



**Acts of
City Council of Hinton
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 15, 2020
7:00 p.m. -- Zoom**

1. Call to order/Roll Call – Mayor Jack Scott called the virtual meeting to order, and the record showed that Council President Pat Jordan, Councilman Jim Leslie, Councilman Larry Meador, and Councilwoman Roberta Sorg were all present.
2. Approval of Agenda – Councilman Jordan moved to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Sorg seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0.
3. Approval of Minutes- Councilman Jordan made a motion to approve the November regular meeting minutes. Councilman Meador seconded the motion. Councilman Meador moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting. Councilman Jordan seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0.
4. Appearance of Citizens – no citizens were in the que to speak.
5. Discussion and or action regarding grant for Hilltop Cemetery- Bobby Cox gave a brief presentation on the work that has currently been accomplished on the grant to get a National Register Nomination and presented an invoice to council for payment. He stated that the city would receive back 70% of the payment from the state off of each invoice submitted. Councilman Jordan moved to follow through with the commitment on the grant and pay the invoice. Councilwoman Sorg seconded the motion and the motion passed n a vote of 5-0. Councilman Leslie asked that Bobby ask the county to participate in the grant and that they also pay some of the future invoices.
6. Department Heads briefs – Public Works Director Billy Dan Gill stated that the work at city hall to fulfill the lease requirements with DHHR were complete. He also stated that his department had a small luncheon for Roger Wynes to congratulate him on his retirement at the end of the year. Council thanked Roger for his service to the community and also wished him well. Police Chief Nate Allen spoke about activity and said they had 79 calls for service and 12 traffic citations along with 8 misdemeanor reports and 5 felony reports over the last month. Cris spoke about the upcoming levy election and all of his preparations for that. The election is January 30th and early voting starts Saturday the 16th.
7. Approval of Paid November Invoices – Councilman Jordan moved to approve the paid invoices for November 2020. Councilwoman Sorg seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0.
8. Approval of November 2020 Financial report – Councilman Jordan moved to approve the November 2020 Financial Report, Councilman Meador seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0.
9. Mayors report- Mayor Scott stated the November 28th Small Business Saturday and December 5th, Parade Weekend were a success for our entire community. Local retailers and vendors who benefited from the increased traffic created by marketing in the local paper, TV Show and on Facebook. A special Thanks to Donna Pivont, Amy Richmond, Andrea Richmond, Paula Rhodes, Kristi Scott, Nicole Miller and Candice Helms and our entire Public Works Department in planning and executing such an important event. Thank you to Ray Pivont and our Fire Dept and Police and other EMS workers who participated in this year’s Parade. The Parade appeared to be big hit throughout town and especially the Hospital. WV Engineering completed the early conceptual stage for our plan for Hinton Landing and a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. The project now completed subsequently comes with a \$4000 grant. This money will be used to hire EL Robinson Engineering to build a grantable plan that has more specifics regarding final plans and cost. This important development piece will be used in a presentation to the state in January seeking grant support for final engineering projects. We are currently working with Jina Belcher the new Executive Director of the New River Gorge EDA, Ken Allman and Jim Leslie to build a comprehensive proposal to introduce to state officials in mid- January. The plan will focus on funding requests for Hinton Landing and our comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, A Strategy to become a Remote Worker Basecamp and help in developing essential Residential Housing necessary to attract young worker transplants and families. Thank you to the State for cutting along the Lake on state Rt 20. I would still like to see

more cut. Sled Run Update – As you know by now, we are attempting to create a temporary sled run at the bottom of 5th Avenue. Public response has been very good. We have worked with local businesses to purchase 100-120 Helmets that will be required. These helmets will be loaned to local residents as needed. Three temporary workers will be there to help monitor activities for safety. Four area businesses including Safe & Sound Security, RT Rogers Oil Co, Big Four Drug Store and Massie Insurance have underwritten the cost of the helmets. A big Thank you to them and Elevation Sports who sold these quality helmets to us at cost. Congratulations to Droop Wynes on his retirement and Thank you Droop for your longtime service to the City of Hinton. I want to Wish you all, our employees and Citizens a Safe and Merry Christmas!!

10. Report from legal counsel – Anna spoke about working on the dilapidated houses and working on putting liens on the properties. She then spoke about the tax situation on people giving us properties and not paying the taxes. She has been in contact with the county assessor about how he can exonerate those taxes on donated properties. She also spoke briefly about the easements that were needed for the CSO sewer project in Bellepoint and how most of those lines never had any original easements at all.
11. Approval of Board appointments – Mayor Scott stated that this was a reappointment to the Zoning appeals board as Tom Conway’s appointment would expire at the end of the year. Councilman Leslie moved to approve the appointment of Tom Conway. Councilman Jordan seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0.
12. Discussion and or action regarding action regarding the contract for the building inspector- Councilman Leslie moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel under state code 6-9a-4. Councilman Jordan seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0. Council returned from Executive Session on a Motion from Councilman Jordan and seconded by Councilwoman Sorg. The motion passed on a vote of 5-0. Councilman Meador moved to accept the contract with modifications as stated for the building inspector. Councilman Jordan seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0.
13. Personnel – Mayor Scott recommended to the council the hiring of J.C. Wheeler as a 90 day hire for policeman. Councilman Meador moved to hire upon the mayor’s recommendation. Councilman Jordan seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0. Councilman Leslie asked if this was for a k9 position and Mayor Scott said that he needed clarification on a few things before that recommendation would be made.
14. Retirement of Elvin Wynes – Mayor Scott and all of the City Council stated that they would like to formally recognize Elvin for his tremendous dedication and service to this community for the last 35 years and wish him the best in his retirement.
15. Discussion on special meeting for January – Mayor Scott stated that he would like to have some special meetings after the first of the year to begin planning for activities in 2021 and also to begin to work on the budget. Council stated that the following dates would be set aside for workshop style meetings. January 21 from 5-7 for planning and February 11th for the budget workshop. Cris also stated that there would need to be an in-person meeting for the canvassing of the ballots after the levy election. That would take place on February 5th.
16. Adjournment – Councilman Jordan moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Sorg seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0.

Cris C. Meadows/ City Manager

Jack L. Scott/ Mayor