

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
February 13, 2018

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

Present were Councilmen Villamagna, DiLoreto, Dressel, Hahn, Paul, Petrella, & Timmons.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Parks and Recreation Director Lorri Fetherolf, Paul Giannamore from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for February 6, 2018. Second by Mr. Timmons. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved minutes accepted declared Mayor Barilla.

PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Barilla – “Petitions and Communications Madame Clerk?”

Mrs. Haley – Mrs. Haley – “Yes I have two; it’s a notice of legislative authority from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control; Transfer to Walgreen Co. DBA Rite Aid Discount Pharmacy 138 N. 5th St. Steubenville, OH from Rite Aid of Ohio Inc. 138 N. 5th St. Steubenville, OH. Please complete and return this form to the Division of Liquor Control whether or not there is a request for a hearing refer to this number in all inquiries B TRFO 9357941-18093; please sign below and mark the appropriate box indicating your title.”

Mr. Dressel – “Yes your Honor I make a motion that we make the letter a part of the record and the copy of the letter be given to the City Manager, Mayor, Law Director, the Police Chief, and myself.” Seconded by Mr. Timmons.

Mayor Barilla – “It’s been regularly moved and second that the communication received be filed, made part of the minutes, refer to the City Manager, Law Director, the Mayor, Police Chief, and councilmen.” Roll Call. All ayes. So moved communications accepted declared Mayor Barilla.

Mrs. Haley – “Second notice of legislative authority from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control; Transfer to Walgreen Co. 4402 Sunset Blvd. in Steubenville, OH from Rite Aid of Ohio Inc. 4402 Sunset Blvd. in Steubenville, OH. Please complete and return this form to the Division of Liquor Control whether or not there is a request for a hearing refer to this number in all inquiries B TRFO 9357941-17303; please sign below and mark the appropriate box indicating your title.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes your Honor I make a motion that we make the letter a part of the record and the copy of the letter be given to the City Manager, Mayor, Law Director, the Police Chief, and Council.” Seconded by Mr. Timmons.

Mayor Barilla – “It’s been regularly moved and second that the communication received be filed, made part of the minutes, refer to the City Manager, Law Director, the Mayor, Police Chief, and councilmen.” Roll Call. All ayes. So moved communications accepted declared Mayor Barilla.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

NO. 2018-11 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2017-107, THE EXISTING TABLE OF ORGANIZATION OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You have heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2018-11. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2018-11 please come forward and state your name and address.” Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2018-11 duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Villamagna – “I just want to mention something. The new officer; officer John Levy; had a nice compliment to him on his own without any prompting or anyone telling him to do it; he’s been bringing snacks up to the kids at the center on his own; we notice everything bad so that’s something good; he’s a fine young man and everybody seems to like him.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “One short report. Mr. Timmons asked me to call a utilities meeting February 27th at 6:30; he has some people coming down from Pittsburgh that’s going to give us some insight on how we can overcome our debt so get our water department straight; I think now it’s time we start to move forward (inaudible) bills

(inaudible) what we have to do; start writing to congressmen, state senator, anyone else that can help us because it's going to be a massive bill and I don't think the customers can afford the entire project or probably any of it; so we got a tough job ahead of us. Thank you."

Mr. Dressel – No report

Mrs. Hahn – "Yeah I got a couple things. The first one is the Parks and Recreation Board meeting is being shifted from tomorrow night because of Valentine's Day to the next Wednesday so anybody who is interested it's open to the public in the clubhouse at 7:00 on the 21st and then I wanted to ask if we could approve your nomination for the Parks and Recreation Board Joe Lamantia 3089 Glendwell Rd.; term to expire 09-2021."

Seconded by Mr. DiLoreto. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla. "One other thing I just wanted to mention today Eric and I were at... We're you going to talk about it?"

Mr. Timmons – "I can."

Mrs. Hahn – "Yeah okay. So we were in a meeting together and shared things about it and Aaron Dodd was not available their board meeting for the Jefferson County Sewer and Water went extra-long so he will be able to be here next week whether or not he is here we do want to vote on this Resolution of support; it's no funding from us it's just a letter of support to be included with their grant application (inaudible) next week."

