

**REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 22, 2014
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
www.lackawannany.gov**

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

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

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

Approval of Minutes: of regular meeting of October 6, 2014

Moved by Pirowski, seconded by Jerge to adopt minutes of regular meeting of October 6, 2014 as written

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski Carried 5-0

Departmental Reports:

1. City Treasurer- Deposits into General Fund-September 2014
2. City Comptroller- A/P Check Listing #8, September 25, 2014
3. City Comptroller- A/P Check Listing #9, September 30, 2014
4. City Comptroller- A/P Check Listing #10, October 6, 2014

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Jerge to receive and file departmental reports one thru four

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski Carried 5-0

Communications from Citizens:

Assemblyman Kearns

5. To: City Council

I am requesting that Assembly member Michael P Kearns be added to the agenda for October 22nd meeting. Flood Insurance is the topic of discussion.

KELLY KRUG-DISTRICT OFFICE MANAGER

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Iafallo to receive and file

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski Carried 5-0

Use of Veteran's Stadium-Little Loop Football

6. To: City Council

I am writing to you on behalf of Lackawanna Little Loop inquiring on the availability of Veterans Field. We are requesting use of the field with lights for football practice Tuesday-Friday, 5:30 pm-7:30pm starting October 14. Our season will end no later than the 2nd week of November depending on how well our teams do in the playoffs.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support of our Lackawanna young athletes.

JENNIFER DELMONT-PRESIDENT LACKAWANNA LITTLE LOOP

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Jerge to grant permission

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

American Flag Issues

7. To: City Council

I would like permission to read a reply to the article printed in the Front Page on October 8, 2014 about "Dirty Politics".

In reply to Front Page Article/October 8, 2014

After much discussion, and careful evaluation, I have come to the conclusion that WE as AMERICANS do not portray our loyalty to the AMERICAN FLAG. We also do not offer an explanation to new immigrants why we feel how important it is to be an AMERICAN, to live in AMERICAN, and utilize the freedoms we fought so hard to preserve. We do not object to their coming to our Country, City, or State whatsoever, but they shouldn't underestimate our dedication to the "PREAMBLE of the CONSTITUTION of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA that states "WE" the people of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. We encompass all races, religions, colors etc. PLEASE do not ignore the fact that the majority of us come from descendants of ITALY, GERMANY, POLAND, RUSSIA etc.. However, when our parents and grandparents came here, they wanted to be able to have a future where they could build their lives around the freedoms that were offered in AMERICA. We did not divide our communities. Our parents became CITIZENS. They did not hire teachers to teach the children. They learned the "PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE to the FLAG and the PREAMBLE. When they became citizens, they were proud. We all had our beliefs and traditions, but we learned the English language so we could communicate with each other. Many of us had fathers, uncles, brothers, husbands, sons, daughters, and grandchildren who fought in wars to safeguard the freedoms that we now enjoy. Lackawanna had the greatest amount of servicemen per capita in the whole UNITED STATES. We treasure the history of our City, and encourage its growth, but we challenge the misinformation that is being offered such as "ignorance is an excuse". WELCOME to our City. I do hope you will find what you came here for, but do not mistake our complacency as ignorance of events taking place around us.

PHYLLIS B KRAUSE-AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Iafallo to receive and file

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Resolutions:

(1) Resolution #19, 2014 Tree Planting Grant NYS Urban Forestry Council

A resolution authorizing the City to apply for a \$1000 grant from the NYS Urban Forestry Council

WHEREAS, the New York State Urban Forestry Council is offering a \$1000 grant for Arbor Day 2015, and

WHEREAS, the program is for “shade tree communities”, in which the **CITY OF LACKAWANNA** would like to participate in by planting trees that were removed due to the “October Storm” of 2006, in which hundreds of trees were cut down for the safety of the public, and

WHEREAS, the **CITY OF LACKAWANNA** would also like to plant trees in neighborhood playgrounds, providing shade for children and summer youth employees throughout the City, and

WHEREAS, the **CITY OF LACKAWANNA** does recognize that there may be a fifty percent match (\$500.00) to acquire this grant, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT;

RESOLVED, that a majority of the **CITY COUNCIL** of the **CITY OF LACKAWANNA** does hereby support the grant opportunity

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Jerge to adopt resolution as written

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Waive Rules

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Jerge to waive the rules

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Resolution #20, 2014- CDBG Funds

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE ERIE COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Lackawanna is in need of funds for eligible programs under the Community Development Block Grant program, and

WHEREAS, the City of Lackawanna is desirous of obtaining financial assistance for these proposals, and
WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that the City of Lackawanna apply for such financial assistance from the Community Development Block Grant program through the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the mayor be and hereby is authorized and directed to sign, submit and execute a contract with the Erie Community Development Block Grant Program in the following projects:

1. 2015 Pavement Replacement Project Wilson, Olcott and Kane Streets
2. 2015 Pavement Replacement Project Wilkesbarre Avenue

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the various areas located in the City of Lackawanna meet HUD'S Community Development Block Grant criteria designating it as a blighted area, eligible for Community Block Grant Funding.

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY

Regarding the resolution submitted by the Mayor concerning the Community Development Block Grant, Council President Pirowski's comments:

This is not the first time that this has happened. The public hearing was held on October 15, 2014. The administration had until Friday, October 17th to submit it for the agenda, but it was not put on our desks until this morning, October 22nd. In my mind this is a way to hold this Council hostage, who are responsible for the money and future responsibility of the City; making sure that there is no debate amongst us, on how these monies are to be used. I, in no way, shape or form, want to turn down money that is given to us. However, I can promise you, as a matter of fact, that if this council is not given proper notice next year when these monies are to be expended; that I will vote no and I will not waive the rules. I will be ardently against this on the sole principal that there are many more ways that I think these monies can be used other than paving streets, which we have done for far too long. Unfortunately, once again, our feet are held to the fire and we have no choice but to accept this offer or turn down free money. Because of that, I will make a motion to adopt this resolution.

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Noman to adopt resolution as written
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Moved by Lewis seconded by Noman to move to executive session at 7:05 PM
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Meeting reconvened at 7:30 PM

ROLL CALL: Council: Present: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Adjournment:

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Jerge meeting is adjourned

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Henry R Pirowski-Council President

Jacqueline A. Caferro –City Clerk