

**MINUTES
HAZLETON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

Call to Order: Council met in a Regular Meeting session on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m.

Silent Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance: A silent moment was taken followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Bruno-present; Colombo-present; Nilles-present; Ondishin-present; Perry-present

Minutes of Previous Meetings: The minutes of the January 28, 2025 Regular Meeting were approved unanimously.

Presentations/Proclamations/Communications: None

Bid Opening: None

Courtesy of the Floor (ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY): None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCES:

(1ST READING)

. None

ORDINANCES:

(2ND READING)

. None

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2025-2

Proclamation of Hazleton City Council

Presented by Perry. Seconded by Ondishin.

On the Question:

Perry stated this proclamation was for the Hazleton Area School District FBLA.

Roll Call: Bruno-yes; Colombo-yes; Nilles-yes; Ondishin-yes; Perry-yes

RESOLUTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution 2025-3

**A Resolution for Plan Revision for New Land Development
for Diplomat Investment Partners Company, LLC
for the development of Butler 161- Lot 2C**

Presented by Perry. Seconded by Colombo.

On the Question:

Perry stated this is for a warehouse on the other side of Hazleton City Authority. He said there will be three; one in the City and two in Hazle Township. Atty. Sean Logsdon stated this is a form that PENN DOT requires for a sewer planning module. Perry said this resolution was presented before the Hazleton Sewer Authority would receive this information.

Roll Call: Bruno-yes; Colombo-yes; Nilles-yes; Ondishin-yes; Perry-yes

RESOLUTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

New Business: None.

Old Business: None.

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Comments from the Audience: Dee Deakos, 43 Mine Street, Hazleton, spoke of the safety downtown. She said the traffic push buttons do not work, and people are forced to “jay” walk. She said, at the corner of Broad and Cedar Streets, the timing on the light is bad. She asked if the City could change the timing on this light. Deakos is worried about an accident in this area. Ondishin agreed. He said there are a lot of problems with the crosswalks within the City. Perry asked if it was the City’s responsibility. Atty. Logsdon stated he would have to check with the City’s DPW Department on this issue. Deakos stated the most dangerous crosswalk is at Church and Broad Streets.

Anka Vilov, 432 West 3rd Street, Hazleton, stated she was here in May, 2024, complaining of garbage on her street. She said the building is owned by Benito’s Restaurant. On the corner of Lafayette Court and 3rd Streets, is where her house is. She said her neighbors park their cars in front of the entrance to her house. She said the cars, also, splash the dirt on her house. She asked for someone from the City to come and take a look at her situation.

Ondishin stated he was there, in 2024, regarding her garbage issue.

Vilov asked why the City does not have an ordinance to restrict people from parking in the alleys. Mayor Cusat stated there is not enough parking for all City residents. He stated the City has tried to pass an ordinance, in the past, for parking in alleys.

Atty. Sean Logsdon said he had added her to the list to check her situation.

Carmella Yenkevich, 523 West Diamond Ave., Hazleton, asked if the City is planning to repave all the side streets in the City, from “1st Street and up”. Mayor Cusat said the City is planning to repave from 1st Street

down to 22nd Street. He said this would be a \$9,500,000 project. He said once the City audits are completed, the City's 2023 audit, the City could seek a loan for this project. He stated it will be a "multi-company" project, with over 20 miles of road.

Comments from Mayor: None

Comments from City Administrator: None

Comments from Council: Perry thanked all Junior Council members for their attendance. He said City Council members do receive complaints from the City residents, and forward them to all City departments. Perry said they are the legislators of the City.

Colombo thanked all the City Departments, especially the DPW Department in recent snowstorms.

Colombo congratulated the HASD basketball teams. He stated, "bring home the state championship".

Ondishin asked Mayor Cusat when the City's Bunny Trail will be. Mayor Cusat said the Bunny Trail will be held on Palm Sunday.

Nilles asked if there are plans to expand the Heights Beltway, Route 424, from Route 93 to Route 309, from a two-lane to a four-lane road. Ondishin stated the long-term plan was to go from a two-lane road to a four-lane road with PENN DOT taking over Route 424 until the interstate. Nilles is worried about the increase in traffic in this area.

Comments from Junior Council: None

Adjournment: Perry motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.