

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
July 18, 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 Timmons, Villamagna, DiLoreto, Dressel, Hahn, & Johnson.

Mr. Villamagna moved that Mr. Paul be excused from the meeting. Second by Mr. Johnson. Roll call. All ayes. So moved declared Mayor Mucci.

Also present; City Manager James Mavromatis, Acting Law Director Costa Mastros, Parks and Recreation Director Lorri Fetherolf, Police Captain Ken Anderson, Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi, Wastewater Supervisor Chuck Murphy, City Engineer Mike Dolak, & Dave Gossett from the Herald Star.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for July 11, 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 – “Dear Sir; Fred Chambers owns property on Stanton Blvd., Logan Ave., and Grant Street. He was instructed to mow his high weeds in June I believe it was and he only mowed the portion facing Virginia Avenue. Thus it looked as though he complied too the high weed ordinance at a glance but now he is in violation again. His weeds are at least three feet high on Virginia Avenue and I don’t know how high they are on Grant Street and Logan Avenue. For a man who is trying to sell the whole parcels of land for \$500,000.00 he is not keeping up the area and it’s not very curb appealing. We who are citizens of this fine City are expected to keep up our properties to a certain degree then someone who has corporations should be held to the same standards to keep our City as appealing as possible don’t you agree? I thank you all for taking the time to read this letter and I feel it’s a shame that so much effort is made every year for this man to comply to City Ordinances. Thank you Patricia Merino.”

Mayor Mucci – “Hearing no objections the communications will be entered and filed in our minutes. Hearing no objections it is so ordered and I know it’s in the fourth ward and I do want to report that it is our understanding that the situation has been revenue. Everybody is now a happy camper in that area; once again. Other communications and petitions madam clerk?”

Mrs. Haley – “Nothing else sir.”

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

NO. 2017-56 – 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.

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

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

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Timmons – “Yes you’re Honor I have a couple things. First off I would like to introduce Jeff Bruzzese he is from the Zach Collaros foundation he would like to speak a little bit about their upcoming golf outing.”

Jeff Bruzzese – “Thank you Council, Mr. Mavromatis, and Mayor; thank you for allowing me to come back; I was here last year for the Zach Collaros foundation golf outing; some of the people in this room golfed last year I think we all had a good time. We were able to raise a substantial amount of money; we donated a large portion of that money; we have partnered with administrators and teachers at Harding Middle School; they helped us identify specific needs for particular kids and we funded everything from school supplies, to shampoo, to clothes, thanksgiving dinners, whatever those particular kids needed; we’re hoping to keep that effort going and grow the foundation. The golf outing is this coming Saturday; we’ve had generous sponsors like Spot Bar and Franciscan University, Mike Simon’s Sports Agency just to name a few of the many. There are three (3) teams available left; it’s \$400.00 per team, four (4) golfers per team it going to be a scramble; golfing starts at 1:00 p.m.; after that there’s dinner; the dinner is \$25.00 per person; there will be an auction as well; silent auction and a raffle; different autographs, sports memorabilia, equipment, all the things donated by many local

businesses. Hopefully we'll get a good turnout for dinner; I think we are close to 200 total people including golfers and dinner only; the dinner only will start at probably 5:30-6:00 I would expect the dinner only crowd to start rolling in. The foundation makes most of its money off of sponsorships and the auction. The \$25.00 per person covers pretty much just the cost of that dinner so hopefully we'll have a good crown back and have another successful event and raise a lot of money. All the money comes back to the City of Steubenville at one aspect or another; nobody involved with the foundation makes a salary or any money; we don't even reimburse ourselves for expenses any out of the pocket expenses that I have or Zach Collaros or whoever involve may have we just pay those as our donation. Looking forward to another good outing; I hope to see some people back; Thank you I don't know if you have any questions but I appreciate the opportunity."

Mr. Villamagna – "Jeff thank you very much and also Zach Collaros for working that foundation you guys are doing a great job."

Jeff Bruzzese – "Thank you we're trying; I've talked to Mr. Timmons briefly before the meeting about maybe partnering with the City in some different ways; whether if it would be through sporting events or a camp or whatever it may be; if there is anything that we can help with. Zach is just looking to give back; he's thankful for growing up here; his experiences here feels like this City has contributed; has been major (inaudible)."

Mayor Mucci – "Thank you Mr. Bruzzese and I think the community looks forward to the event. I expect that our community understands what Zach puts back into the community to a great partner for our community."

Mr. Timmons – "Thanks Jeff and good luck. One other thing that I want to mention Mike Chadsey from the Ohio Gas and Oil Association will be at the Steubenville Revitalization Group meeting on August 14th at 6:30 p.m. to answer any questions or concerns about what Steubenville can do to attract more of the gas and oil industry business to our City. Hope to see you there thank you."

Mr. Villamagna – "Yes Mayor; I'd like to introduce tonight the Executive Director of the Port Authority Evan Scurti and also recognize the Vice Chairman of Port Authority Dr. Ed Florak."

Evan Scurti – "Thank you Councilman Villamagna. We're here for two (2) reasons tonight; some by-laws revisions recommendations; Dr. Florak and Commissioner Graham over saw the review process that we just wrapped up (inaudible). (Inaudible) been existence; formed in 2012; I started in late thirteen (13) so I thought it was time for a review of the by-laws. It was a good process the board has recommended them these changes to the commissioners and to yourself; the commissioners have approved the changes; according to the original by-laws any changes have to be approved by the founding governance the city and the county. We the Port Authority; the staff and the board (all inaudible). You did distribute Mayor? You should have in front; the highlights; the highlighted text is the new verbiage and of course the strike through are the proposed deletions; nothing major just some highlights that I would like to just draw your attention too; officer terms proposing to change those to two (2) years; to give the officer a little more time in those seats; right now the organization has four (4) year board seats and one (1) year officer; (inaudible) to change to two (2) years. Secondly the proposals to remove the treasurer position; the original by-laws had chair, vice-chair, secretary, treasurer, but as we got started and we researched state law we realized that the port statue says the secretary of the organization is the physical officer has principle duties over the (inaudible), process purchase orders etc. We can operate correctly since the exception of our secondary sign off on all the financial documents but we still have a treasurer for the first by-laws and our treasurer; which was form a couple years ago; they'll receive finance meetings and things of that nature; those were sort of an extra officer; so the proposal is to remove the treasurer position and go forward with chair, vice-chair, and secretary; that puts us more in line with the revised code statue for the court authorities. Similar state audit; the state law; the process that their going through they are telling us we'll probably doing every other year (inaudible); we fall under the state auditor like any other political jurisdictions. The first I was asked from annual audit but that's not required so... The fourth seat of the county and the city was a rotating system that would require that seat to rotate off so it was essential non-renewable seat; the proposal now is to make those renewable so if you choose; the county chooses and regional planning for their seat they can continue to renew their appointee as they see fit; all renewable seats now."

Mayor Mucci – "And we will be rotating the realtor and the chamber (all inaudible). It will stay the same between the two (2)."

Evan Scurti – "Right that's in here. That's why they have to rotate off. The final thing; just a major highlight of sealed bids from the Board has decided we already have this in a policy form; any construction process above 50,000; if we ever dive into building or infrastructure construction of our own (inaudible) anything about the 50,000 estimate we're going to do sealed bids. Even though the state statue says; they advise it every two (2) years right now it's about 120,000 so we're stricter than the state's statue in by-laws (all inaudible). Dr. Florak if I missed anything."

Ed Florak – "I (inaudible) an offer to be available beyond the first weekend; August we meet with the Board; the City Council to discuss the rationale and try to answer any questions that you have but I realize that you just you're just receiving this (inaudible) so you need a chance to look at it and digest it. I'll be out of town next week but starting the following week in August I will be available to sit down with the committee as a whole and respond to whatever questions you have around the rationale for the changes. Most of those have be recommended; Commissioner Graham and I had a couple of sections in which we discussed the changes and Commissioner Graham I guess was involved in drafting of the original by-laws so he had some kind of background and understanding so I'm available to help you digest whatever changes we are offered. Most of it is cosmetic as Evan has already indicated the major thing is doing away with the position of treasurer; putting that in the hands of the secretary and some of the others I think are obvious that they'll help."

Mayor Mucci – "Thank you Dr. Florak. I'd like to show the changes to the by-laws to the members of Council will we schedule a simple motion and a seconded to the changes; to agree to the changes for the port authorities

by-laws and that's going to be scheduled for August 8th and then also that night we will be considering the appointment to the Port Authority Board. I might add that I like the change and I told the members of Council I reviewed those changes cause I was also on the original; I and Cathy Davis in representing the City on the creation of the by-laws but I'm all for the rotating between the fourth appointment where the county and the city; one (1) term had to be the realtors the other term was from a chamber member and that was supposed to alternate; I like them staying the same but we will still have a representative from the (inaudible) on the board. Cause we had that problem recently with Mrs. Venci."

Evan Scurti – "Secondly I put in front of you the profile of Fort Steuben Mall; we've been spending a good amount of time putting that packet together lately so I just wanted to bring you up to speed on it. That's part of our commercial data base of properties; every county in the state is asked by Jobs Ohio to upload all the major commercial and industrial (inaudible) opportunities into the data base. There's a link to the entire county lot data base of properties through our website so this is just the Fort Steuben Mall. We always try to be impartial into general marketing of the county; what prospects migrate where they think they would like to go in terms of building in a site search. I think with a property this unique in our community it justifies them direct marketing so I would like to get started with all of you and Mr. Mavromatis some (inaudible) campaigns to start sending this directly to some targeted prospects. Personally I think it's time to really think outside the box there are various industries and examples all over the country; conversion to back office; IT call centers; those types of things. You can see (all inaudible) I'm trying to do some demographics research; the 25 mile radius and giving it a demographic detail; especially companies that might be interested in staffing up a larger employment center here (all inaudible) to fill the positions and I think once we show the proximity of the west side of Pittsburgh we can still staff up a larger employee if they are interested in the property. We're still working on it and we're going to continue fine tune this with Matt and see other data and get (inaudible) trying to develop some targets; market heads and who we can put this in front of; of course we have to work in partnership with the owner; it's not our property; it's not bank owned; but there are two (2) real estate agents on board for the property and their fliers are part of this packet. Jim and I actually have lunch with one of the agents next week Mr. Bob Cole; (all inaudible) for the Macy's space and then the balance of the mall is listed with Chad? Macy and (all inaudible) represents the remainder of the mall. So we'll be working with them of course they'll be doing marketing that we can do alongside with them (all inaudible) Ask of your focus for not only the city but for the county and there's not a lot of 60 acre development areas in Jefferson County. Any questions you can call me (ALL INAUDIBLE)

Mayor Mucci – "Thank you Mr. Scurti and you will be returning on August 8th for the vote on the by-laws."

Mr. Villamagna – "I would just like to thank Evan for coming down here and Dr. Florak is here every week. Thank you for your participation in the City Government; I believe the Port Authority in my opinion is very important to Jefferson County; I believe what happens in the county affects Steubenville; what happens in Steubenville affects the whole county and that's the way I look at it because something that develops somewhere outside our city limits doesn't mean that we don't benefit from it. I appreciate your work; that's all I have under economic development Mayor. On the recreation I would like to get started; the pool is going great but it still needs some work done so if we can get some kind of planning together; I don't want to get caught in April of next year scrambling like we did this year; maybe we can get some kind of; cause we are going to start budget talks here so we can get some money together and build a wall; the wall has to be done and stuff like that so we can get some type of plan and then we can find out if we can do it. Thank you."

Mr. DiLoreto – "Yes your Honor I have two (2) from Mr. Dolak were going to put some money is the 5th and 6th Ward. A resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to make application for a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission to be used towards funding the City of Steubenville JEF-SR43-4.21 Sunset Boulevard and Lovers Lane intersection improvement project, PID No. 90235, City Project No. 2010-131 and to execute contracts as required. Second one; a resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to make application for a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission to be used towards funding the City of Steubenville Wilshire Boulevard waterline replacement project, City Project No. 2017-115 and to execute contracts as required. Mr. Scurti I was out to Penny's last week and they are doing very well; they had three (3) (inaudible) working; they had a line so I just hope that everybody here in this town keeps going out there and shopping and buying because they are doing very well and they need our business and don't go to Pittsburgh and buy American. Thank you."

Mayor Mucci – "Mr. Dolak the two (2) resolutions that were introduced under the Service Committee will receive three (3) readings?"

Mr. Dolak – "Three (3) readings will be fine."

Mr. Mastros – "We're going to put those resolutions actually in ordinance form; those will be ordinances okay."

Mayor Mucci – "I assume no emergency."

Mr. Mastros – "No emergency yes sir."

Mayor Mucci – "Cause the ordinance takes thirty (30) days we're still okay?"

Mr. Mastros – "We're still okay."

Mayor Mucci – "Okay then the first reading will be scheduled for next Tuesday the 25th, August 1st, then August 8th, and if adopted by City Council it will go into effect on September 9th."

Mr. Dressel – No report

Mrs. Hahn – "Yes we had about eight (8) people there last Thursday planting at the pool; the next volunteer day will be tomorrow morning and if you feel like digging in the dirt please join us. The Franciscan University has adopted Belleview Park in part they're going to be assisting us so some of the staff and faculty are taking some hours to come and join us in the morning; 8:30 to noon we're doing a couple different things; there will be a

painting project at the gazebo, some weeding and some planting. If anybody has any other plants that they would like to donate please let me know. I'll be picking up a few bags in the morning; it is fun to see it mature and I appreciate any help you can give us."

Mr. Johnson – "Yes your honor I have two (2) items; one (1) I want to sunshine an ordinance authorizing and directing the purchase of a HH Series Steel Dump Truck for the Water Department from Hill International Trucks, LLC. Pursuant to R.C. 735.051 and declaring an emergency. The other item that I want to talk about is the Planning Committee the Walking Tour of Pleasant Heights; I just want to remind everyone that it's August 14th cause last week I spoke and we had another day but we changed it because the City Manager unable to make that first one; so August 14th at 1:30 we're going to meet at basically the Fire Station/Veteran's Park on Pleasant Heights. That's all I have your Honor."

Mayor Mucci – "The clerk will facilitate a public notice that there will be a Walking Tour of Pleasant Heights and meeting at Veteran's Park; 1:30 on August 14th."

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – "Thank you Mayor; did all of Council receive their weekly report?"

Council – "Yes"

Mr. Mavromatis – "Our attorney from Columbus came up Monday to file additional paperwork in regards to our lawsuit pertaining to our insurance and this is something that we are staying on top of because with the end result I'll tell you there are other cities that withdrew of OPEC HC and they have stayed with JHP; we are preceding to fulfill our obligation for the remainder of the year and you saw the legislation where asked to be passed to go out for bid; for new bids for our new insurance that will start in 18; so we are staying on top of this. We also met with our Law Director and our attorney together so we're all on the same sheet of music and he'll keep us apprise as this moves on but I can tell you there's at least twenty-five (25) other entities that have stayed with JHP and there's already some that are having issues with this new administrator out of Cincinnati so this is showing concern for a lot of other members."

Mr. Timmons – "But we didn't withdraw?"

Mr. Mastros – "We did not technically withdraw."

Mr. Timmons – "Okay I think you said how there's twenty-five (25) others that withdrew."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Twenty-five (25) others have stayed with JHP; they did not go with the new administrator (inaudible)"

Mr. Mastros – "Our position is that we did not withdraw."

Mr. Mavromatis – "That's all I had tonight your Honor and I have some of my Department Heads that I would like to have speak."

Lorri Fetherolf – "Today was a very good day at the pool we had eighty-six (86) people there; it was twenty-five and then it shot up so it was a good day there. We had a successful family event there on Saturday; thirty-eight (38) people around there we're going to do another one in the first part of August or so. I've already started putting together plans for the pool next year things I'd like to see changed; not just structural wise but how we manage the pool and how we run and how the hours are; so that will go through Park Board but I think we need to look outside the box and figure out how we can get people up there. What can we do to get them up there? I don't know what that answer is but let's look at other things; Park Board got into some discussion about slides and rock walls; things I've been doing some research on some of those I think there's alternatives to slides that might do us more good because who else has a rock wall around here. There are some really neat things that are inexpensive; when I say inexpensive I say less than \$10,000.00 I think that will draw some people up there. We're working on the baby pool; I'll call to get them out to see what is wrong with the baby pool; it doesn't drain but other than that we've been having a busy summer. The doors for the MLK Center will be installed on August 9th; just so you know that it's on that day because they are huge heavy doors so I don't want anyone running into them and them falling on them."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Lorri how was the new basketball hoops that we received today?"

Lorri Fetherolf – "We got our two (2) new basketball things that came in; we've got one that's really small for the shallow end for the little kids and then one for the bigger kids. Jim and I put them together yesterday; it wasn't something that I could put together myself it was a much bigger project. We put it high up so no one can slam on it; I did have one kid come really close today which figures but no problems; big kids and little kids they were all playing over there; at least it gives them something to do besides just to play around and want to dunk each other and get yelled at."

Mr. Dressel – "Is there somewhere on the city website that list the hours and the cost for the pool?"

Lorri Fetherolf – "Yes; it has not been on there very long cause he called and asked me what I wanted on there. One of the things I'm doing is; we're doing the Facebook page I was asked about that so we do have that but we need to update all the information on it. I like to think six (6) months out; so what are we going to do now till the end of the year so we can start planning on the website so they know when our Halloween party is and they'll know when Breakfast with Santa is."

Mr. Dressel – "Could you e-mail a link out when you're ready?"

Lorri Fetherolf – "Yes."

Mr. Villamagna – "Lorri I want to apologize this evening I didn't realize you were right behind me or I would've spoke and I wanted to bring up something else that you brought up is the baby pool. When we get somebody up there and try to get that functional; so we don't have to deal with it again."

Mr. Mavromatis – “One (1) thing I failed to mention and as Mr. Bruzzese tapped upon; this Saturday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. the pool will be open to our city employees and their families and we’ll have barbequing out there and there is kind of a guest treat everybody will bring some type of food there; so I wanted Council to know about it and if they have the time to come out but it’s for all the City Employees and their families and that’s where I’ll be Saturday.”

Mr. Mastros – No report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mrs. Hahn – “I really appreciate the reports; I had a chance to go through them before we get together. I don’t know what an ROW is?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Right of Way; there’s some of them I didn’t know I just had to ask; but the police ones I knew but some of these other terms; they are just shortening what they have to write out but that’s Right of Way ROW.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Under the Law Director you had; you were doing an oil and gas lease; was that something that’s on city own property.”

Mr. Mastros – “It is”

Mrs. Hahn – “It is okay; so we’re actually going to be getting some revenue from oil and gas?”

Mr. Mastros – “If we are able to go through that process and receive money; actually Mr. Repella started that process I’ve (inaudible); we’re going to have to go through the process of possibly advertising; there might be another way to do it but advertising our lease interest because you have to honor the code. We’ll have to go to the fund where we are making improvements (inaudible) the city. That was pursuing to an agreement made with the Ohio EPA so we can keep making improvements instead of shutting it down (all inaudible). So Mr. Repella made an agreement with Council I believe signed off on the (inaudible) orders that stated that any money that we get in oil and gas because it is in the city landfill; that’s where we own the mass majority of the minerals. Those money will go towards the making and improvements in securing the landfill; so unfortunately I was getting happy myself until I learned that that was not the case. We need that money anyways to do that.”

Mrs. Hahn – “And I just want to follow up on”

Mayor Mucci – “Just to follow that up the City of Steubenville when we signed the original agreement received a little over \$500,000.00; we then turned that money over because of our (inaudible) reading with the EPA reinvesting that money into the closure of the landfill. It was projected that the landfill could cost anyone between eight to ten million dollars for permanent closer. Obviously we didn’t have those resources so we used that \$500,000.00 when we first received it to put some wetlands in the landfill to come into compliance. That made the EPA happy at the present time but anything else that we receive in the future as it’s been indicated by our attorney we’ll have to go for the closure of the landfill; it could be used (inaudible).”

Mrs. Hahn – “The other thing that I wanted to follow up on was the demolition retrieve all day; the whole system of ninety-right (98) houses that we demolished and that was handed off to you from Gary Repella; where are we? Because everyone been sent an additional letter.”

Mr. Mastros – “I think Mr. Repella did send them; everybody an additional letter; I think now those letters need a follow up. I know some people are making payments; there are issues with some regarding the agreement that Mr. Repella made; some of the land owners he was able to get ahold of; not all land owners were served; some were posted pursuing to the ordinance (all inaudible). So those that were served there are some issues coming up; we’re making some progress on that but we’ll continue to work on that.”

Mrs. Hahn – “And then the last thing last week you said the trash cans would be out in a couple weeks; but I know a couple of weeks can mean two (2) or it can mean soon. Do we have a date?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Again until they contact us to come in; I asked Bob Baird that today he gave me the same answer he said he was going to try and reach them; so we’re just waiting for someone to come in and distribute.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Do we have; we have a contract obviously with these people and they are clearing not honoring their part of the contract. Am I right or wrong? Those garbage cans were supposed to be out by now.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Well the garbage cans; they delivered the garbage cans are here so we have our product; the other part that was contracted for was for them to deliver them and enter the information into the computer system so we know where each one is.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Is there a time frame on that?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I asked Bob this this morning he said Jim I expected within the next couple weeks I’m calling out to see where they are at and that’s how I left it this morning. That was what was told to me one (1) to two (2) weeks ago.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Bob Baird got to call that company and want an answer. I don’t want to hear from him that he’s calling and reaching out. Contact somebody and hop in that Durango and drive up there and find out.”

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.”

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

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR