

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
December 5, 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 Paul, Timmons, Villamagna, DiLoreto, Dressel, Hahn, & Johnson.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi, Urban Projects Director Chris Petrossi, Parks and Recreation Director Lorri Fetherolf, Sanitation Director Bob Baird, Engineering Director Mike Dolak, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Dave Gossett from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for November 28, 2017. Second by Mr. Paul. 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.”

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

NO. 2017-75 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE– 3rd reading

Messrs. Johnson, Dressel, Hahn

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1175 OF THE ZONING CODE CREATING THE GARFIELD AVENUE NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION DISTRICT.

Mayor Mucci – “Before we move into public comments for Ordinance No. 2017-75; members of Council received two pieces of communications from the Steubenville Planning and Zoning Commission; one dated for December 5, 2017 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 the 300 and 400 blocks of Garfield 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, Christopher Petrossi.”

Mayor Mucci – “Hearing no objections the letter from December 5th 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 December 5, 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 Garfield Avenue Neighborhood Conservation District including the 300 and 400 blocks of Garfield Avenue. 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 December 5, 2017 from Mr. William Hendricks Chairman of the Steubenville 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. 2017-75. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-75 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-75 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

NO. 2017-90 –as amended - BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Johnson, Dressel, Hahn

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1197.02 AND SECTION 1197.08 OF CHAPTER 1197 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE.

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2017-90. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-90 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mrs. Hahn – “I want to introduce an amendment to this; just to make sure that it is very clear that it’s the owner’s responsibility should there be a change of name, address, or telephone number that it is their responsibility to notify the City not the City to hunt them down; so we would be adding just these 2 sentences; in the event the property owners name, address, or telephone number changes the property owner must notify the office of the Steubenville Planning and Zoning Commission regarding such change. It shall be the sole responsibility of the property owner to register and renew registrations of rental units.”

Mr. Mastros – “Mrs. Hahn could you please read the section and sub-section just for everybody’s record.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Okay this is under 1197.02 Registration and Fees and this would fall under “F” I think; this is where Chris put it and I think he ran this by you.”

Mr. Mastros – “Yeah”

Mrs. Hahn – “I just wanted to make very short that no one could say well we missed the rental registration because we moved and never got the notice so it’s on the people who are the landlords to let the City know if the name changes or the address or they can’t be; or their phone number has changed.

Mrs. Hahn made the motion for the amendment. Seconded by Mr. Dressel.

Mayor Mucci – “It’s been regularly moved and seconded that Ordinance No. 2017-90 be amended; the amendment to follow under Section 1 under 1197.02 Registration and Fees F and we will conclude within the event a property owner name, address, or telephone number changes the property owner must notify the office of the Steubenville Planning and Zoning Commission regards such change. It shall be the sole responsibility of the property owner to register a new registration of rental units.”

Mrs. Hahn called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motioned carried declared Mayor Mucci. The Clerk read Ordinance No. 2017-90 as amended.

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2017-90 as amended. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-90 as amended please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mrs. Hahn called question. Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-90 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci. The effective date of this ordinance is January 5, 2018.

NO. 2017-91 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Johnson, Dressel, Hahn

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1323.01 OF THE BUILDING CODE.

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2017-91. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-91 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Dressel called question. Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-91 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

NO. 2017-92 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 2nd reading

Messrs. Paul, Johnson, Dressel

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 131.14 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE.

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the second reading of Ordinance No. 2017-92. The third and final reading will be on December 12th. If adopted by city council it’ll be the effective date of January 13th of 2018.”

NO. 2017-93 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 2nd reading

Messrs. Paul, Johnson, Dressel

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 133.09 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE.

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the second reading of Ordinance No. 2017-93. The third and final reading will be on December 12th. If adopted by city council it’ll be the effective date of January 13th of 2018.”

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor I have 2 items. One is under Finance and it is an ordinance authorizing and directing the approval of expenditures without a purchase order over \$3,000.00 pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5405.41. The second one is I would like to sunshine it will be 5 separate Resolutions and it’s for the Proclamation of Property for the Sunset Blvd. improvement project out on Lovers Lane and Sunset Blvd. There’s 5 pieces of property that we need and it will be 5 different Resolutions. Thank you.”

Mr. Timmons – No report

Mr. Villamagna – made a motion to go into executive session discussing non-union jobs after public forum. Seconded by Mr. Johnson.

Mayor Mucci – “Will that be okay with the Law Director with that description of moving into Executive Session?”

Mr. Mastros – “It is; it’s personnel.”

Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion declared by Mayor Mucci.

Mr. DiLoreto – “I would like to order a Resolution honoring the Big Red Football Team for being State Champions for the year 2017.”

