

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
November 9, 2017

The Regular Meeting of City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Mucci presiding. The meeting was opened with a silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmen DiLoreto, Dressel, Hahn, Johnson, Paul, Timmons, & Villamagna

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastro, Assistant Law Director Bernie Battistel, Sanitation Director Bob Baird, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Planning Director Chris Petrossi, Dave Gossett from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

Mayor Mucci – “Before we move into tonight’s agenda first of all I would like to apologize for everybody starting the meeting a few minutes late; we started earlier this evening at 5:00 p.m. with budget hearings with the different department heads and it went a little longer than we anticipated so our apologies for everybody for starting our meeting a few minutes late. I would also like to inform everyone that they received the tentative agenda that under consideration tonight will be Ordinance No. 2017-81 and 2017-82; City Council has indicated to me that they would like a further discussion some of it will have to take place in executive session so at the appropriate time there will be a call for an executive session to happen before we actually vote on those two ordinances so we will pull those tentatively from the agenda under consideration; we’ll move through the agenda then when we move into executive session after public forum we’ll have a discussion; I will say that there’s probably a good possibility that City Council will move out of that executive session and consider those two ordinances this evening and possibly have another piece of legislation a change to the table of organization that they’ll introduce. So it’s going to be a long evening we ask you to bear with us; we’re going to try and get through the agenda and leave those two ordinances 81 and 82 for later on; you’re welcome to stay but when we move into executive session you’ll have to be removed from Council Chambers.”

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for October 31, 2017. Second by Mr. Timmons. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved minutes accepted declared Mayor Mucci.

PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Mucci – “Madame Clerk is there any petitions in communications?”

Mrs. Haley – “Nothing this evening.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Can I say something before we start? When we go into executive session can we leave and leave the audience here?”

Mayor Mucci – “We can move wherever you want.”

Mr. Villamagna – “That way we won’t have to inconvenience them.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I agree with that because I think if you have to make a phone call to the attorney we’ll be able to do it there.”

Mayor Mucci – “In a form of a motion that will just be mentioned that we will move to the Pugliese Conference Room.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Thank you.”

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

NO. 2017-69 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Johnson, Dressel, Hahn

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1175 OF THE ZONING CODE CREATING THE BRADY CIRCLE-GRANARD PARKWAY – HAMILTON PLACE – JACKSON PLACE – LONGFORD DRIVE- NORTON PLACE – WILLIAMS PLACE – 1800 BLOCK OF COLUMBIA AVENUE – 1700 AND 1800 BLOCKS OF OREGON AVENUE NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION DISTRICT.

Mayor Mucci – “Before we move into public comments; members of Council received two pieces of communications from the Steubenville Planning and Zoning Commission; one from Chris Petrossi our Urban Projects Director and one from the chairman Mr. William Hendricks. Hearing no objections I will ask the clerk to read the communications; hearing no objections it’s so ordered.”

Mrs. Haley – “Dear Mr. Hendricks: I have reviewed the above referenced application and petition to create a neighborhood conservation district consisting of all of the properties on Brady Circle, Granard Parkway, Hamilton Place, Jackson Place, Longford Drive, Norton Place, Williams Place, the 1800 block of Columbia and 1700 and 1800 blocks of Oregon Avenue, in conjunction with Chapter 1175 of the Zoning Code, Neighborhood Conservation District, Section 1175.04(b)(2) and offer the following comments regarding the same: 1. The proposed district complies with the boundary criteria in Section 1175.04(a)(2). 2. The proposed district will preserve and enhance neighborhood character. 3. The proposed district will promote public health, safety, and general welfare of the people in the district. 4. The proposed district will promote and implement the intent of the Comprehensive Plan. 5. The proposed district will satisfy a legitimate need. In addition, the submitted petition complies with the requirements in Section 1175.04(a) of Chapter 1175. Based upon the above, I

recommend that the Commission submit a positive recommendation to the City Council regarding this ordinance and petition. Sincerely, Chris Petrossi.”

Mayor Mucci – “Hearing no objections the letter from November 6th by Christopher Petrossi the Steubenville Planning and Zoning Commission will be entered into the record; hearing no objections it’s so ordered.”

Mrs. Haley – “Dear Members of City Council: At its regular meeting of November 6, 2017 a public hearing was held by the Steubenville Planning and Zoning Commission with regard to the above referenced petition and ordinance. After comment and discussion, the Commission voted unanimously to send a positive recommendation to City Council with regards to the proposed creation of the Brady Circle, Granard Parkway, Hamilton Place, Jackson Place, Longford Drive, Norton Place, Williams Place, 1800 block of Columbia Avenue, and 1700 and 1800 blocks of Oregon Avenue Neighborhood Conservation District. Attached for City Council’s consideration is a copy of the staff report prepared regarding the above. I request that City Council take into consideration the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission with regard to the above. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Sincerely, William Hendricks.”

Mayor Mucci – “Hearing no objections the letter dated November 7, 2017 from Mr. William Hendricks Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission will be entered into the record; hearing no objections it’s so ordered.”

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2017-69. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-69 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Timmons – “I just want to say that Mr. and Mrs. Materniak I know you’re in the crowd tonight and I think late spring we met at your house to get this started I think it’s the biggest neighborhood conservation district yet is that correct Chris? So I know you’ve put in a lot of hard work in for the neighborhood and congratulations on that.”

Mr. Materniak – “Thank you.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-69 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

NO. 2017-83 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING NOVEMBER, 2017 AS LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

Mr. Paul made a motion to accept Resolution 2017-83. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Roll call. All ayes.

Resolution No. 2017-83 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

NO. 2017-84 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO THE STEUBENVILLE BIG RED BOYS SOCCER TEAM.

Mr. Timmons made a motion to accept Resolution 2017-84. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Roll call. All ayes.

Resolution No. 2017-84 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

NO. 2017-85 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO THE STEUBENVILLE CATHOLIC CENTRAL BOYS SOCCER TEAM.

Mr. Timmons made a motion to accept Resolution 2017-85. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Roll call. All ayes.

Resolution No. 2017-85 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

Mayor Mucci – “Just for a note last week Mr. Timmons had invited the members of the soccer team from Central and Big Red and we recognized them at last week’s meeting but we officially passed the Resolution this evening that Mr. Timmons will make sure the school will receive. That will conclude the ordinances and resolutions before City Council; still under consideration will be Ordinance No. 2017-81 and Ordinance No. 2017-82 and that consideration will possibly take place after our executive session.”

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. DiLoreto – “Yes your Honor. I would like to bring before this party a motion next week as follows; an agenda in order to get on Council’s agenda you must call the Council office by 4:00 p.m. Friday prior to the Council meeting; there must be a specific topic; exceptions are third reading ordinances or any government agencies this policy has been followed by all other agencies and I think it’s about time that City Council take this into consideration and adopt it; this will be presented next Tuesday if it passes it will go into effect next Friday. Thank you.”

Mayor Mucci – “Thank you Mr. DiLoreto and just for a point of clarification you’re ordering in an ordinance to specify the (inaudible) for the public forum of City Council; now you mentioned that it’s going to be here next Tuesday and in effect the following Friday so that means City Council will adopt it on an emergency basis then?”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Well I don’t think it’ll be an emergency; let’s just go three times of it. What do you think?”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yea three times.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Yea go three times; no emergency; just go three times.”

Mayor Mucci – “Okay because the way you said it I just wanted to make sure.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “That’s okay. That way if people want to come down and express their views or opinions then they are entitled too.”

Mayor Mucci – “One other point I would like to make I do know that periodically this particular subject comes up from time and time again about Council’s procedures and how we move through like the County Commissioners I know (all inaudible) sign up and all but there are other rules and requirements; I would ask City Council that that’s fine to move forward with the sign up process for public forum if they want to adopt that but they’re other procedures and all. I did give to the clerk a sample of Council rules and orders of Pataskla and they’re several others that you can get from the Ohio Municipal League; I would encourage Council in the future to review that for policies and procedures and I believe the clerk has the one sample.”

Mrs. Haley – “I have 30 now.”

Mayor Mucci – “Oh she’s got 30 different (inaudible) throughout the State of Ohio (inaudible) City Council would consider that in the future it would surely be appreciated; I’m sure the new Mayor Mr. Barialla; by the way congratulations; would appreciate the policy guides also.”

