

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**  
**August 29, 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, Acting Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi, Parks and Recreation Director Lorri Fetherolf, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Planning Director Chris Petrossi, Dave Gossett from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES**

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for August 22, 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 your Honor”

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**NO. 2017-63– BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3<sup>rd</sup> reading**

**Messrs. Johnson, Dressel, Hahn**

**AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF AN UNNAMED ALLEY.**

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2017-63. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-63 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Villamagna called question. Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-63 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci. The effective date of this ordinance will be September 30<sup>th</sup>.”

**NO. 2017-64 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3<sup>rd</sup> reading**

**Messrs. Johnson, Dressel, Hahn**

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE BUILDING AND STRUCTURE IDENTIFIED IN THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE TO BE AN UNSAFE STRUCTURE AS DEFINED BY SECTION 108 OF THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO, AND DECLARING SUCH TO BE A PUBLIC NUISANCE, AND ORDERING THE REMOVAL OR DEMOLITION OF SUCH UNSAFE STRUCTURE.**

Mrs. Hahn – “I wanted to ask if we could consider tabling this tonight and voting on it next week instead because one of the properties listed here is of interest to a person in the town; they have figured out who the owner is; the taxes are not underpaid enough to be able just to move into the purchase but he would rather purchase it than have it demolished; because it’s so specific with what the properties are I wanted to ask if we could table it for one week just to see if it is possible for this property to be purchased.”

Mr. Villamagna – “My opinion on that is these properties need to be demolished; I don’t want one person buying a house in the middle of that block on 4<sup>th</sup> Street; if we’re going to have economic development we need to get rid of these houses; simple and plain as that. By keeping one house in the middle of the block you’re not doing the development of the block any good cause when people come there they don’t want to negotiate with that one person; these houses have been ready for a demolition for a while and there was no interest in them and I believe once they go on that demolition list it’s over and done with; we have an obligation to the people that live in that area and also for the development. We sat there and we listened to that guy on that tape over there and it told us that certain things got to come down and these houses; there are 100 houses last year; 153 this year and I’m not; I mean if one of my colleagues want to save one house in the middle of that block but I’m not in favor of that at all; they need to come down that’s my opinion.”

Mayor Mucci – “Mrs. Hahn if you would like you can place that in a form of a motion; if you receive a second we will hold a vote on it if not we will continue with the ordinance.”

Mrs. Hahn – “I’m actually not sure if it’s in the middle of the block or where the particular property is.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I know exactly where it’s at.”

Mrs. Hahn – “I am moving that we table this for one week to get clarity on that because...”

Mayor Mucci – “There’s a motion on the floor to table Ordinance No. 2017-64 is there a second? If not it dies for a lack of a second.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “I concur with her but I’ve been in that Ward for eight (8) years; I got houses that have been there for fifteen (15) years; that house has been there for so many long years; the people that lived there were nothing but trash; the police were down there all the time and if somebody wants to buy these houses; come and see me there are 55 houses; 26 are in the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward; I’ll tell you where every one of them are and I’m sure they can buy them, get the hammers out, get the nails out, get the paint out and get some good people in there that are going to take care of the place cause I’m getting tired cause one house goes down and another one comes up; somebody comes in and another one goes out; I call them nightriders. My biggest problem is in my Ward is

people want to know who's living next to them, who's moving in, who's moving out, are they on drugs, aren't they on drugs, why is there three (3) families there and it's very frustrating and it's not fair to the good people who live there and take care of their property and I've had people: Dave Albaugh cutting other people's grass and Beatty Park along with it. Thank you."

Mayor Mucci – "You have heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2017-64. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-64 please come forward and state your name and address."

Mr. Paul called question. Roll call. Six (6) ayes one (1) no. Ordinance No. 2017-64 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci. The effective date of this ordinance will be September 30<sup>th</sup>."

#### **NO. 2017-65 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Messrs. Paul, Johnson, Dressel**

#### **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES WITH THE JEFFERSON COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mayor Mucci – "You have heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2017-65. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-65 please come forward and state your name and address."

Mr. Paul called question. Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-65 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

Mayor Mucci – "If I could ask the Law Director on this particular ordinance 65 the Exhibit A which should be the contract that is not attached for the clerk can you make sure that the clerk gets a copy of the Exhibit."

Mr. Mastros – "I will. I will scan it and send it to the clerk; I have to get this now to the State Board of Health and get it to my counter (inaudible) of at the County but I will do that sir."

#### **NO. 2017-66 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE**

#### **A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2017 AS PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.**

Mayor Mucci – "Hearing no objections I think this is important enough for the clerk to read it in its entirety. Hearing no objections it is so ordered."

Mrs. Haley – "Whereas September is Prostate Cancer Awareness month; and whereas prostate cancer constitutes 19% of all cancer diagnoses and 8% of all cancer deaths; and whereas in Ohio an estimated 5,840 new cases of prostate cancer and an estimate 1,020 deaths will occur; and whereas veterans are 1.5 times more likely to get prostate cancer; and whereas prostate cancer is the #1 most commonly diagnosed cancer in American men and the #3 cause of cancer death behind lung and colon cancer; and whereas this year approximately 161,360 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in the United States alone every year – that's one man every 3.3 minutes and roughly 26,730 die this year from the disease – which is one man every 20 minutes; and whereas African American men are 1.7 times as likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer as white men and are 2.3 times as likely to die from the disease; and whereas education regarding prostate cancer and early detection strategies is critical to saving lives and preserving and protecting our families; and whereas all men are at risk for prostate cancer and we encourage the citizens of Steubenville to increase the importance of prostate screenings. Now therefore be it resolved by the Council of the City of Steubenville, County of Jefferson, and State of Ohio. Section 1: That this Council does hereby proclaim the month of September 2017 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Section 2: That this Resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon its passage and approval by Council; otherwise at the earliest period allowed by law."

Mr. Paul made a motion to accept Resolution 2017-66. Seconded by Mr. Johnson.

The Mayor called for public comment. Mr. Paul called question. Roll call. All ayes. Resolution No. 2017-66 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

#### **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

Mr. Paul – "Yes your Honor. First of all I would like to make a motion here tonight; I'd like to make a motion to approve the payment of 80 hours of vacation time to our Acting Law Director. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Roll Call. All ayes. Motion carried declared Mayor Mucci. Yes your Honor I have two (2) other items. I also like to call a Health and Safety Committee Meeting at 6:30 on September 5<sup>th</sup>; 6:30 next Tuesday and we'll discuss the Medical Marijuana and the Chief will be there to answer a couple of questions and also make sure you're here and Chris."

Mayor Mucci – "The clerk will facilitate the proper notices for the Safety Committee Meeting scheduled for 6:30 next Tuesday."

Mr. Paul – "And last but not least I would like to introduce our Parks and Recreation Director who is doing a great job and Lorri has a couple items that she would like us to help her with."

Lorri Fetherolf – "I just have something real quick. So I developed a survey for Parks and Recreation; if you would go to our Facebook page which is Steubenville Parks and Recreation there's a link there that will send you to survey monkey. I would like as much feedback as I can get; some programs that the community would like to see; how they rate our parks; what are parks are used for and that kind of thing because I as one person don't always know what the community wants so I would like as many people to respond back that would be great. It's opened for one month and it will be posted at the end of September. Thank you."

