

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION MINUTES
MONDAY – JANUARY 28, 2019 - 6:00 P.M.
ALTOONA CITY HALL – 1301 12TH STREET
4TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - ALTOONA, PA 16601

1. Call to Order by Mayor Pacifico at 6:05 p.m.; those in attendance included Councilmembers Butterbaugh, Cagle, Jordan, Kelley, Neugebauer (via phone) and Mayor Pacifico; Councilman Cacciotti was absent at this time and arrived at 6:20 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. All Public Comment – offered and none given
4. Items:
 - a) CDBG Amendment for Hamilton Park Improvements Project Phase II

Mayor Pacifico asked if there were any questions regarding the proposed resolution; Councilman Kelley asked about the bike patrol; Councilman Butterbaugh stated the funding for the bike patrol changed from CDBG to the general fund due to boundary issues; funding the bike patrol under the general fund allows the bike patrol to travel anywhere within the city limits without constraints

Councilman Neugebauer asked if voting on the proposed resolution was allowable at a worksession; City Solicitor Dan Stants stated that it is allowable because the worksession was publicly announced through an advertisement

Councilman Kelley reviewed the project description for Hamilton Park stating the additional money will allow for installation of a perimeter walking path, removal and installation of a new chain link fence, ballfield grading, and site amenities including park benches and picnic tables

Mayor Pacifico asked Councilman Cagle, a CBRC Board Member, for an update on the progress at Hamilton Park; Councilman Cagle stated the pickleball courts were finished and ready and Mike Hofer is purchasing signage that explains pickleball; the bids for Hamilton Park were received and the \$35,000 approval would help CBRC move forward and award the bid and complete the entire project including phase II;

the bid is potentially to be awarded to Ventura Construction and construction will start in the Spring of 2019; Councilman Neugebauer, a CBRC Board Member, stated the land was prepared for the fencing and the installation of fencing was not totally complete

Mayor Pacifico asked if the action being taken tonight by City Council is due to the bids coming in higher than anticipated; Councilman Cagle stated the low bid was \$104,300 submitted by Ventura Construction; Councilman Cagle stated the entire project includes new outfield fencing, walking trail being connected from the existing walking trail at the base of the hillside behind the ballfield and going around the interior of the outfield and connecting up the hillside; the addition of the pickleball court, re-grading of the outfield and the addition of drainage; adding additional signage explaining play and the rules of pickleball

City Clerk Linda Rickens Schellhammer read the resolution into the record as follows:

amending the 2017 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program transferring \$35,000.00 from the Neighborhood Police Patrol Program to the Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission's (CBRC) Hamilton Park Improvement Project Phase II. (0004-19)

The City Clerk called the roll for a vote which passed 6 to 0; Councilman Cacciotti was absent at this time

5. Media Questions – Bill Kibler of the *Altoona Mirror* was in attendance

Councilman Kelley stated that moving forward with the monthly worksessions, he would like for Council to come up with a list of topics to discuss; Councilman Kelley asked Council to submit suggestions to the City Clerk and a list could be compiled and shared with Council for ranking; Councilman Kelley stated his list would include a discussion on the snow emergency signs and routes; also, the surplus and ideas of what the best use is for that surplus; Councilman Kelley stated previous Interim City Manager Peter Marshall talked about a vehicle replacement fund, which could be put to use to save the City money in the long term, as a discussion item

Councilman Butterbaugh agreed with the idea of a list and a game plan for ranking and scheduling; Councilman Butterbaugh would like to see a joint session between Council and Logan Township on items that both municipalities work together on; Councilman Butterbaugh also suggested a worksession with Blair County to foster more intergovernmental cooperation; City Solicitor Dan Stants stated he would be happy to mention this to Logan Township as he sees them regularly

Councilman Cagle stated he agrees with Councilman Kelley and Councilman Butterbaugh and in the past this may have been done as he remembers having worksessions in this 4th floor conference room of City Hall; Councilman Cagle stated he likes this venue better as opposed to the bench of Council at the City of Altoona Training Facility and Council Chambers; Councilman Cagle prefers sitting around the table and Council and staff sharing ideas and talking them through

Councilman Kelley stated there may be a specific topic or topics at a particular worksession which would not require the attendance of all of the department heads; Councilman Cagle brought up the example of the worksession that was held with the IT Manager, Victor Curfman, that consisted of what Council wanted to see on the newest version of the City website

Councilman Kelley asked if there was an agenda for the February worksession; Mayor Pacifico stated he believed it was going to be a discussion of potential worksession agenda topics; Councilman Kelley asked Council to get their topics to the City Clerk and Mayor Pacifico agreed

Councilman Cacciotti joined the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

6. Executive Session – Council convened to Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. for personnel matters
7. Adjournment – Council adjourned following the executive session at 8:40 p.m. with no further business discussed and no further official action taken.