Mr. Paul – "Yes your Honor I have one ordinance; it kind of like springboards off what Mr. DiLoreto brought up here a little bit ago about the; it's an ordinance authorizing and directing the Finance Director to transfer the amount of \$267,562.38 from the water reserve fund (91) to the water operating fund which is under 50; it's called fund 50 and declaring an emergency if you want we can have Dave Lewis talk about it tonight; anybody else he can discuss it a little more next week when we have our Finance Committee Meeting; go head Dave."

Dave Lewis – "The ordinance is being brought in as an emergency; it is an emergency; the water fund its distribution portion of the budget is depleted; it's from the water prices with all the breaks; so the transfer is needed to allow the distribution team to continue to operate for the remainder of the year as well as there's some bills that are going to be paid to the contractor so it's needed at this point."

Mr. DiLoreto – "Dave? How much is left in that fund? Just a ball park number."

Dave Lewis – "Cap wise it's depleted in some; there's bills; we got a \$130,000 in bills that are and about \$69,000 to pay them; so right now they're back in the wastewater superintendent's hands until we figure out how to prioritize what (inaudible); the transfer goes through..."

Mr. DiLoreto – "Will be zero."

Dave Lewis – "Cover all those expenses and then continue to operate."

Mr. DiLoreto – "That fella that's coming down from Pittsburgh there's no charge right Eric?"

Mr. Timmons – "No charge."

Mr. DiLoreto – "No charge. Thank you."

Dave Lewis – "You're welcome."

Mr. Villamagna – "I have a question Mayor. Dave just so I understand what you just said; the money coming out of the infrastructure fund."

Dave Lewis – "91; 91 is a reserve fund that was from a settlement that we received several years ago; so it's kind of our rainy day fund..."

Mr. Villamagna – "For the water department?"

Mr. DiLoreto – "It's raining."

Dave Lewis – "It is raining."

Mr. Villamagna – "Did you say something about the infrastructure fund or; you caught me in shock."

Mr. Paul – "It's the water reserve fund no the infrastructure fund (inaudible)."

Mr. Villamagna – "Okay thank you I misunderstood."

Mrs. Hahn – "Can we afford to wait a week to pay these bills or is this something that we need to take up tonight?"

Dave Lewis – "They're just coming in so a week would be fine; it gives you time to think about."

Mr. Petrella – No report

Mr. Timmons – "Yeah a couple things. First off I just want to offer mine and the City of Steubenville's condolences to the Westerville, Ohio Police Department they lost a couple officers last week Eric Joering and Anthony Morelli; I saw the pictures of the families that they left behind and it was just; you know we take these guys for granted and it just; I was thinking a lot about that. Today as Kimberly talked about we did attend a Jefferson County Utility providers meeting and one of the things that was brought up; they were talking about trying to get together with some of their programs and one of the things they talked about was a database and we've talked about that before; looking at things as a; if someone is living in Steubenville and they owe us \$500.00 for a water bill and they move to say Yorkville; Yorkville can see that we have \$500.00 owed and we can do whatever we need to do whether collect that or we can try to go after them. But they said Steubenville wouldn't be able to participate in that because we're under a consent decree for our utilities office; do you know about that Costa?"

Mr. Mastro – "I do not that's probably before I took over."

Mr. Timmons – "Okay and that's what; I'd like you to look into it; it's supposedly back from 30 years ago."

Mr. Mastro – "I may remember something coming across; Gary had mentioned something to me."

Mr. Timmons – "So if you could look into that and that way; we can get that eliminated then we can..."

Mr. Mastro – "This will be a consent decree for the water department only?"

Mr. Timmons – "Yeah that's the way I understand it. There was some kind of..."

Mr. Villamagna – "I have a copy of it I can..."

Mr. Mastro – "Please. Please if you could forward it to me or give it to Cathy whatever. Thank you."

Mr. Timmons – “But you know it was such a long time ago; you know we’ve made great strides with our water department just in the last couple of years.”

Mr. Mastros – “Could the decree expire at this point?”

Mr. Timmons – “They said there was no expiration.”

Mrs. Hahn – “It was specifically the utility department; it wasn’t just the water department in general.”

Mr. Mastros – “Not water?”

Mr. Villamagna – “There was two consent decrees; one was for the Police and that expired but the one for the water; if I understood when they were trying to explain it to us was it does not expire.”

Mr. Mastros – “Okay I’ll look into it and see what...”

Mr. Timmons – “What we need to do and like I said it’s been so long we’ve made (inaudible) I think. Thank you.”

Mr. Mastros – “Okay yes sir.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. Tomorrow from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. our city crews will be out in the area of Iva Way and Whitehaven Blvd. and this is going to affect the residents; Judge this will affect you; water is going to be out; we hope that’s all it is but unfortunately with that because it’s a replacement of a broken water valve and there will be a boil order so hopefully if everything is with us they can keep it to the short amount of time but the boil order is needed so we can test the water and make sure that it’s good so that has gone out today to the news media but since I see residents in here from that area that will affect you tomorrow. So we’re hoping they’ll be done by 3 if we have no other problems; how this came in was from another resident that lives up there and she reported that she had brown water so we had our people eventually get up there; check it out; make sure there wasn’t a leak or a busted valve so again this is a (inaudible) problem that’s affecting us. Now that we’re on that by the 21st Mr. DiLoreto; Mr. Chuck Murphy should have a number of what we’re looking at; you are correct; at some point there will have to be an increase with our utilities for that but that’s not going to correct our problem here in this City; that offsets our employee costs, our supplies things like that but by no means is that going to correct the issues that are facing this City. It’s an old City; it’s an old infrastructure and this is just caught up with this so we’re going have to do with these issues; we do have different areas that we can look into for some possible revenue streams, possible loans, grants, bonds, and also maybe some forgiveness grants that may be out there or loans; so these are all being looked at here and that’s where we’re going at this point to get the best solution that we can do here. We just happened to get a severe bad valve break that caused us to lose water in our downtown area; every city in this Ohio Valley is going through this just not to the extreme that we did so we’re working diligently to get to the bottom of what we need to go and the direction we need to go; so we’re doing the best we can here and then report this to Council that’s why it’ll be important to have this meeting here so we can get this all out here; what direction do we go from here that’s what we got to do. One other thing and Dave I want to have Mr. Lewis; this has to do with you Mrs. Hahn and the rest of Council that website has that address that you can go into to get the alert and what this is; is we have it on our webpage now; anyone that has a cell phone that lives in this area but I want to take it a step further; if you have a love one that lives in Steubenville; they do not have a cell phone and you do; say it’s your mother or father whatever; then I enter; I would go in there put it in there; even if you live in another town you’ll get the alert that way you can make arrangements to call your love one either by landline; landlines are already covered in our city by 911 reverse but what we did to get this quickly done so we get the word out is this is a voluntary thing; this is up to the people who have cell phones in this City that live here; you need to go online to our website and sign up for it; this will get you alerted when there’s a major water break; something in the City that affects you; those 911 reverse alerts can go target specific areas whether it be Pleasant Heights, LaBelle, downtown, or the whole City; so this is the quickest way that we can get this out here so if another water break happens or something that we need to let you know you can get it; (inaudible) Dave.”

Dave Lewis – “Yeah I think you covered it basically. We do have a link that’s posted on the City’s website on the sliding banners; it’s going across; it looks like a bright sign that says stay alert; you click on that and it tells you all about the tool that’s in place through 911 and you just click on the connection which they call Code Red and that’s through Jefferson County 911; it’ll ask you to put in your address of course so 911 knows which section of the City you live in so they know how to alert you; your cellular numbers can go in even if you have multiple numbers so it’s a pretty neat tool; it’ll be a big help to us.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Why I brought up the other people that have the cell phones here and I’ll give you the best example is a personal example; my mother doesn’t have a cell phone she has a landline phone; now she’ll get notified if she didn’t have it; a cell phone or any phone at all; at least I know the alerts come out; use the address of the person you are concerned about if you don’t live in this City; this way when the alert comes out you’ll get notified but it’s based on the address that you put in there so all we’re trying to do is get an expedited notification so again this will make it a little bit easier for the citizens here.”

Mr. Paul – “I have one question. In this day in age we’re in right now we have; you get a phone call we don’t know if it’s coming from some telemarketer or if my mother-in-law does not answer the phone sometimes if she doesn’t know the number; doesn’t recognize the number; so will it leave a message? Will it leave a phone mail message or will it just...”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “But here is the other thing for those reasons; especially with the elderly.”

Mr. Paul – “Right.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “There’s so many phone games that are being played out there and you have to watch that; again for me; I’ll have them call me because that way if something comes up in her area I’ll go see her personally and say listen you’re going to have a water break here; your water is going to be out and that’s what I recommend because that way you’re able to cover; today you have to watch how they prey on our elderly here; it’s done every day with false things coming in saying we arrested your relative; there’s no such thing going on so you are correct. Yes Mr. Villamagna.”

Mr. Villamagna – “My question was that; well part of what Willie said was I; the caller ID will it come up on there; does it come up Jefferson County probably?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “If they have caller ID then it’s going to come up (inaudible) come up that way.”

Mr. Villamagna – “The second thing was that; like on Iva Way.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes.”

Mr. Villamagna – “So tomorrow... “

Mr. Mavromatis – “From 9 until 3 this is what they’re saying.”

Mr. Villamagna – “But I mean will that go out on a reverse call from 911 to tell the people on Iva Way there’s a...”

Mr. Mavromatis – “It should if it’s been sent out there so I’ll have to verify (inaudible).”

Mr. Villamagna – “And who sends that out?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “This would come out of Chuck Murphy’s shop because it’s his shop that’s taking care of that.”

Mr. Villamagna – “If you could ask him.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes I will take care of that.”

Mr. Timmons – “Jim its live ready to go right now?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yeah it’s loaded.”

Mr. Timmons – “Okay I’m just making sure because I’m on here now and it looks good.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Alright.”

Mrs. Hahn – “And just one other comment Mike said if the signals busy they’ll definitely; it will kick into more than one call so and if someone isn’t home then I would think it (inaudible) to leave messages.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay. Mayor that’s all I have sir.”

Mr. Mastro – No report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Barilla – “We had signing in under Public Forum a gentleman by the name of Dan Wood but I don’t see Dan Wood in the audience. So we’ll... I’m not going to do anything else then.”

Mrs. Haley – “No. He knew.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “We passed a Resolution for her didn’t we?”

Mayor Barilla – “Yes in 2016 in October Resolution Barbara Wilinski.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Mayor if I could comment on that; comment of this for a brief moment. Again I know there has been a lot of controversy about that previous ordinance; about registering for Council; I’m not going to sit here and tell you that it works every time but this is a prime example here if Mr. Wood had come tonight I have a copy of the Resolution that was passed already for Ms. Wilinski and again we would’ve been able to give this to him so he understood that so the more that this goes there’s things that need to be worked out and again that’s the whole idea is trying; if it’s important enough for a citizen to come down here to Council; I want it important enough to give us a head start and so we can meet after Council if it’s a long in depth discussion because it was important enough for them to come down here to Council. Again I see some of the people that have spoken before and that’s my personal feeling if you take the time to come down here on a Tuesday then I can take the time to meet with you after Council and go in depth that there’s things that you need to know about; all of it is not this; I can tell you after 2 years there are things that people get up and say and may not have all the facts and that’s part of the reason why this is been in place so if there are additional facts they need to know at least they’ll leave here with a better answer then when they came in and that’s all I have to say Mayor.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I would just like to add to what Jim said (inaudible). Part of the solution to this was Mr. Wood is probably not here tonight because our secretary after she had checked what he had said; had found out that there was a Resolution passed she took the time to call him back; he just did not show up here; she called him back and told him that there was a Resolution already passed last year for Mrs. Wilinski so that’s part of the process too; she actually called back and told him that there was one; nobody had the answer right away; we all thought there was one but nobody was sure. Just so; I didn’t want anybody thinking that he did not just show up.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “I was sure.”

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

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR