

In response to the Mayor's declaration of a Civil Emergency, this Mayor and City Council meeting was held virtually through Go-To-Meeting software and was made available for public viewing.

Mayor and City Council members and meeting participants were provided with a specific meeting ID prior to the meeting. This meeting ID is required in order to join the meeting as a participant.

The meeting was streamed live through the City of Hagerstown's Cable Channel 25, Facebook, and YouTube accounts. All members of the public were welcome to view meetings through these platforms, but only able to participate in public meetings through Go-to-Meeting with the published meeting ID.

#### WORK SESSION – April 14, 2020

Mayor R. E. Bruchey, II called this Work Session of the Mayor and City Council to order at 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 14, 2020 in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Participating with the Mayor were Councilmembers K. B. Aleshire (remotely), A. Heffernan (remotely), E. Keller (remotely), L. C. Metzner (remotely), and S. McIntire (remotely), City Administrator Scott A. Nicewarner, and City Clerk D. K. Spickler.

On a motion duly made by Councilmember L. C. Metzner and seconded by Councilmember E. Keller, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed to suspend the Rules of Procedure as to subsections 6.1, 6.2, and 6.4.

#### COVID-19 Update

Scott Nicewarner, City Administrator, reported the clock tower at City Hall is currently lit with blue lights in recognition of and thanks to first responders and health care workers. Staff will meet during the next week to discuss the status of events and summer activities. He had a good discussion with Senator Serafini and Delegate Corderman regarding the possibility of the City receiving a portion of any state funding assistance that may become available due to the pandemic. Staff is discussing how to deal with utility payments that will be coming due. Press releases on virtual inspections have turned out well. Virtual inspections are one example of how this crisis has provided opportunities for additional services. The Department of Planning and Code Administration is reviewing ways to hold required public hearings for zoning cases while City Hall is closed to the public. Mr. Nicewarner has been considering ideas for how to hold Citizen Comments during this time as well.

#### FY21 Budget Review

Michelle Hepburn, Director of Finance, was present to continue review of the FY21 Budget. On Tuesday, April 7, 2020, the Mayor and City Council and City staff began

FY21 Proposed Budget discussions with a summarized overview while acknowledging that adjustments were necessary. The COVID-19 pandemic is not just a medical or social issue but is also an economic issue. It is too soon to definitively quantify the impact socially or economically. Like most industries, governmental agencies including the City of Hagerstown, will encounter financial impact both short-term and long-term in nature. It is important to the leadership of the City of Hagerstown to continue to provide core governmental services during this period to the extent possible. The leadership of the City of Hagerstown, with the Mayor and Council, will closely monitor and adapt FY20 projections and the FY21 budget to address issues that arise while maintaining a balanced budget.

The most immediate financial impact is reflected in significantly lower cashflow across all City funds. The other impact is reflected in revenue. To start overall discussions, Ms. Hepburn provided a chart that reflects the General Fund Revenue projections as originally included at the time of FY21 budget preparations and as shown in Section 1 page 35. It is a good starting point to identify all potential areas of reductions. Over the next several weeks, revised charts and data will be provided. The revenue sources most likely to be impacted across the City includes property taxes, income taxes, licensing and permits, charges for services such as Potterfield Swimming Pool, Stormwater Management Fees and other Service Charges, red light violation fines, Safe Speed for Students program, interest on investments, Highway User Revenue, late fees and benefit fees in utilities, permits, meters and fees in the Parking Fund, and all revenue for the Golf Fund.

The General Fund supports all of the City's general core services, which includes Public Works, Police, Fire, and all City Hall functions. The General Fund is funded predominately by taxes. Corporate personal property taxes are based on self-reported income. Due to down time, this revenue will be impacted.

Income and other taxes are paid to another jurisdiction and then sent to the City. Staff anticipate the rise in unemployment will impact income tax revenue. The closure of businesses will affect Admissions and Amusement Taxes. Hotel/Motel tax will be impacted by the lack of people traveling.

Businesses that are currently closed won't be seeking permits or licenses until they reopen.

Stormwater Management fees are due to be implemented on July 1, 2020. The Stormwater Management fee, which is scheduled to be implemented on July 1, 2020, will be discussed during next week's Work Session.

The Highway User Revenue (HUR) is used to cover Capital Improvement roadway projects. In FY20, the City was originally projected to receive \$ 1.86 million. To date, just under \$ 800,000 has been received. The money has been spent in anticipation of receiving the funding. FY20 amounts could be impacted as well as FY21 amounts.

Mr. Nicewarner noted Senator Serafini and Delegate Corderman have received copies of the chart showing the outside revenue sources likely to be impacted by the State of Emergency. They will contact the Small Business Development division to discuss the impact.

Mr. Nicewarner stated staff are considering as many different scenarios as possible in order to anticipate shortfalls and opportunities.

Councilmember Heffernan noted there is a \$ 1.3 million contribution to the General Fund from Stormwater Utility Fees. He asked how much of that will be used toward curbs and sidewalks. Ms. Hepburn indicated \$ 125,000 will be committed for curb and sidewalk replacements in the first year.

Mayor Bruchey noted the plan will change depending on when the fee is implemented.

Councilmember Aleshire has read articles that other local governments are beginning to review whether or not they can continue to operate in the black as a utility. He noted this is the time of year when expenses increase and revenue decreases within the utility billing function. He asked that staff monitor this closely.

Mr. Nicewarner indicated staff has been tracking revenue and expenses closely during the State imposed moratorium of utility customer terminations. During this time, the City is not able to collect late fees or disconnect customers. He is confident the financial stability of the electric division is secure.

Ms. Hepburn stated staff is tracking the number of anticipated payments and comparing that information to last year at the same time. She noted, as anticipated, payments are significantly lower.

Councilmember Aleshire hopes there is discussion with the Maryland Municipal League on behalf of the municipalities with utilities. Extended moratoriums on terminations would be challenging.

Mr. Nicewarner has discussed this exact concern with Senator Andrew Serafini and Delegate Paul Corderman. Ms. Hepburn has shared her concern with Mr. Nicewarner about the lack of State funding to assist all municipalities.

Nancy Hausrath, Director of Utilities, reported meetings are being held in all three utility divisions to review the current financial positions and to prioritize what needs to be completed and what can be deferred. She is concerned about the cash position in the Wastewater Division and the high-cost Synagro project. The Electric and Water divisions are in a better position. She noted the water bill is a lien against the property and will be collected at some point. The electric bill is not attached to the property and staff will be strategic with collections moving forward.

Introduction of the ordinances for the Tax Rate and the FY21 Budget are scheduled for May 12, 2020. Public Hearings on the Tax Rate and Budget will be held at 7:00 p.m. on May 19, 2020. Approval of the ordinances are scheduled for May 19, 2020, following the Public Hearing.

Main Street Hagerstown Transition to a Non-Profit Organization

Jill Thompson, Director of Community and Economic Development, and Kaitlin Bell, Economic Development Specialist, were present to review a proposed outline and timeline for the transition of Main Street Hagerstown (MSH) to a Non-Profit Organization.

Main Street is a nationally recognized program of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the National Main Street Center.

The City received its Main Street community designation in October, 2014. The program was launched in the Spring of 2015. Main Street Hagerstown has been successful in numerous accomplishments in its first 5 years of operation within the City's Department of Community and Economic Development.

To respond to interest in the community and to further evolve this program, staff are recommending a transition to a non-profit organization. Staff suggestions include a recommendation that the Mayor and City Council appoint a 3-5 member transition task force made up of selected individuals that the City feels can accomplish the transition effectively.

The following responsibilities would shift from City staff to the new entity:

1. Fundraising
2. Communications
3. Major Event Functions – ChristKindl Market, Sweets on the Street
4. Retail and Restaurant Promotions
5. Program Functions
6. Organizational functions
7. Volunteer Support Functions
8. Administrative Functions – including budgeting and reports to the State of Maryland
9. Working with the Arts and Entertainment District Management Board

The City responsibility to the Main Street Hagerstown Program would be to budget an annual Agency Contribution and disburse the funds each July and provide a City Resolution support of the program. An annual presentation to the Mayor and City Council will be scheduled. The City DCED Economic Development Specialist will work with the MSH Coordinator on serving downtown businesses related to retention and attraction needs and access to City incentives. City DCED Community Events Coordinator will work with the MSH Coordinator through the City Logistics Committee

for coordination of City services required for MSH events. City DCED staff will not serve in an event planning or coordination role.

DCED will remain the lead organization for community and economic development functions within downtown and city-wide. MSH will work to supplement and add value-added actions and will work to avoid duplication of efforts.