Mr. Dressel – No report

Mrs. Hahn – No report

Mr. Johnson – “Yes your Honor. I have 2 ordinances that I would like to sunshine. An ordinance authorizing demolition of 1107 Cardinal Street; 1126 Claire Avenue; 1205 Claire Avenue; 409-1/2 Henry Avenue; 1424 Orchard Street; 113 Brondos Avenue; 637-639 Lincoln Avenue; 831 Lincoln Avenue; 1207 Lincoln Avenue; 990-992 McKinley Avenue; 1375 Tweed Avenue; 516-516-1/2-518 Maxwell Avenue; and 1213-1215-1217 Adams Street. I would like to sunshine a second ordinance authorizing the City of Steubenville to apply for and accept a grant from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office. That’s all your Honor.”

Mayor Mucci – “Thank you Mr. Johnson. Just a question the ordinance authorizing the City to apply for and accept the grant will that be given 3 readings or are we going to adopt it by roll call?”

Chris Petrossi – “3 readings”

Mayor Mucci – “Okay I just wanted to make sure you didn’t have to do those as an emergency. Before we move into the Administrative Officers report I would like to pick up where Mr. DiLoreto left off. As you can see I taped up; I asked the Clerk to tape up some of the newspaper articles once again we are extremely proud of the youth of our community and what a great Saturday evening we had or afternoon I should say when Big Red returned home as the State Champions; I can’t wait until next Tuesday hopefully Coach Saccoccia will bring the trophy here; I understand it’s been making it’s rounds through our community but what outstanding individuals we have. I also would like to encourage and remind everybody this coming Saturday starting at twelve noon we will have the Steubenville Christmas Parade in downtown Steubenville we want to encourage everyone to attend the parade this year and take advantage of going to the Nutcracker Village after the parade; we will be in full swing so we want to encourage all of our citizens for that and talking about the Christmas season I hope everybody had an opportunity during the good weather that we had the last few days and this past weekend to get their lights on their homes because next Wednesday and Thursday we will be judging the residential contest for the City of Steubenville; once again we will have 4 major awards and then an award for each of the Wards; outstanding lights and homemade decorations so we want to encourage everybody that didn’t get their Christmas lights up as of yet to please do so and I also have appointments and I would like to call on Mr. Johnson for the appointments.”

Mr. Johnson – “Yes your Honor I would like to make a motion that we accept your recommendation to reappoint the following persons to the Board of Library Trustees; Virginia Mascio 567 Braybarton Ave. term will expire 2021; Stanley Gaston 4341 Steuben Woods term will expire 2021.” Second by Mr. Paul.

Mayor Mucci – “Before I ask for roll call vote on that; I would like everyone to understand that we really have to be grateful and thankful for all the individuals that volunteer on our board to commission because they do it at no compensation from the City of Steubenville so we appreciate their time but I do take my appointments seriously and I have over the last 25 years; as everyone knows I’m stepping down and moving on however I’ve had conversations with the Mayor elect; last week we met on 2 different occasions I made him aware of these 2 appointments he was in total agreement that they were worthy of being reappointed because he too serves on the Public Library Board but I also informed the Mayor elect that I had some appointments that are vacant and they would be new appointments; I believe 5 all together; 2 on the tree commission, 1 on the Rec Board, I forgot exactly where but I’m leaving those open and the Rec Board really has been opened for a couple of months now; I feel that the new Mayor should start building his team and placing his people as terms come up that people don’t want to be reappointed but just so you know that the Mayor elect agrees that both of these people are worthy of reappointment.”

Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Mucci.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you your Honor. I gave copies of this to all of Council; this is the last 6 weeks of performance by our 4 man operation unit that have been displayed around our town; a lot of this the direction where they have gone based on citizen’s request of issues in their neighborhoods or businesses and just today I was by one business and was extremely pleased that they called and corrected any problems that they had there in that area; as Council will see before them they had over 143 stops, 73 citations, 74 warnings, 16 mild misdemeanor cites, 148 searches, 60 seizures, and 44 arrests, and 12 of the 44 arrests have been felony arrests. I just witnessed today a stop on a West Virginia car up on Market Street naturally drug paraphernalia was found in there and there’s a small amount of drugs for an arrest so they are out all over the City a lot of this has to do with the citizens that have called and reported information that is the key for this being successful; again they can’t be successful if our turns are not doing call to call which they have on many shifts but the bottom line is we’re trying to get this extra enforcement out there for the citizens. Mayor that’s all I have at this time.”

Mr. Mastro – No report

Dave Lewis – “Yes I just wanted to point out that we did send out draft copies of the budget last week to Council; you should also have the printed copies today if you had to come up. (All inaudible) book all our revenue and all of our expenses for 2018 it shows you what was budgeted last year; what was budgeted well 2017 what’s being budgeted 2018 so you can see the changes in projected revenue changes in expenses the budget does not have too many changes in its operation wise we did add the 6 seasonal workers in the M & R Department and the 3 seasonal workers in the Parks Department; as you know we started the process for 2018

with about \$900,000 hole and we're successful (inaudible) throughout the year mainly from Healthcare savings, utility savings, we were able to get some additional funding through the court to help pay for Community Service Program; we're meeting this week with our employees rolling out the new Healthcare plan; we're talking to them about 2019 also as we go over the plan because the 2019 costs are based on what happens in 2018 so it's real important to keep us in balance that we control the cost of the plan by using Healthcare services wisely so you will see as the revenue section, expense section, and the cash flow section now; the part I want to point out to you is the 2017 carry overs being calculated and updated this week so those numbers are going to be changing within the next week and we'll have additional worksheets out to you with the carry over; 18 is pretty much set unless you want any changes made; if you have questions on the budget please feel free to call, stop by my office I'll be happy to explain everything to you. That's all I had."

Mayor Mucci – "Thank you Mr. Lewis and I know this was an oversight my office did not receive this; the Clerk is giving it to me if you can make sure that my office receives the copy of the budget for my review; but if you could forward that to my office and I will also ask you to make 2 extra copies one for the Mayor elect and one for the new second ward Councilman and I will make sure both of those individuals have that also (inaudible). Thank you Mr. Lewis"

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mr. Dressel – "Alright today I just have some detail on this weekend's events there's a lot happening but probably everybody knows but Friday the Advent Market opens at 3:00 there's (inaudible), craft vendors over there and free food vendors as well as everything else going on; hay rides and there's live entertainment. The parade of course on Saturday as mentioned starts at noon and there's several open houses happening on Saturday; one is at the Grand from 1-3 if you're there we'll stay open if not we close at 3; Jefferson County Museum will be open from 1-4; St. Paul's Church, Holy Trinity Greek Church, and the Zion Church will all be open for touring the historic churches there. The Advent Market again and the petting zoo will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; trolley rides from 1-4; hay rides from 6-8; the Visitor Center will be open until 8:00 there's a huge Christmas display in there if you haven't been inside it's pretty cool and it's going to be cold this weekend so you can warm up there and there's live entertainment from 5-8. Then Sunday again everything is open as well including the petting zoo and trolley rides and choir from 1-6:00 p.m.; the Museum will be open from 1-4 and the First Christian Church open from 1-4 as well and then at the Masonic Temple at 2:00 is Wooden Heart Follies which essentially is a bunch of Nutcrackers coming to life play so if you haven't seen it (inaudible) and a Christmas concert at Westminster Church at 2:00 p.m. Thank you."

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."

John Mascio – "567 Braybarton Blvd. I have a question about ordinances 2017- 92 and 93. What's being repealed? The ordinance doesn't tell us anything about what you're repealing so just out of curiosity."

Mayor Mucci – "The 92 is the educational pay for the Fire Chief and the Police Chief."

Mr. Mastros – "No it's one or the other."

Mayor Mucci – "The first one is for the Police the second is for the Fire. The educational pay for the chiefs."

Mr. Johnson – "We did discuss this in a Finance Committee last week currently the Fire Chief and Police Chief get an educational bonus; the ordinance in which if you're going to look for the ordinance in the book it's not going to be there and it's not going to be online either due to an administrative error we believe; it has dropped off it was never repealed it has dropped off; the ordinance calls for if you have a Bachelor's Degree you get \$1,200 and if you have a Master's Degree you get \$2,400 however our Fire Chief and Police Chief have been getting double that amount for some reason. The reason I brought this forward is a fairness with all department heads; all department heads should be treated the same either they should all get an educational bonus or none of them should get an educational bonus; this doesn't affect the rank in file the unions (all inaudible)."

John Mascio – "So this deals with the Police Chief and the Fire Chief but not the rank in file?"

Mr. Johnson – "That is correct."

John Mascio – "Okay thank you."

Assantewa Anyabwile – "472 Spring Ave. First of all I would like to thank those people in the audience who come out you know weekly to be involved with City Council ask the questions and be here for us; in the church they would be considered prayer warriors; in the public and the government they would be considered watch dogs so I want to thank you guys for coming out for people like us who come out every once in a while when we hear something going on or even us who sit at home and talk about things but don't come at all so again I want to thank you all. There was an ordinance that was passed I guess last week about the public forum and how people have to register before they can come and speak and I called down and one of the reasons for that was you know other counties are doing it and we're one of the last ones to be able to just come up and have public forum; well

to me just because somebody else is doing something doesn't mean it makes it right and that we should get on board because there is still a lot of ill feeling about that type of registration; so one of my questions is; is there a way; if those of us who disagree with what you know what decisions are made in City Council is there a way to resend or appeal an order? That's one of my questions. What is the procedure?"

Mayor Mucci – "To repeal an ordinance?"

Assantewa Anyabwile – "Well for instance there was something passed last week about what I was just speaking about; about having to preregister."

Mayor Mucci – "Any ordinance you can get a referendum; place it on the ballot for the people to decide but you are electing 6 Ward Councilmen and one at large; 7 individuals and the majority speaks. There was plenty of input from the public on that particular discussion so you have; I don't know how many days are Law Director could probably clarify that; I think 5 days after..."

Mr. Johnson – "30"

Mr. Mastros – "30"

Mayor Mucci – "30 days after the passage of that ordinance you can get a referendum and get the required amount of signatures and place it on the ballot for the public's approval."

Assantewa Anyabwile – "Okay which leads me to a second question cause I asked this question 2 years ago. Say I wanted to know what was on City Council's Agenda but there's no way to find out okay up until I understand last week you all passed this ordinance that now you're going to make it public on the website so we'll know so we can call in or so we can come and register to be able to speak; that should have been done years ago okay but at least I'm glad you guys are finally; you all want us to register to speak we need to at least know what it is that City Council is going to discuss and I would say not just have it on the website cause a lot of people do not go on the computer also have it on maybe on the news on Thursday nights make it a definite time period between the weather and sports that this is what's going to be discussed next Tuesday so people have a chance to be able to register themselves. Also somebody suggested maybe posting it down here on the window or something or even have the agenda on a desk so when people come to pay their water bills they can pick up the agenda and they can register; you know make it fair so if you know; if we have to be able to not be able to come and speak our mind and speak to what you guys are representing us for let us at least know what you're talking about and try every avenue to inform the public on what you're talking about okay? I have another question I know that there are elections of this different City Councilmen at different times; you know the Mayor we'll say this is the President of our area and the President you know he elects his board or everybody changes and everybody is new; is there a way and I'm not saying that everybody because I believe that some folks on City Council are really here to help represent and one is to be able to make this the best community that we can have; however is there a way of like having just an overall general election for a new City Council?"

Mayor Mucci – "No."

Assantewa Anyabwile – "It's not read in the ordinance but if the people decide they wanted to do that they could?"

Mayor Mucci – "No the Charter defines the election; the State of Ohio has election laws; you're getting into an area that I would advise you to talk to an attorney one that's familiar with the election laws of the State of Ohio. I will say this though in your remarks you said some members of Council are here to better the City; in my humble opinion I think all member of Council are here to better the City; it might be their approaches that they take that may differ and have some frank discussions and sometimes very good discussions and sometimes they are heated discussions but I really believe all members of Council including myself as the Mayor has the best interest of the City of Steubenville at heart."

Assantewa Anyabwile – "I understand and I don't want to take up a lot of time."

Mayor Mucci – "Yeah okay well finish up."

Assantewa Anyabwile – "I'm trying. (Inaudible) say you know like when you ride on the trolley on Saturday check and see how many people wave at you; you know with smiling faces you know just check that's all I'm saying. The City of; I do believe the record may have mentioned of the water review board because they have taken over how you know more payments are coming in always in keep mind that now you're charging the landlords when the tenants skip; you know I don't know how fair that is but you know but they're getting money via the landlords you know and as far as landlords are concern to and we talk about drugs in this community maybe if City Council talked to landlords about doing a background checks on those people who are getting into their properties and finding out that they do have previous criminal records; maybe that you know they won't rent their properties to drug you know; people who have been arrested for drugs in the past; speaking of drugs also again employment if there was more employment in this City we would probably have less drug activity. I work with drug offenders; I work with people who have been on drugs or people who are actually in recovery programs; people who are clean or when they finish their meetings they go home they sit down there's nothing to do; okay I would just like again City Council to look at the employment in what kind of new investments could be done in this City to help you know the population of the City and I'll stop for now."

William Isaac – "389 Lawson Ave. Will the employees in receiving the education bonus who are entitled to it will they have to resend that back to the city? Thanks."

Mayor Mucci made note that the motion did not specify the reason for Executive Session so he requested to have it amended to involve Mayor Elect Jerry Barilla, Finance Director Dave Lewis, and Parks and Recreation Director Lorri Fetherolf.

Council Chambers were cleared for Executive Session.
Council Chambers were reopened for adjournment.

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

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR