoods, establish a property maintenance program that will quickly address identified abandoned properties that need to be secured or boarded up and work with local partnering organizations on developing strategies and programs to ensure that lending institution secure and maintain properties under their control and complete renovations up to codes and/or demolition activities when appropriate.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding this communication please feel free to contact me.

DREW SHAPIRO-DIRECTOR of DEVELOPMENT

Moved by Lewis seconded by Surdyke receive and file, grant request
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

DPW-Insurance Check-Plow Truck

10. To: City Council

I am requesting that the insurance recovery check for the damaged plow truck, in the amount of \$4,562.65 be placed into budget code A.5132.416 (City Garage truck repairs) in order to pay for the repairs needed for this vehicle. If you have any additional questions you may contact me at your earliest convenience.

ANTONIO DESANTIS-COMMISSIONER of PUBLIC WORKS

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo receive and file, act on ordinance
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Communications from Citizens:

Right Direction Resource Center

11. To: City Council

I am contacting you regarding the upcoming City Council Meeting on Monday, May 1 2017. My name is Daniel Lewis and I am Pastor, of the Potter's House COGIC, located at 279 Ingham Ave. Our vision is to have a Homeless Shelter in the City of Lackawanna which will greatly impact our local community. I am requesting permission to speak before the council regarding the project plan for the "Right Direction Resource Center" at the next Council Meeting.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

PASTOR DANIEL J LEWIS

Moved by Lewis seconded by Noman receive and file, Pastor Lewis to meet with the City Attorney
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Business Registration:

Jillian Zybala- DBA Daisies Café-2711 South Park Ave

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo to approve business registration
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Entertainment Licenses:

Class 1- Live Music and/or Mechanical Reproduction

Daisies Café-2711 South Park Ave.

Nite Cappe-1769 Abbott Rd.

McMudz-1441 Electric Ave.

The Press Box-1841 Abbott Rd.

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo to approve entertainment licenses
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Volleyball License:

The Press Box-1841 Abbott Rd

Moved by Lewis seconded by Surdyke to approve volleyball license, from May 1 thru September 30 between the hours of 12:00 noon till 10 PM

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Ordinances:

(1) Budget Transfer-DPW-Insurance Check

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2016-2017 BUDGET ORDINANCE ADOPTED JUNE 16, 2016

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Lackawanna, New York as follows:

SECTION 1. That the 2016-2017 Budget Ordinance adopted June 16, 2016 is hereby amended to increase appropriations and revenue for Insurance recovery for a Plow Truck

SECTION 2. That the 2016-2017 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to increase by \$4,562.65 budget code A.5132.416 City Garage, Truck Repairs and Tires

SECTION 3. That the 2016-2017 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to increase budget Code A..2680 Insurance recoveries by \$4,562.65

THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo to adopt ordinance as written

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Waive Rules:

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo to waive rules regarding communication from Public Works

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Award Contract-Grass Cutting/Landscaping

Please approve the contractors which were chosen for the 2017 grass cutting season. The contractors chosen are: Snow Plow Dr., Black Water and Scenic Route. I request that you waive the rules. The reason this is not clocked in on time is because I went on vacation. If you have any questions you may contact me at your earliest convenience.

ANTHONY DESANTIS-COMMISSIONER of PUBLIC WORKS

Moved by Lewis seconded by Noman to award 2017 contract to Snow Plow Dr., Black Water & Scenic Route

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Tabled Items:

Moved by Lewis seconded by Noman to remove from the table Business Registration from meeting of March 20, 2017

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Business Registration:

Muhamed & Rathwan Ahmed- Hookawanna Smoke Shop-283 Ridge Rd.

Moved by Lewis seconded by Noman to approve business registration on recommendation of Public Safety Director Kuna & Director of Development Shapiro. Business hours to be 12:00 noon till 11:00 PM

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Adjournment:

Moved by Lewis seconded by Iafallo meeting adjourned in honor of Cara Kwasniewski

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Surdyke, Lewis

Carried 4-0

Keith E. Lewis, Council President

Jeffrey P. DePasquale, City Clerk