

**City of Salem
Regular Council Meeting
January 10, 2006**

Present: James Plaugher, Councilman
Phyllis Plaugher, Councilwoman
Eric Wolford, Mayor
Frank Robinette, City Manager
Jackie Ritter, City Recorder
Derika Sutton, Councilwoman
Fredette Leda, Councilwoman
Dave Fisher, Councilman

Absent: Grady Lamb, Councilman

The Salem City Council met on Tuesday January 10, 2006 for its regular council meeting. Mayor Wolford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer:

Mayor Wolford opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and James Plaugher offered prayer.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings:

The minutes for the November 8, 2005 regular council meeting were reviewed. Typographical errors were noted on pages 2 & 4. Councilwoman Sutton made a motion to approve the November 8, 2005 minutes with the noted corrections. Councilwoman Plaugher seconded the motion. Carried 6/0. The minutes for the November 21, 2005 public hearing were reviewed. Councilwoman Sutton made a motion to approve the November 21, 2005 minutes. Councilwoman Plaugher seconded the motion. Carried 6/0. The minutes for the November 21, 2005 special council meeting were reviewed. Corrections were noted to items 4 and 5 on page 2. Councilwoman Plaugher made a motion to approve the November 21, 2005 minutes with the noted corrections. Councilwoman Sutton seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

OLD BUSINESS

3. Bills from Robinson and McElwee:

A total of \$18,982.27 is owed to this law firm and it cannot come from the Small Cities Block Grant. Councilman Fisher made a motion to approve this \$18,982.27 payment to Robinson and McElwee from the appropriate funds as available at the discretion of the City Manager. Councilwoman Plaugher seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Sheena Hunt from Region VI to Speak in Relation to Small City Block Grant:

Sheena Hunt from Region VI reported the budget amendment approved at last council meeting was approved therefore she presented payment request #5 from the engineers at HNTB totaling \$195,970.15 and \$4,518.18 will remain in the engineering line item. This will bring them up to date on all the work on the final design. Councilman Fisher made a motion to approve the \$195,970.15 draw down for payment of the HNTB engineers as per the previously approved budget amendment. Councilwoman Plaughner seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

**Jim Pennington of HNTB spoke at this time regarding the water upgrade project. AT the Dec. 21, 2005 meeting in Charleston the Infrastructure Council mandated The City of Salem obtain their water from Sun Valley PSD rather than upgrade their own water system. The Sun Valley PSD is asking for a \$2.3 million dollar contribution from the City of Salem for this new plan. This new plan is tentatively planned for 2-3 years in the future. Information from the Sun Valley project engineers has been requested by HNTB engineers but has not been received yet.

**At this time bids for the Basketball Court at the Park using Budget Digest grant money were opened. R. C. Construction bid \$19,590 for the concrete and painting and did not include site preparation work and rock needed prior to setting of concrete. Martin Repair bid \$18,500 for concrete pad, poles and rims only. A previous bid received from Bill Davis was for \$19,310.70 and included site preparation grading and rock, concrete pad and poles and rims. Councilwoman Sutton made a motion to accept the bid from Bill Davis. Councilwoman Plaughner seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

5. Resolution to Accept Budget Digest Monies:

The City Manager reports a resolution signed by the Mayor is needed to accept the previous years Budget Digest grant for \$10,000 for a sign-making machine. Councilwoman Sutton made a motion to accept the resolution for the \$10,000 Budget Digest grant. Councilwoman Plaughner seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Councilman Plaughner Yes, Councilwoman Plaughner Yes, Councilwoman Sutton – Yes, Councilwoman Leda Yes, Councilman Fisher Yes, Mayor Wolford Yes. Carried 6/0.

**Councilman Plaughner requested the work on the road slides be put out for bid again. FEMA money was received for this project. He states the Building Inspector will try to find contractors interested in bidding on this project.

6. Isreal Williams Agenda Request:

Mr. Williams was again present to request follow up on his items regarding parking along Main Street and at the Police and Fire Dept. The City Manager reports Mr. George Duffer of the Bridgeport DOH Engineering Dept. advised they have given authority and permission to the City to allow and control all parking along Main Street and therefore the City can also use parking meters based on this and a city ordinance. He reports he has not received an opinion from the City Attorney on the parking at the Police Dept. issue. Mr. Williams requested clarification of a \$10 administrative fee on tickets he received. The City Manager will check on this fee.

7. Consent Decree for Sewer:

Copy of the new draft consent order was reviewed. It was noted a \$25,000 penalty was added from the last draft. Council reviewed the compliance schedule but there were questions regarding items on this list as well as how the City is to afford the needed inspections, smoke testing as well as the construction required under this plan. Council would also like to have the Public Works Director present at the next council meeting to help discuss these items. Councilman Fisher made a motion to delay discussion of this item until the City Manager can receive clarification of the questioned items. Councilwoman Plaughner seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

8. City Manager s Report:

The City Manager reports he has two interviews scheduled for the advertised part time office worker needed. Councilwoman Leda requested review of the status of some tabled business items. She again requested the Police Dept. Rules and Regulations Operational Manual be reviewed by the Police Chief and returned to council for final review. The City Manager reports the parking lot lease agreement was completed. The City Manager will check with Allegheny Power regarding the street light agreement update needed to include a list of streetlights included in this agreement. There was discussion of the demolition of condemned houses. The City Manager reports there is \$37,000 available in an account for this project. It was requested this be put on the agenda for the next council meeting and have the Building Inspector present to update the status of some of the home. Councilwoman Leda again requested regular financial statements/budget reports be provided to council. The City Manager will begin providing these at the next council meeting.

9. Approval to Charge #25 for Police Background Check:

The City Manager advised of the need to start charging for police background checks requested by companies or potential employers. Councilwoman Plaughner made a motion to approve the \$25 charge for background checks. Councilwoman Sutton seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

**At 8:33 p.m. Councilman Plaughner made a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Councilwoman Leda seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

**At 8:33 p.m. Council took a break and resumed at 8:46 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

10. Personnel Matter

**At 9:13 p.m. Councilwoman Sutton made a motion to return to regular session. Councilman Plaughner seconded them motion. Carried 6/0. Councilwoman Plaughner made a motion to have the City Manager contact the Attorney General regarding the actions taken by council at the June 28, 2005 council meeting. Councilwoman Sutton seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

**At 9:15 p.m. Councilman Fisher made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Plaugher seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

TABLED BUSINESS

1. Parking Lot Lease Agreement
2. Allegheny Power Street Light Agreement
3. Actions of Sponsor Grant Agreements
4. Consideration of Purchasing a Gate and Fencing for Water Dept.
5. Demolition of Condemned Properties
6. Annexation of City Owned Properties
7. Workshop Committee Meeting Safety Director (Work place violence policy, public health, security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 Emergency Preparedness)
8. Workshop Committee Meeting Personnel Committee (Personnel Handbook and Grievance Procedures)
9. Committee Meeting, Police Committee (Personnel Dept., Rules and Regulations Operations Manual) Committee Report

Mayor

Recorder