Mr. Timmons – “I just want to say real quick; I’m usually pretty quick to complain about when the e-mails are not answered and things aren’t done but there was an incident this week; I had an issue on Granard and Chuck Murphy and Jim Strach they responded within two (2) hours it was taken care of so Jim if you could pass that along to them I would really appreciate it.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I will thank you.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I wasn’t going to say anything but since Eric brought it up; it’s the same note; this water department gets crucified work wise; they was on Aberdeen putting in a new water line in and the whole line broke while they were working on the new line; then they had another one on LaBelle; then they had another one down on Lincoln Ave. and they got it all fixed within a reasonable time so I’m; I go down there sometimes and I watch those guys and I can hear the noise from my house and I go down and these guys work; they do a good job.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Yes your Honor just one short Ordinance for next week. Ordinance No. 2017; An ordinance authorizing the City Manager to advertise for bids in accordance with law for the purchase of necessary supplies for use in the Service Department, and to provide for a contract for the purchase of said materials for the Year 2018, or any part of said year, through December 31, 2018, authorizing the right to reject any and all bids, authorizing entering into of contracts and payment thereof. That’s for Chuck Murphy’s supplies that he’ll be using for next year; the water department they usually work when it’s subzero weather; those boots up 24 hours a day; I don’t envy them.”

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “Couple of things tomorrow night we’re working on things for the LaBelle Neighborhood and our hope is that as we bring revitalization to LaBelle we’re going to be working on an overall plan that we can bring other neighborhoods here in the City. So tomorrow we are doing an open meeting and if any of you live on LaBelle a group of us invited all the people that we knew personally but there are many people that live on LaBelle that we haven’t met yet so if you live on LaBelle you are welcomed to come; my address is 718 Bellevue and we’re meeting in the side yard; Eric Timmons will be there he’s one of the Wards council members who represents part of LaBelle, Mike Johnson will be there, the City Manager will be there. We are going to talk about the things we love about living on LaBelle but also what our number 1 concern is and how we can begin addressing more of those issues. Related to that in September we are hoping to have a meeting with anybody who is a landlord on LaBelle and begin to have a conversation about what are their concerns, what are our concerns, so whether or not you live on LaBelle in September that will involve landlords on LaBelle and I just get feedback from a lot of people that they don’t have an opportunity to really say what their concerns are so we’ll hope to have that dialogue both ways and like I said we’re hoping that this will be; doing this by phases so we can duplicate this and I can bring this to other neighborhoods in Steubenville. Thursday if you’re available we’re going to be at the Marina there’s has already been a good amount of cleanup that has gone on recently and we’re going to work from at least 9:30 I would guess we would be there after the breakfast; 9:30 is part of the United Way Day of Caring and we’ll be there to at least 1:00 just working on things so feel free to jump in and join us. Lastly next Wednesday is the next video on downtown revitalization at the fort; a few of us are going to be in Wooster at a Heritage Ohio workshop but this is opened to the public; anybody can come and any official can come and these are really interesting worthwhile videos that talk about cities that have very different populations then we have; some of them are much smaller; some of them are bigger; some of them our size and what are they doing to restore and renew the cities so I want to keep that all at the fort thank you.”

Mr. Johnson – No Report

Mayor Mucci – “I’d like to follow up on Mrs. Hahn remarks on this coming Thursday the Day of Action with the United Way. As you are well aware the City has submitted the cleanup of the Marina hoping to bring focus to the Steubenville Marina; as we continue to put the blue prints together for what we consider the entrance to our community. I had requested through the City Manager and those his leadership provided great assistance but we had a meeting with the street department Mr. Bob Baird along with the Fire Chief was there and our Parks and Recreation Director was there; I want to personally thank the M & R Department for putting about three (3) days of work down there, removing all the weeds in between the cracks on the wall and the diligent work that they did, the scraping on the lower end with our front end loader and all and of course I want to thank the Fire Department for hosing down the wall not once, not twice, but three times to remove the debris and the mud from there so it’s looking good. We’re hoping that Thursday we can put the tender love and care touch to the Marina; there are still some areas where weeds need to be removed and cut; Mrs. Hahn will be providing some plants to place down at the Steubenville Marina but it is a great asset to the City and as we continue to work on our plans of the development of the Steubenville Marina it’s important for us to continue to showcase that particular area and show the people our community that are on the outsiders of what a gold mass that is; that will help develop our plans. As you well know we’ve received technical assistance from the National Park Service and Andrea has been a blessing in providing us with a lot of information; we are hoping to hold two (2) more meetings under that grant agreement; one of them we are planning on having in September and that will be a public outreach on let alone the development and thoughts of the Marina but more importantly how we can connect all of our recreational assets in the community; LaBelle, Jim Woods, Beatty Park and all together to really highlight recreation. As we all know economic development a lot of companies and people consider what recreational activities that you have and what type of facilities; let alone your school district and all but that’s part of it so we want to continue to improve it and we feel this can be and hopefully if we plan it properly our September outreach meeting maybe the Steubenville Marina and it will be in good shape for that particular meeting. I want to thank Mrs. Hahn for her output or input rather that day; that day happens to be a truly busy

day let alone the breakfast at 8:30; 10:00 is the County Health Department continuing assessment until 2:00; I'll be in and out and I'll be providing lunch for anybody that attends and helps out down at the Marina."

## REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – "Thank you Mayor. I've had plenty to last me a while from last week and I've answered a lot during the previous meeting; but I do want to bring this up mainly to the citizens that are out here; I do appreciate the comments that I get via telephone or my e-mail system or text messages. Chief Capaldi and your Fire Fighters I want to thank you personally for the extra work they did this past weekend; I personally went out there to watch what they were doing but there's always somebody that wants to send a criticism via e-mail; I give credit to the individual at least he used his name where I can respond back to him and his criticism was why our Fire Department was down there working. This is not a City that has unlimited equipment we don't have water trucks sitting down at our M & R Department we have to use our tanks from our Fire Department. Before we even entered into this; having them go down there they did the right notification to the railroad to let them know if a train would come so they can leave and respond if they have too; but those firefighters and the comment they made he was concerned that they would be out of breath, out of shape that they couldn't respond to a fire; I will tell you this I will match our firefighters against anybody in this City; they respond to fires every day; calls every day; they did that to help partake in a City problem; that upkeep at the Marina down there and anybody that has been down there knows this needs a massive amount of work and we call on every department and Mrs. Hahn and her group of people going down there; the Mayor's group; the United Way again; so instead of using that energy to send out poison e-mails; why don't you use it to pick up a shovel and a broom and since the man was at least a gentleman to send his e-mail with his name on it I'm going to ask him to meet with me and I'll be more than happy to explain to him what goes on here in this City. This is a team effort every department works together to try and accomplish the wishes of Council and the citizens of this town and I will tell you this after last week this City is coming together; citizens are stepping forward; they're bringing information and letting us know what's going on here and that ladies and gentlemen you can't pay for; so my hat is off to our citizens they're taking an active role here and again to my City Employees I can't thank you enough in all departments you've stepped forward when we've asked the impossible sometimes and you do it. So I just wanted the citizens to know this we still have people out here that like to be nay sayers; you know what step forward and do something you might find out that you might like it so again I thank all the citizens that take the time to come here so you can really see what goes on. Mayor that's all I have for this evening."

Mayor Mucci – "Once again Mr. Mavromatis I want to thank you for your leadership on that particular project and I did neglect to mention that along with this city wide (inaudible) pitching in our Recreation Department will be providing some (inaudible) Thursday morning also at the site but the JB Green Team the solid waste authority of Jefferson Belmont County will be providing bags, vests, and gloves for the cleanup on Thursday so it did involve let alone our City Employees some outreach to some other organizations; ultimately I would hope before our next meeting with the National Park Service; when we were down there the day that Ms. Ireland was here; when we were down at the Marina site either the core of engineers or the U.S. Coast Guard one of them; we were talking about a grant opportunity to put a curtesy dock at the Marina and they indicated that that could probably come at no cost to the City but I'm going to do an outreach to soil and water; soil and water both Brandon and Aaron who is in attendance was very familiar about that; maybe they can assist us in applying for that grant we could be ready to go for that particular project but again thank you again Mr. Mavromatis our employees are a little over 200 employees in the City of Steubenville and I consider them all ambassadors for the City of Steubenville."

Mr. Mastros – No Report

## MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mr. Dressel – "Briefly I had some updates on what's in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward. If you hadn't notice I wanted to thank Ken Perkins of Tri State Financial for tearing down the Chinese Laundry building next to his business there; that was one of the demolitions and it looks much better; it's on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. If you haven't noticed Schederline and (inaudible) have done a huge dilapidated structure on North 6<sup>th</sup> Street; they finished with that about two (2) weeks ago and it took a long time to take it down; it covered about half a block and somebody else who I don't know who did it but tore down a house on Sherman that needed to come down for some time and also somebody cleared a lot on 5<sup>th</sup> and Franklin of a whole bunch of shrubs and trees; it looks better than it has since I moved here 25 years ago. Steubenville Popcorn Company construction project is still moving along they're not yet open. The Harmonium Project will be hosting an Oktoberfest event for the weekend of October 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>; there will be a whole variety of different concerts downtown. The Desperado Dogs and Music are over at the fountain on Mondays 11-3 if you've been going they will not be there on Labor Day. We continue to work on the Wurlitzer at the Grand if you are (inaudible) organ in the theater every Saturday from 10-2 if you're interested in stopping by you are more than welcome to visit. More façade work will be starting shortly. The Urban Mission Hunger Action starts September 1<sup>st</sup> if you are interested in doing something like that to help the Urban Mission with something like that contact Ashley Steele; if you don't know how to get a hold of her then contact me and I'll get that for you. The Jefferson County Federated Democratic Women will host a democratic candidate meet and greet on September 6<sup>th</sup> at the IBEW Hall Building on 4<sup>th</sup> Street at 5:30 p.m. Finally like I

mentioned last week the Nutcracker Village and Parade the planning is still under way so if you are interested in being involved down at the Fort (inaudible) I would call the fort to arrange that. 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.”

Bishop Moore – “370 Scenic Drive Steubenville, Ohio. A lot of you are familiar with what is happening in Houston, Texas (inaudible) so I’ve heard a lot about what’s going on (inaudible) fee for water; \$20.00 a bottle \$40.00 for some of them so I’ve gotten with our congregation at Mt. Zion and we’re looking to send a tracker trailer maybe even two (2) tractor trailers full of water to Texas. One of our members Charles Prentice he works for...”

Charles Prentice – “Freeland Schilling Corporation out of Brilliant, Ohio.”

Bishop Moore – “And they’ve agreed too donate the trucks to send out to Texas and I’m planning depending on the time frame that we could pull this off to fly out to Texas so that we can help distribute this water out to the people that need it; Steubenville I’m aware that you know what it is to need water; times past there have been some incidents that took place here and the City was in need of water; I know what it is to be in these situations; I’ve moved here from Florida so we’ve had hurricanes about every week. So I’m going to ask the City or anybody that wants to be a part of it that want to donate cases of water; bring it to the church and we’ll stock it up and load those trucks up within the next week or so we’re still working out all the logistics (inaudible) information about that; if you want to bring water down we ask that you use Nestle; Nestle Water.”

Charles Prentice – “You can purchase it from Wal-Mart we have a contract with Nestle out of (inaudible) and we deliver locally to Wal-Mart Distribution Center and if anybody if familiar with Robert Schilling family they are local from Mingo and he couldn’t be here of course he had a meeting in the morning so I had to speak a little bit on his behalf (inaudible) any proceeds to help. I’m going to donate my whole pay that I would normally get to drive that there to help with fuel cost so we’re just trying to do something to help other people.”

Bishop Moore – “Right now we don’t have actually hours; weekly hours’ time; to bring in Monday through Friday but Sunday we are there at 11:00 obviously; if you want to drop it off on Sunday we’re there between 9:30 and about 1:00; bring in cases of water and we’ll really appreciate your help so that we can get it to those people in Houston that need help. Thank you.”

Mayor Mucci – “I might add the company is a great corporate partner of the City of Steubenville in fact sitting across the isle there when we went to get the decorations; Christmas decorations up in Pittsburgh and all he donated the truck to deliver and pick up and bring back and we appreciate the partnership that we have so thank you and thank your boss of course.”

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