Mr. Dressel – No report

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes I went up to East Liverpool with Evan Scurti who is our Executive Director of the Port Authority and it was for the Ohio River Corridor Economic Development Conference. There were a number of representatives from Pennsylvania and from West Virginia as well as Ohio and there were County Commissioners there; there was actually a very interesting presentation by a woman from the Ohio EPA who talked about how they are trying to step forward in Economic Development because so many building projects that are large require some kind of environmental permitting and they said that they were really trying to put on a friendly face; we’ll see how that goes; but it was very interesting and I think the most encouraging was hearing how there’s a strong likelihood of having four cracker plants within a 45 minutes of Steubenville not just two; looks like they may be one down in (inaudible) valley as well as (inaudible) and it seems very likely that it’s coming to Belmont; they haven’t approved it for sure; they have gone through a lot of this permitting process already that I don’t (inaudible) they would be doing apart from that and so we’re going to start referring perhaps to our Valley instead of being a steel valley as much; perhaps a plastics valley and that they’re going to; what these cracker plants are going to do is produce these plastic pellets that can make absolutely anything in plastic because of the river and the rail and the highway we are less than two days from the distribution within the United States of 50% of the United States from the valley. So if you have any family members that are involved in plastics have them begin to consider moving their business to our area; we really all need to see ourselves as part of this economic development and see the opportunity that are in front of us and anyway; there’s a lot to do but we need to remember that before steel we didn’t know that we could steel; before we make glass and probably didn’t know that we could make that and so you might say well we never been known for plastics why would we start now? This may well be the next industry for us so start thinking and seeing who we can invite to consider moving operations into our area and in the process we need to get more buildings; from the airport (all inaudible) it might open that door; it was a wonderful conference. Thank you.”

Mr. Johnson – “Yes your Honor. I just want to remind everybody we’re having a Planning Committee Meeting on Tuesday at 6:30 and I will have the agenda out over the weekend.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes your Honor I have two items. First one is something that our Council Clerk sent out earlier today it’s a release from Mr. Baird; it’s on the bulk pick-up and I just want to make sure that everybody; because this is my side of the street and your side of the street also and I hope Dave and Channel 9; I want everybody to know because I know we’re not going to pick-up the garbage that supposed to be on the 11th; you know how we have those people that like to go through and collect the garbage that we put out on the 11th it’s going to be out there for a week; so I just wanted to let everyone know that it’s on the 18th is that correct? It’s on the 18th and hopefully you’ll give them a long holiday; I hope it was from the goodness of your heart; it’s a good idea; I mean it is Veteran’s Day Friday; so I agree. But yes I would like everybody to know that it’s going to be pushed back one week; I know we had the daily happenings in the paper but also maybe they can mention it in tonight’s Council Meeting in the paper tomorrow. Thank you Bob for that. Second I would like to bring up an ordinance your Honor; an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager and/or the Finance Director to advertise for bids for hospitalization, medical/surgical benefits and major medical benefits for the officers and employees of the City of Steubenville, subject to the right to reject any and all bids and authorizing the entering into of a contract upon approval of the lowest and best bid, and declaring an emergency. It’s just something our employees deserve.”

Mayor Mucci – “Thank you Mr. Paul and I believe our Law Director will make reference to this ordinance; it’s going to amend Ordinance No. 2017-56 and I believe our Law Director wants to consider that legislation this evening as an emergency and suspend the rules for 72 hours Mr. Mastros.”

Mr. Mastros – “Thank you your Honor and thank you Mr. Paul. I was going to do this during my report but this is okay let’s do it now. In your packet you received; I think Wednesday morning a memo and a copy of this amended ordinance from me and it’s basically to clean up some language that should have been in the body; the caption states that we’re authorizing the bid and then the last part of the caption states that we’re authorizing to enter into this contract with the lowest and best bid; well we had Section 1 correct regarding the bid and that’s fine but what I forgot to put in was Section 2 which was giving the City Manager the authority to sign that agreement and then 3 to have the Finance Director cut the appropriate checks and when Mr. Lewis and I were going over the final countdown to entering into our new healthcare for our employees I noticed that it was in the caption but not the body; if it’s not in the body then it doesn’t count so what we would have to do tonight is first to move to waive the 72 hour rule; move to have the first reading as amended and then we’ll have to waive the rule to have the second and third reading, and then we vote. Again this is just cleanup it should’ve been there to

