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TOWN COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA COMMUNICATIONS

AGENDA DATE: November 18, 2024

SUBJECT: Johnstown Historical Society Memorandum of Understanding

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Memorandum of Understanding between the JHS and the Town

PRESENTED BY: Mitzi McCoy, Deputy Town Manager

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

The Town owns the Historic Parish House and Museum located at 701 Charlotte St., and partners with the Johnstown Historical Society (JHS) to operate it. The JHS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, legally distinct and separate from the Town.

The relationship between the Town and JHS has generally been supportive and collaborative. In 2020, JHS began submitting budget requests to the Town and requested that one of their volunteers be made a part-time employee so they could be compensated for their contributions. Consequently, beginning in 2020, the Town started providing regular subsidies to the JHS and began paying wages and burden for this position. Over time, the relationship and requests have evolved, and the lines between the entities have greyed prompting several discussions between Town staff, the Museum Director, and JHS Board members.

On July 29, 2024, the Johnstown Town Council met with the Johnstown Historical Society Board of Directors to discuss the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two entities. Currently, both entities wish to formalize the relationship and establish guidelines and expectations for the operation of the historic Parish House and Museum. The intent is, if the MOU is approved by Council, that it will go into effect beginning January 1, 2025.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

Organizational Excellence & Public Trust

- *Strengthen public trust and confidence*
- Safe & Welcoming community
 - *Partner in creating more community based, community service and action opportunities*
 - *Create arts and culture opportunities that connect the community*

The Community that Cares

LEGAL ADVICE:

The Town Attorney reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding.

FINANCIAL ADVICE:

NA

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Johnstown and the Johnstown Historical Society.

Reviewed and Approved for Presentation,



Town Manager