After July 1, 2020 and once MSH has been incorporated and established with a bank account, the City will provide a financial contribution of \$ 22,500 for FY21. The City will also provide deferred revenues from past Main Street Hagerstown fundraising efforts (approximately \$, 4000).

Councilmember McIntire thinks the process is good and transitioning Main Street Hagerstown to a non-profit entity is appropriate. She recommended waiting to move forward with this until the current pandemic restrictions are lifted.

Councilmember Keller agreed it is a good concept and she supports waiting to move forward.

Mayor Bruchey asked if a list of potential individuals to serve on the Task Force has been created. Ms. Thompson indicated there is a list and it will be submitted for the Mayor and City Council's review.

When the transition is complete, funding for the new entity will be provided from the DCED budget.

#### Action Report: Update on Implementation of the Community's City Center Plan

Jill Thompson, Director of Community and Economic Development, and Kathleen Maher, Director of Planning and Code Administration, were present to provide an update on the progress of implementing the Community's City Center Plan.

Two major partnership efforts support multiple catalyst projects:

1. **1 Gigabit Downtown** – created innovative public/private partnership with Antietam Cable to create a 1 Gigabit Downtown which will support business retention, expansion, and attraction. 1 Gigabit Service is being offered by both Antietam Cable and New Frontier Solutions. This initiative is supportive of several of the Catalyst Projects.
2. **The Urban Improvement Project** – The City is working in partnership with Washington County, the Board of Education/Barbara Ingram School for the Arts, the Maryland Theatre, the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH), other community partners and private developers on the \$40+ Million Downtown Improvement Project. This initiative is supportive of several of the Catalyst Projects.

Work has been progressing on most of the 8 catalyst projects identified in the Community's City Center Plan, and staff reviewed the 2019 Year End Report of actions completed.

Catalyst Project #1 – Office Development and Recruitment: Goals: To position downtown to compete for new office development using portions of Central Parking Lot to build 154,000 sf across three buildings.

1. Class A Office Development on Central Parking Lot – The City and Bowman Development are in the exploratory phase on the Class A Office Building project.
2. Marketing – Staff regularly use the concept renderings to market the proposed building to prospective office tenants.
3. Minimum Square Footage to be Attracted – Attraction of a tenant or a combination of tenants to occupy a minimum of 20,000 sf is needed to move this from concept to a project.

Catalyst Project #2 – Maryland Theatre Expansion Project: Goals: Expand and improve the facility, and grow from 150 to 225 performance days per year, increasing the audience by 60,000 annually.

1. Expansion of Facility – Theatre Board contracted with Grimm & Parker Architects to design the expansion project and provide construction management. Morgan-Keller was hired as the construction contractor. Connectivity and shared space were coordinated with the WCPS officials. Ground breaking occurred in early summer 2018, the topping out ceremony was held on April 9, 2019, and the ribbon cutting ceremony was held on October 11, 2019. (Maryland Theatre)
2. Support for Expansion of Facility – the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the Mayor and City Council of Hagerstown both provided up to \$ 500,000 by each entity towards the architectural services for the expansion of the theater facility. The County Commissioners awarded an additional \$ 1 million for the project and the City awarded an additional \$ 200,000 in 2018. \$ 5 million of the Governor's Allocation for the Urban Improvement Project has been earmarked by the County Commissioners for the Maryland Theatre expansion project. \$ 200,000 in State bond funds have been secured for the project. To date, \$ 800,000 in Strategic Demolition Fund grants have been awarded for the project. The project was awarded ARC grant funding for furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E). The Theatre continues to pursue other grant funding sources to close the gap of \$ 1,834,600 on this \$ 15 million capital project. The Theatre's fund-raising consultant, CCS Fundraising, completed a feasibility study for the capital campaign which offered a very positive outcome, and the fund-raising campaign has raised \$ 4,800,543 as of February 10, 2020 in private

commitments and bequests, with many coming in the form of five year pledges. In March, 2019, the Mayor and City Council committed to providing an additional \$ 300,000 to the project over three years starting in FY 2020. The construction budget is fully funded. A \$ 2 million line of credit through the Maryland Department of Commerce, Middletown Valley Bank, and CNB Bank covers construction costs as the pending grants and private pledges come through. Punch list items and a few remaining decorative are expected to be completed in Spring 2020 (Maryland Theatre)

Catalyst Project #3 – USMH Expansion Support: Goals: Support USMH growth from 500 to 750 students through the addition of new program offerings, and capture student housing opportunities with three upper-floor renovation projects. The three upper-floor renovation projects are planned to be implemented separately, in sequence to each other and throughout the 10 year plan.

1. USMH Programming Expansion – USMH is continuing work on development of three new programs: Hospitality and Tourism Management, Physician Assistant (PA), and Community Health. The B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism Management through University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) has begun on a limited basis at USMH with the Spring 2020 semester. Recruitment for a fuller Fall 2020 semester is proceeding. The former BB&T Building, 59 W. Washington Street, is being renovated by the owner for lease by USMH for the hospitality program on the first floor. The commercial kitchen, furniture, and all IT and audio-visual expenses are being paid directly by USMH, ultimately from privately-raised funds. The PA program through Frostburg State University (FSU) began in May 2019 in the new Agnita M. Stine Shreiber Health Sciences Center on Walnut Street. Meritus, which owns the building, renovated the first floor for a physician practice. USMH paid Meritus to renovate the third floor for the PA graduate program using local private contributions. The Center was equipped and furnished through a combination of local private funding, a grant from ARC, and funding from FSU. The second floor will eventually be built out as additional Health Sciences Center space, once another clinical program is identified. The B.S. in Community Health through Salisbury University (SU) began in Fall 2019 with little advanced opportunity to recruit before opening. The 2019-2020 academic year is SU's recruitment year for a fuller Fall 2020 enrollment. Classrooms in the USMH Main Building are used for the program.
2. The intended new program offerings at USMH include a B. S. in Hospitality Management and Tourism through UMES in the Spring of 2020, M. S. in Physician Assistant through FSU in the Summer 2019, and B. S. in Community Health through SU in the Fall of 2019.
3. Student Housing - The first student housing project at Patterson Hall was completed in 2015 and the apartments are fully leased with eight students. The City was awarded \$ 200,000 in Community Legacy grant funds in late 2016 to

assist with development of a second Student Housing project in 2018/2019. A Request for Proposals for the developer partner was posted and three responses were received by the December 5, 2017 deadline. City and USMH staff recommended the proposal by WLR for renovation of 140 W. Antietam Street.

The Mayor and City Council concurred and an agreement was developed between the City, USMH and WLR for this second student housing project. Construction was completed in time for the Summer 2019 semester. The building has 8 two-bedroom apartments and 2 one-bedroom apartments (ADA complaint), for a total housing of 18 people. It's expected that most occupants will be Physician Assistant students. A \$ 200,000 Community Legacy grant was approved in late 2019 to assist with a third student housing project, but this project is still in the planning phase. Additional USMH students (largely from the Physician Assistant program) looking for housing in the Spring and Summer of 2020 beyond what has been developed will be referred to private apartments, including recently renovated Hamilton Hotel apartments, that meet all the criteria required of the first two USMH housing projects.

Catalyst Project #4 – Hotel/Conference Center and Heritage Center/Commemorative Park: Goals: Construct 200-room “Upper Upscale” hotel (i.e.: Sheraton, Wyndham, Hilton). Programmed with adjacent 20,000 square-foot conference center. Establish Civil War Heritage Center and Commemorative Park.

1. Exploratory conversations to date.
2. Project is more long-term in nature.

Catalyst Project #5 – Linking City Park/The Washington County Museum of Fine Arts and A&E District with Trail and New Housing: Strategic Demolition Funds were awarded for this project. Goals: Construct multi-use trail linking City Park/WCMFA with the Arts and Entertainment District, and add 31 new townhomes along trail and rehab buildings to create 85 loft apartments (in 10 years).

Hagerstown Cultural Trail – Construction of Phase I of the trail began in April 2016 and was substantially complete by November 2017. The project was completed within budget. The Grand Opening was June 17, 2017. Trail amenities include trash cans, three benches, artistic shade structures, dog mitt stations, granite insets, and extensive landscaping. Utilizing a grant from the Maryland Heritage Area Authority, entrance signs, wayfinding signs, art interpretive signs, and interactive history displays, etc. were installed. Planning and fund-raising for Phase II of the trail from West Antietam Street to the Urban Improvement Project plaza and on to W. Washington Street is underway. Due to delays in acquiring the land for the project, the construction will likely not occur now until 2021. Funding of \$ 2,157,000 is secured for the Plaza and Phase II of the Trail. \$ 875,000 was spent to install conduit to allow for undergrounding utilities in the area of the UIP Plaza and Trail extension. All wires were undergrounded by March, 2019. The project fund balance is \$ 1,282,000.

Completed art along the Trail includes: The Mural of Unusual Size, Rise, The Fantastical Garden, Railroad Switch, Pod, Faces of Hagerstown photo murals by local photographers, a water feature, butterfly garden, Hands on the Trail, Rivulet, and This Little Light of Mine. The Hands on the Trail mural of hand images of those who attended the grand opening was install near Park Circle. The Trail also has a water feature, butterfly garden, historical markers, and geocaching activities. In Spring 2020, the Moller's Sustained Wind sculpture was installed. The Washington County Arts Council is currently advertising a call for new Faces of Hagerstown. The Fine Arts Museum is planning a one-day Photo Marathon on April 18, 2020 and this would be photos in Hagerstown of various items (history, architecture, close-ups, etc.) which will replace the 10 Faces on West Lee Street and the 9 pictures on the adjacent pole wrap. The existing Faces will not be removed but simply re-faced with the new pictures, saving costs.

The City acquired the former Park Circle Service Center at 319 Summit Avenue and will remove the pavement and structure in March 2020. The Artist Selection Committee indicated that this location will be the next priority for public art. With City Council's consent, staff will work with the Arts Council for a call for art here and apply for a Maryland State Arts Council grant.

Catalyst Project #6 – Expanded Downtown Arts/Events Programming: Goals: Leverage resources to produce more frequent events and build upon atmosphere created by popular downtown events.

A number of annual events took place downtown in 2019 including numerous races, St. Patrick's Day Run Fest, Sweets on the Street, Maryland International Film Festival, Over the Edge, Thunder in the Square, Hagerstown Hopes Pride Festival, the USA Cycling Downtown Criterium bicycle race, Downtown Block Party, Imagine Hagerstown, Augustoberfest, Summer Slide, Porch fest, Veteran's Day event, Korean War Memorial event, awareness raising walks, City Center Tree Lighting, Christkindl Markt, Holly Fest, and Donut Drop.

Music on the Square Series began in September, 2019. Solo/small ensemble musicians playing at lunchtime or after work hours. A special event guidebook has been drafted and is in review by City staff. This will serve as a resource to event organizers to facilitate the development and implementation of events.

The Engine Room Art Space is open Thursday through Sunday with fresh exhibits opening regularly. The Space continues to grow and flourish with new and alternative exhibits and continues to create opportunities for the community to interact with the artists themselves.

Main Street Projects – Nearly 50 volunteers are supporting Main Street Hagerstown through five Work Groups on projects and initiatives intended to attract and retain businesses, investors, and property owners. The groups are Organization Work Group, Design Work Group, The Clean, Safe and Green Work Group, the Promotions Work Group, and the Business Relations Work Group.

The City administered a \$ 25,000 Community Legacy grant for the Façade Grant Program for Commercial and Mixed-use Buildings in the Main Street area.

Catalyst Project #7 – Expanded Operations of the City Farmers’ Market: Goals: Expand operations from 7 to 35 hours per week. Implement private management approach. Make necessary capital improvements. Re-brand. Recruit additional tenants.

1. Partnerships – The Farmers’ Market hosted the Valley Co-op for usage of the backroom of the market from 2017-2019. The Valley Co-op is a member based cooperative that specializes in providing the community access to over 35 local supplier’s products including fresh produce, meats, and dairy products. The Valley Co-op closed down in early 2020.
2. Promotion for New Vendors and Event Programming – Beginning in the third quarter of the calendar year, the Farmers’ Market became a rent-free market, as the number of vendors had increased during the three months free promotion in 2018. Guidelines and applications were revised and approved by the Mayor and City Council in July. Events in the Market in 2019 included Sweets at the Market, May Day at the Market, Spring Cleaning Yard Sale, Harvest at the Market, and Santa at the Market. Additional marketing was done through social media and traditional print advertising.

Catalyst Project #8 – Expanded and Targeted Home-Ownership Support: Goals: market home ownership incentives and support Neighborhood 1<sup>st</sup> programs. Establish annual rental licensing inspections, and continue excessive nuisance enforcement program.

1. Rental Registration Program – annual exterior inspections to provide additional support to protect neighborhoods. As of May 2019, there were 3,807 structures and 9,609 units that received notices to register. In August 2019, staff started sending notifications to owners of the never inspected units giving six weeks to schedule an inspection. 213 notices were sent and 104 safety inspections were conducted. With application of the Building Blocks software, staff anticipate identifying more properties that need to come into the program in 2020.
2. Vacant Structures Program – As of February 12, 2020, there were currently 328 licensed vacant structures. With application of the Building Blocks software, it is anticipated that more properties will be coming into the program. Inspections of licensed vacant structures are ongoing to ensure protection of the City’s neighborhoods and first responders from exterior blight and unsafe interior conditions. Prioritization of vacant blighted properties for demolition is on-going. In 2019, the City completed the process for demolition of collapsing structures at 523 Summit Avenue, 57-61 E. Antietam Street, and 335 N. Jonathan Street.
3. Home-Ownership Program – The City was awarded a \$ 150,000 Community Legacy grant in FY 2016 to assist with acquisition/renovation efforts to create home-ownership opportunities. This funding was utilized along with CDBG

funding for the homeownership units at 261 S. Prospect Street. Completion of two homeownership units at 261 S. Prospect Street is expected in Spring or early Summer 2020. Assessment ongoing of other opportunities for this program in the three target neighborhoods. This includes opportunities to repurpose cyclical tax sale properties for homeownership.

4. City Center and City Wide Residency Initiative – The City was awarded a \$ 50,000 Community Legacy grant in late 2016 to replenish the Down Payment Assistance programs. Using \$ 50,000 from City Economic Redevelopment funds, a total of \$ 100,000 for the Down Payment assistance programs became available for eligible home buyers. By the end of 2018, all of the funds were committed assisting three new City Center homebuyers and ten City Wide homebuyers. Both FY2019 and FY2020 Invest Hagerstown funding has been utilized for the City Wide Down Payment and Rehabilitation program. Since the beginning of FY19, \$ 150,000 of Invest Hagerstown funding has been awarded to twenty homebuyers purchasing vacant homes throughout the City. Two of these cases have involved multi-unit rental dwelling conversions into a single-family dwelling.

Ms. Maher and Ms. Thompson asked if there is interest from the Mayor and City Council in having the consultants review, discuss and update the plan, as it is nearing 10 years old.

Councilmember Keller stated she thinks it would be beneficial to have an update and a discussion for moving forward, if the budget allows for funding.

Councilmember Aleshire does not think an update from the consultant is necessary. He does not want to hear the chagrin of the public for something that wasn't completed.

Ms. Thompson indicated a review would ensure the City continued efforts for redevelopment of downtown is guided by a strategic direction.

Councilmember Aleshire would expect the impetus of that type of effort would be reflected in the City's future plan.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS**

*Scott A. Nicewarner, City Administrator*, pointed out there have been impressive improvements made to the Medal of Honor Triangle. Discussions will resume next week on the chronic tax sale process. Homelessness needs will be part of that discussion. Some of the prime properties on the chronic tax sale list may be suitable to assist that population. He looks forward to finding opportunities and bright spots through the current state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There are challenges and many people are making the challenges into opportunities to serve others. Tim Luipersbeck has been hosting a DJ show on Friday and Saturday nights on Facebook to provide fun entertainment since people are staying home.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

*Councilmember S. McIntire* agreed that Mr. Luipersbeck ends the week on a positive note.

*Councilmember A. Heffernan* had no additional comments.

*Councilmember K. B. Aleshire* had no additional comments.

*Councilmember L. C. Metzner* agreed the work done at the Medal of Honor Triangle is wonderful.

*Councilmember E. Keller* agreed that Mr. Luipersbeck is encouraging to the community. She pointed out this country is also facing another epidemic, in addition to the pandemic. Drug overdoses continue to increase. There have been 107 overdoses this year, with 20 of them being fatal in Washington County. She is concerned that people with addictions are scared and lonely during the pandemic. She encouraged everyone to view the Washington Goes Purple website or her Facebook page for more information and resources. Those with addictions need to be reminded that people do care about them.

*Mayor R. E. Bruchey, II* mentioned the NorthPoint project is moving forward on Wesel Boulevard. Land is being cleared. The Medal of Honor Triangle improvements are great. Unfortunately, Washington County experienced its second COVID-19 related death today.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and City Council, on a motion duly made, seconded and passed, the meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Original signed by D. K. Spickler*

Donna K. Spickler  
City Clerk

Approved: May 26, 2020