begin with; I'm just trying to make sure that we have all our dots connected and all of our ducks in a row; normally I would've just asked for this amended ordinance to be sunshine tonight but we're on a deadline; cost containment committee is meeting for final meeting on Monday; we have a deadline of Wednesday with Medical Mutual; you also received an e-mail from Dave showing the savings; those numbers are only good until Wednesday; I don't want to chance it and have it sunshine tonight have it Tuesday; I don't want to do that if there are issues I want to be able to deal with them; I want the City Manager to have the authority to deal with them and sign the agreement; I don't want to wait until Tuesday; so I'm going to recommend and advise you all to do that tonight so we can take advantage of this cost savings for employees and this also goes for the budget if you have any questions to ask Mr. Lewis is here but I'm going to advise you all to do that tonight. Thank you."

Mayor Mucci – "If I could make a point of clarification and I don't want to disagree with our Law Director but the suspension of the second and third reading will not be necessary there's an emergency cause in there if we suspend the second and third reading then it won't become effected until 30 days after passage tonight and we want it to take effect immediately; it's already stated in there as an emergency we'll just adopt it."

Mr. Mastros – "I understand that that's a charter issue and that's fine Mr. Mayor I appreciate that."

Mr. Paul – "Do I need to make an amendment to the ordinance to include section 2 and 3 as found in the new amended ordinance? I'm not trying to make anything difficult but I want to understand what I'm doing."

Mayor Mucci – "I think the explanation of the Law Director will be suffice because him and I also went a round; I really thought that we should repeal the first ordinance that was passed 2017-56 and just bring in a new ordinance but he feel strongly that this ordinance after consideration and thought and reflection on it we could amend the ordinance so that's the ordinance I believe Council received?"

Mr. Mastros – "Correct"

Mayor Mucci – "That Council has received as amended and that will be fine but it would need to be voted upon for consideration from City Council this evening to meet the deadline that he's referring too. Mr. Lewis him and I had a conversation and I thought well we could still vote on it next Tuesday the deadline is Wednesday but he's just a little concern that the following day just that we'll lose those discounts and the pricing so what has to happen tonight is that you would like to amend Ordinance No. 2017-56 and the amendments are the two sections that you're making reference too."

Mr. Paul – "Well okay I'll start this out then you guys correct me as I go on it okay I would like to make a motion that we vote on tonight Ordinance No. 2017-56 and add to it the amendments to include section 2 and 3 as found in the new amendment (inaudible) ordinance and waive the 72 hours; we'll vote on it tonight as an emergency." Seconded by Mr. Johnson

Mayor Mucci – "It's been regularly moved and second that City Council for consideration amend Ordinance No. 2017-56 and waive the 72 hours requiring ordinances and resolutions being Council stands prior to the Council meeting." Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Mucci.

NO. 2017-56 AS AMENDED – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs: Paul, Johnson, Dressel

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND/OR THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR HOSPITALIZATION, MEDICAL/SURGICAL BENEFITS AND MAJOR MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO OF A CONTRACT UPON APPROVAL OF THE LOWEST AND BEST BID, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Haley – "Section 2: That upon satisfactory of said bids, that the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder. Section 3: That upon the entering into of said contract and purchase therefore, that the Finance Director of the City of Steubenville is hereby authorized and directed to issue the proper warrants and vouchers for payment therefore."

Mayor Mucci – "Before I ask for public comment I'm going to ask the members of Council are they clear on the Ordinance that we're voting on this evening and it's basically for clarification and the payment process we've been working on this hospitalization for quite some time now and it will be a cost savings to the City."

Mr. Paul – "I do have one question and this is probably for Mr. Lewis or maybe the City Manager; you remember what happened with the Police."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Yes"

Mr. Paul – "Are they covered now? Do they have that extra expense?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "This came up at the last cost containment meeting I was there; my recommendation was the City has a right to offer a fair health insurance it is across the board and this is a one year contract which this means is AFSCME agreed to it; Police and Fire were to agree to it if I sign a MOU with them; this has nothing to do with our bargaining coming up here."

Mr. Paul – "I understand"

Mr. Mavromatis – "This is strictly health insurance."

Mr. Paul – "They will be covered now?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "Absolutely; the same rate that the two unions; that is what the City should of; again."

Mr. Paul – "Okay that was just my main concern."

Mr. Mavromatis – "(all inaudible) as soon as they sign that they are good to go."

Mayor Mucci – "For further clarification the healthcare containment committee consists of two City representatives the Finance Director and the City Manager and all three unions a representative from the FOP,

the AFSCME, and the Firefighters will be meeting I believe this coming Monday to ratify this exact movement that we're doing."

Mr. Paul – "All right thank you I appreciate it."

Mayor Mucci – "You have heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2017-56 as amended. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-56 as amended please come forward and state your name and address."

Mr. Paul called question. Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-56 as amended duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Timmons – No report

Mr. Villamagna – "Yes Mayor a few things. First off do we have a policy on coyotes? We have no policy on that; do we know?"

Mayor Mucci – "Exotic animals I believe Mr. Petrossi (inaudible)."

Mr. Mavromatis – "I can check for you with our dog person and I've had them come in my yard but again there are a lot of homes that have them around there."

Mr. Villamagna – "I've seen an increase a I'm a little familiar with wild life because I've trapped them myself and it seems to be the same two at my place now where I live there's acres between my house and the airport; I mean and I'm getting calls from Lexington, Bryden Road, Country Club area and they actually did kill my neighbor's dog; so if there is a policy I'd like to have it because I'm getting a lot of calls and I don't know if the dog warden can handle that."

Mr. Mavromatis – "He may know though."

Mr. Villamagna – "That's one thing. Then the garbage cans do we have the trucks in service yet?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "Bob are you talking about the ones with the extended arm?"

Mr. Villamagna – "Yes."

Mr. Baird – "They are ready to roll but they are not on the road yet. We have our own new trucks out with the side loaders (inaudible)."

Mr. Villamagna – "Can I ask why?"

Mr. Baird – "We are still in the process of getting everyone switched; we kind of brought that on ourselves a little bit; we gave everyone the opportunity to change their sizes; (inaudible) to roll the cans out so it's kind of hard for us to tell people it has to be in the can if the City hasn't gotten the cans to people (all inaudible) that everything is in the can and then the truck picks up the can and that was (inaudible)."

Mr. Villamagna – "The second part of my question is I'm getting calls from people that are saying that they called for the cans and haven't gotten the small cans. Do we have the small cans?"

Mr. Baird – "We do (all inaudible) we have three different sizes; we distributed all the cans that we had in inventory; we ordered more; we're just waiting for those to come in for the (inaudible) of requests."

Mr. Villamagna – "So we still have some on order that have to be (inaudible)"

Mr. Baird – "Correct. We have given additional cans to those that have requested them and we've changed out to different size cans to those who have requested them; that again doesn't always happen simultaneously when we're trying to get them out; the requests outweighed the inventory."

Mr. Villamagna – "Do we have a time frame? Do we know a time frame?"

Mr. Baird – "I can verify that and get back to you. I would like it to be fairly soon."

Mr. Villamagna – "That's all that's holding us up? We've got license plates, insurance, and everything else?"

Mr. Baird – "They've got tags, they're insured, they're (inaudible) mechanically (all inaudible) that they are ready to go."

Mr. Villamagna – "Thank you. Next Tuesday I want to call for an Economic Development Committee Meeting and you called for a Planning Mike at 6:30 is that correct?"

Mr. Johnson – "I did at 6:30 yes."

Mr. Villamagna – "That will probably take the whole hour you think? I only need about a half hour I got Evan Scurti coming from the Port Authority and wants to go over some plans so I'll call that for 6:00 then."

Mr. Johnson – "That will work."

Mr. Villamagna – "That will be next Tuesday at 6:00 Economic Development; Evan Scurti will be here and possibly will be bringing somebody with him; I don't know yet for sure."

Mayor Mucci – "Half hour will be a sufficient time?"

Mr. Villamagna – "I believe that it will."

Mayor Mucci – "Thank you Mr. Villamagna. The clerk will facilitate the proper notices for the Economic Development Meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. next Tuesday. The clerk mentioned to me about a good point that tomorrow is a holiday those notices will go out on Monday however we are officially notifying we have the media here this evening so the 72 hours so we'll be okay. Monday we'll send out those notices."

Mrs. Hahn – "I just wanted to ask real quick because I went around LaBelle recently there were people sweeping their leaves out onto the streets and I just wondered if you could clarify again that they can in fact bag their leaves as long as they don't put regular garbage in it; is that correct that's our policy? People can put bags out even if it's more than what fits in their garbage can and the street sweepers are not collecting leaves. Is that correct?"

Mr. Baird – "There are several questions there. The short answer to those questions is yes we're picking up leaves and we're happy to pick them up in whatever form the residents use. The street sweepers are running we had one down today for service but we are collecting leaves at the curb and if there are additional leaves if the residents bag them or put them in their cans we will pick that up too. When they are bagged; when they are at the curb we ask that there be nothing there but leaves because those go and get composted and it should be just leaves; if leaves are bagged and out in the garbage they're getting mixed in with the garbage and it's okay that

it's combined; the pile of leaves out in the open should just be leaves and we'll pick those up and compost them and anything that is bagged or in the can go into the garbage truck and we'll get rid of them."

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – "Mr. Villamagna on your question I sent a text message to our (inaudible); this is a citizen they can contact the Ohio Department of National Resources and they have a list of trackers but normally they want to feed; I spoke to the Jefferson County (inaudible) Warden about a few months ago concerning the coyotes and didn't get an answer from them or you can just have them call me; call our person this Brian Young and he'll relay the information the e-mails, the phone numbers, the thing with the trackers are the closets ones are in Harrison County and they don't really think they want to be bothered to come here because they need a license and they have to get one; that came straight from (inaudible)."

Mr. Villamagna – "We do not do it through?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "No. Last week myself, the Mayor, Dave Lewis, and Chuck Murphy we've been trying to set this meeting up for several months and this is with the Ohio EPA; this is a meeting basically wanting us to come up with a plan on issues that they identified here. There were several issues identified some of them that don't have a real cost to it but informing of what they want and they would like to see this as quickly as we can; well actually if there is not money involved they may be some things that are a small amount that we can do I think the biggest thing is they want to have some type of plan that the City recommended; they offered some funding streams things of this but again this is something we have to look at the whole thing; Chuck is working with our consultant to see what kind of plan we can come up with to face those issues; Council just go a quick brief tonight but it needs to go into more detail so they can clearly see; I can clearly tell you that the City doesn't have the money we are well aware of that; that was shown to them and again they have different mechanism in place they have low interest loans; there are no grants; so again we're going to prepare; what we can think of a plan that we can afford to do and submit that. Two days ago Mr. Baird had set this up; for training for our tree commission; only one person showed up; Mr. Baird was there and our trainer from Columbus, Ohio so clearly she could not do the training this was phase 1; he briefed me on this he said phase 2 is set up for this coming Tuesday and this would've been phase 2 which you clearly need if I'm remembering correctly from a year ago when I saw the booklet; you need certain things in phase 1 before you go to phase 2. So my recommendation to Mr. Baird was to cancel the training because we do have to pay for the supplies; my other recommendation is to Council to consider is we need to look at this (inaudible) the tree commission; these are decisions that I feel that I can make along with Council to move the City where we need to go with the tree commission so this is something that I want Council to think about and I'm going to turn this over to Mr. Baird right now because we have a couple more comments and I was not there but at least he can share with Council."

Mr. Baird – "I think you said it accurately; the tree commission academy consists of four years or (all inaudible) commission and educated and prepared to do what they're there to do; this training that the City Manager mentioned was scheduled by the commission member themselves they agreed on this time and schedule; this was totally within their power and decision I just simple facilitated the room and to make sure they had the facilities and so I guess that's the point I'm trying to make is this was a decision made by the commission and then the commission members themselves didn't show up to the meeting that they themselves scheduled. I apologized on behalf of the City and the Commission to Lola Lewis who was the representative from ODNR and thanked her for her graciousness and her understanding but none the less that was not a good moment; that was embarrassing."

Mr. Villamagna – "Is there a cost?"

Mr. Baird – "Yes there is cost towards the classes per member so for each training session and this was just the first of what ultimately be four; it's an all-day class basically from 9-3 and there's cost per class per member that the City; that's on the City to reimburse the members for that training so yes there is cost associated with this training; we certainly were relying on our resource from ODNR to make themselves available to travel to our City and do that for us and it just didn't happen; so yes the City (inaudible) is correct I'm a little concern with another session scheduled for this coming Tuesday the 14th if we do this again to that representative from ODNR."

Mr. Timmons – "How many people are on the commission?"

Mr. Baird – "5"

Mr. Timmons – "5 and 1 showed up."

Mr. Baird – "Yes the chairman showed up."

Mr. Timmons – "Well I mean; I would think we would just cancel this next meeting then. It's an embarrassment that they didn't show up."

Mr. Dressel – "Do we need to pass legislation to eliminate the tree commission and put it back into the hands of the Mayor and the City Manager?"

Mayor Mucci – "Yes."

Mr. Dressel – "Can I sunshine legislation to cancel it this evening saying that?"

Mayor Mucci – “You have the right to sunshine any legislation from any committee; if it’s not coming from a committee two members then it comes from the chairman or three members of Council could sponsor any sunshine legislation.”

Mr. Dressel – “I think we should do that to end this once and for all. Another tree was taken down this week I know they didn’t have permission from anybody; it’s their tree but we should give somebody the authority that should make a decision and we’ve been (inaudible) for a year. I love the tree commission but it’s not working.”

Mayor Mucci – “I do have remarks to Council.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I guess I do have one all we have to do is resend...”

Mayor Mucci – “Resend the ordinance that created the tree commission. But before we go to that extent this evening I might want to call on Mr. Petrossi; I believe that the tree commission was originally considered a topic of the Planning Commission or from your division.”

Mr. Petrossi – “Yes it was requested by (all inaudible) the research was done in other communities for handling tree issues there are many other cities throughout Ohio that have tree commissions; the tree commission is only as good as its members; if you can’t find the members to fill the positions that are active and aggressive and dedicated then there is no sense is that.”

Mayor Mucci – “And the reason I ask Mr. Petrossi to state where it originated from is I’m familiar; it was Mr. Boland in fact that was considering it under his administration he was really struggling with the City Manager has the right to determine on city right of ways, city property and all of the fate of a tree and he was having problems in understand and grasping with that and other communities do have a tree commission and they can be as good as the members of the tree commission and how involved they are; at the time he thought that’s the route to go but I think we’re finding out now because of incidents that are happening that maybe that’s not the best fit right now for the City of Steubenville because we have several issues and I’m a firm believer as when I was acting and as the Mayor I appointed with your approval the tree commission but I’m a firm believer that until they receive the education that is necessary all four causes which is freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior until they receive that and create a master tree plan that’s adopted by this Council; the legislative body; they really have no authority and a lot of people are going back to them and getting advice and all; it’s getting very confusing in the public; we just had an incident not too long ago on 4th Street and we’re moving forward with that in prices and all but we did have an incident; they thought they had influence or the right and that’s not so accurate or true so consideration on resolving it at the present time might be a wise move for Council until we establish guidelines for.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Are we any closer to finding out about the tree trimming?”

Mayor Mucci – “I had asked Mr. Mavromatis the other day of an update.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “(all inaudible) one has come in. Is that correct?”

Mr. Baird – “Yes I’ve met with contractors that we asked for pricing two ways and we do not have all our numbers in yet; it’s pretty comprehensive and that’s driven by (inaudible) project in play in the downtown area; so we should have those numbers for you very shortly.”

Mr. Villamagna – “We’re moving forward cause I don’t want another incident like the one.”

Mayor Mucci – “I would completely agree with you. But in the absence of Mr. Mavromatis when I was talking to Mr. Baird about this we did request pricing on two ways; trimming of the trees down below the wires for AEP purposes and all and that’s why we’re using the sanitation fund and the other one was to bring them down; however to really resolve the issue on 4th Street both the 100 block of North and the 100 block of South is the roots are really going under the sidewalks and lifting up the sidewalks however you know we want to follow our comprehensive plan and a part of that is also the street scape projects that we have for 4th Street; you’ve probably have read a recent e-mail from the Planning Commission on the consideration of funding and moving forward with the project because of the couple of the businesses especially at the intersection on 4th and Market go up under the sidewalk and is adding to the cost significantly but to choose to remove them completely we would have to bust up the sidewalk and everything and that’s where the new street scape plan and that cost could be (inaudible) with the participation with businesses there so if anything I don’t want people to think the trees are going to be removed completely if anything they are going to be trimmed; the second one will be down to sidewalk level but ultimately City Council and the Central business district is going to have to consider a street plan because those roots will continue to grow and destroy the sidewalk.”

Mr. Dressel – “Real quickly then just to (inaudible) one more thing; so to get the bids back Mr. Mavromatis currently has the authority to trim the trees because of the tree commission...”

Mayor Mucci – “The City Manager has that authority.”

Mr. Dressel – “Well I don’t think so.”

Mayor Mucci – “Well this tree commission is not certified.”

Mr. Dressel – “Okay well then that’s good so can we make a motion to repeal the commission then now? Can I do that?”

Mayor Mucci – “Yea”

Mr. Dressel – “Then I would like to make a motion if we repeal or whatever we have to do to repeal the legislation.”

Mayor Mucci – “You’re going to bring that legislation to repeal the section...”

Mr. Dressel – “Maybe make it an emergency so we can go and get it out of the way now so next week if we could do that maybe.”

Mayor Mucci – “Okay first of all I got several questions what committee are we bringing it under or do you want to bring it under as Council as a whole?”

Mr. Dressel – “Council as a whole would be better let’s do that.”

Mayor Mucci – “Council as a whole will be fine I just need to know three members of Council that are going to sponsor the repeal the tree commission legislation. We are sun shining this evening the ordinance repealing the tree commission; Council as a whole is sun shining legislation to repeal Chapter 909 of the codified ordinances tree commission.”

Mr. Paul – “Thank you your Honor.”

Mr. Mastros – No report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Mucci – “If there is anyone wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mayor Mucci – “I’m sorry we did not make a motion accepting to move into executive session Mr. Paul.”

Mr. Paul made a motion to move into executive session for review of Ordinances, Union and non-union contracts. Seconded by Mrs. Hahn. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Mucci.

Council Chambers were cleared for Executive Session.

Council Chambers were reopened for adjournment.

Mayor Mucci – “We are now back into regular session as I indicated during the meeting that City Council may take under consideration Ordinance No. 2017-81 and Ordinance No. 2017-82; it is my understanding that City Council is ready to consider both of those ordinances so we’ll have the clerk read the ordinances.”

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NO. 2017-81 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Johnson, Dressel

AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING THE THREE (3) YEAR WAGE AND BENEFIT CONTRACT ENTERED INTO BY THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE WITH LOCAL 2015 OF AMERICAN FEDERATION OF THE STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AFL-CIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2017-81. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-81 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Villamagna called question. Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-81 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

Mayor Mucci – “And just for a point of clarification this ordinance was negotiated over the last eight months with the AFSCME union and it reflects a 2.2% raise for the next three years.”

NO. 2017-82 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Johnson, Dressel

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING THE EXISTING TABLE OF ORGANIZATION OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO AND NOW ENACTING A TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Villamagna – “The table of organization change is necessary to reflect the 2.2% raise that was granted to the AFSCME union and that’s it correct?”

Mayor Mucci – “That is correct. This ordinance 2017-82 only reflects increases in what was negotiated with the AFSCME contract a 2.2% rate increase there are as your worksheet (inaudible) special consideration that was negotiated within the contract included.”

Mr. Villamagna – “A matter of record that’s it.”

Mayor Mucci – “That’s it.”

Mr. Villamagna – “There was no other (inaudible) and they are not included.”

Mayor Mucci – “There are no non-union employee increases included in this ordinance only what was negotiated in the AFSCME contract.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Thank you.”

Mr. Johnson – “We will consider an increase with non-union members next week.”

Mr. Dressel – “We’re going to sunshine that this evening.”

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2017-82. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-82 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-82 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

Mayor Mucci – “Now that will conclude the ordinances and resolutions before City Council this evening and I believe we have one more piece of business to take care of under the Finance Committee.”

Mr. Paul – “Yeah but I’m not sure how I want to word this.”

Mayor Mucci – “Just an ordinance amending the existing table of organization.”

Mr. Paul – “For non-unions employees thank you very much your Honor. I make a motion for the table of organization for the non-union employees and that would be a 2.2% increase and we would want to bring that up on Tuesday.”

Mr. Dressel – “As an emergency.”

Mr. Paul – “As an emergency; this is for non-union employees; non-bargaining employees; did I get that all out correctly?”

Mr. Paul moved to adjourn. Second by Mr. Villamagna. Roll call. All ayes. So moved; meeting adjourned declared Mayor Mucci.

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR