

Amherst City Council met in a Regular Session under full compliance of State Law with President Wasilk opening the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Mrs. Wasilk introduced the new member of Council, Mr. John Mowcomber, who was sworn in earlier in as the 4th Ward Council. She thanked him for joining us. Roll call Mr. Dembinski, Ms. Harnych, Mr. Wachholz, Mr. Janik, Mr. Nahorn, Mr. Winiarski, Mr. Mowcomber. Also present were Mayor Costilow, Auditor Phillips, Treasurer Miller, Law Director Pecora and Safety/Service Director Jeffreys.

The prayer was invoked by Chaplain Janik, followed by the Pledge to the Flag led by Sgt. at Arms Dembinski.

Consent Agenda: The Clerk read the Consent Agenda. Mr. Janik motioned to approve the consent agenda as read. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski.

Acknowledgement of the Public pertaining to items on the Agenda: There was no one speaking.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FIRST READING:

- (a) An Ordinance appropriating funds for the City of Amherst's Water Pollution Control Center's No Feasible Alternative Improvement Project; and declaring an emergency (A-26-01)

Mr. Dembinski motioned to suspend all council rules so that this maybe adopted in it's first reading. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Roll call vote 7-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Mr. Winiarski asked if they do go regional wastewater, can we opt out? Can they push us to the point where they force us to join? Mayor Costilow said everything he has heard and read on line, they can't force us. Mr. Pecora agreed it was a good question, and he would look into it. Mayor Costilow noted this ordinance is only for appropriating the funds. The next one is the contract. Mr. Pecora said we can look into that for the next meeting. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes O-26-01.

- (b) An Ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract for Professional Services with Verdantas LLC relating to the City of Amherst Water Pollution Control Center's No Feasible Alternative Improvement Project; and declaring an emergency. (A-26-02)

Mayor Costilow said he will get answers to Mr. Winiarski's question and we can adopt this at the next meeting. Mr. Nahor motioned to pass this on to its second reading. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Roll call vote 7-0 to pass to second reading.

- (c) An Ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. to purchase tasers for the City of Amherst Police Department at a total cost not to exceed \$139,237.14, payable in five (5) annual installments of \$27,847.46; and declaring an emergency. (A-26-03)

Mr. Janik motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be adopted in the first reading. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Roll call vote 7-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Dembinski motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Janik. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-26-02.

- (d) An Ordinance authorizing the City of Amherst Community Improvement Corporation, acting as agent for the City, to negotiate the terms of the lease of certain city-owned property to Crown Castle for use as a cell tower site; and declaring an emergency. (A-26-04).

Mr. Winiarski asked Council for permission to recuse himself from voting on this. Mr. Wachholz motioned to allow Mr. Winiarski to recuse himself from voting on this item. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Roll call vote 6-0 to allow Mr. Wachholz to recuse himself from voting on this item. Mr. Dembinski motioned to suspend all council rules so that this may be adopted in its first reading. Seconded by Nahorn. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-26-03.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS SECOND READING: NONE

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS THIRD READING: NONE

Miscellaneous and acknowledgement of the public: Mrs. Wasilk read the letter from Mayor Costilow recommending re-appointments to the Design Review Board: John Rush for a term ending 01/31/29 and Bill Swanzer for a term ending 01/31/29. Mr. Winiarski motioned to confirm both Mr. Rush and Mr. Swanzer to the Design Review Board. Seconded b Mr. Nahorn. Voice vote 7-0 to confirm the re-appointments.

Agenda requests and committee meeting schedules:

- A-26-05 Finance - Ordinance establishing and implementing a program to charge Mitigation rates for the deployment of emergency and non-emergency services for services provided/rendered by/for the City of Amherst fire department
- A-26-06 Community Development – Recognizing the 250th anniversary of the U. S. Post Office and its invaluable service to the public
- A-26-07 Executive – An Ordinance establishing the positions and compensation for the employees of the Mayor’s Court for the City of Amherst; emergency
- A-26-08 Technology – An Ordinance to adopt a cyber security program; emergency.

Committee Meetings are scheduled for TUESDAY due to Martin Luther King Day falling on 1/19/26.

Finance – January 20 (**Tuesday**) 2026 at 7:00 p.m. A-26-05
Community Development – January 20 at 7:05 p.m. A-26-06
Executive – January 20 at 7:10 p.m. A-26-07
Technology – January 20 at 7:15 p.m. A-26-08
The remaining committee meetings for January 20 are cancelled

Reports from the Administration:

- Auditor Phillips: The December reports have been distributed
- Treasurer Miller: The December reports have been distributed
- Law Director Pecora: No report
- Safety/Service Director Jeffreys: No report

Mayor Costilow: Thanked council for confirming his request for the reappointment of the Members to the Design Review Board. The Board does come up with good suggestions and they do good work for our community, which he appreciates. We will be busy the next month or so as we have many things on our agenda. He will get the information out to everyone on the items presented this evening. We will suspend rules on some of the items but not all.

Mr. Nahorn motioned to accept the Reports of the Administration. Seconded b Mr. Dembinski. Voice vote 7-0 to accept the Reports of the Administration.

Acknowledgement of the December Monthly Reports from the Auditor and Treasurer: Mr. Nahorn motioned to acknowledge the Reports of the Administration. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Voice vote 7-0 to acknowledge the Reports of the Administration.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Voice vote 7-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18.m.

Olga Sivinski, Clerk of Council

Jennifer Wasilk, President of Council