

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
November 6, 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 the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll Call.

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

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Financial Accountant Dave Babela, Water Superintendent Jim Jenkins, Parks and Recreation Supervisor Lori Fetherolf, & Linda Harris from the Herald Star.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for October 30, 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 – “Nothing this evening.”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you Madam Clerk.”

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

NO. 2018-80 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR A GRANT FROM THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION (ARC) TO BE USED TOWARDS FUNDING THE PHASE I – WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS VALVE REPLACEMENT/REHABILITATION AND LEAK DETECTION AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED.

Mr. Paul made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2018-80 by roll call. Second by Mr. Villamagna. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2018-80 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

NO. 2018-81 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT (WSRLA) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF WATER FACILITIES; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

Mr. Paul made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2018-81 by roll call. Second by Mr. Villamagna. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2018-81 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mrs. Hahn – “(Inaudible) two different things. Under Planning I found that last night at the Planning and Zoning Board meeting that the CDBG funds can be used to do those last three demolitions. So we won’t have to use sanitation dollars for anymore; anymore demolitions and the three that have been prepared that have the asbestos removal the two on Highland and the one on Wellesley I believe.”

Mr. Paul – “Welday; Welday. It’s not on Welday I’m kidding.”

Few Unknown – “(All inaudible)”

Mrs. Hahn – “That was really quick I missed that. Anyway they’re going to be taken down so that’s really great news especially for the people who lived around it and were so hopeful when the asbestos was taken out and then realized oh my gosh they’re not going to take them down. So anyway they will. Under Parks and Recreation the new wall at the pool; the old wall has been completely removed; the new wall in half in and they’re making great head way. The fence at North End Park should be replaced soon but the part that was damaged and causing some problems; our sanitation department went and took that down so that’s done. Do you know Jim if they were able to get over to Bellevue Park and replace those slats because they (all inaudible).”

Mr. Mavromatis & Mrs. Hahn – “(All inaudible)”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I haven’t been up there but they said they were going to do it. But he; what I also noticed a lot of their work is being done over at Trinity Hospital because I see three or four trucks there the last couple of days I’ve been there. So but I’ll give them a call tomorrow.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yeah.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yeah I mean he said it will be done. It’s just a matter of them adjusting their schedule.”

Mrs. Hahn – “And then I wanted to ask Lori about the ballfields being redone this fall. Do you have a date yet from them (all inaudible)?”

Lori Fetherolf – “They’re actually (inaudible) we’re on the schedule for the first of spring so we’ll be one of the first ones done. They will be moved back to their original position which will allow for the lights to do what they’re supposed to do so the kids will be able to see easier. So it will be the two bottom fields done first of the spring.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Then we’ll be able to schedule some night games too. Okay. Under Economic Development I just wanted to bring back to people’s minds that we have a campaign going on which is support the Grand Theatre give a sheet and our goal is fifteen hundred sheets of dry wall. We have actually received over \$3,000 and the first 100 sheets have been purchased and if we get enough we’ll be able to do the first floor and we’re hoping to schedule a work day. If you’re at all willing to come and just; if you don’t even know how to use the equipment but you would be willing to hold a piece of drywall in place while they screw it into place you know let Scott Dressel know and we’ll try to line up enough volunteers. We’ll do like one big day and see how much we can get up on that first floor. It is a 501C3 organization so just to remember if you are thinking about maybe making some end of year donations that would be wonderful to contribute to that and sense we’re able to do more work we’ll be able to begin to plan out when we can start using it and I think it’s going to have a really positive impact on economic development down there. I also wanted to let you know Evan Scurti has (inaudible) he said at the Port Authority and he’s applied for a grant on our behalf under economic development. I can’t tell you too many specifics but he said that I could tell you. I spoke with him he’s seeking assistants based on the recent success in gross; the growth potential of the Franciscan Square; other properties around Belleview Blvd. and the University in general and we know that there’s less grant money for sewer projects but he has specifically pin pointed the sewer overflow and we’ve had 13 overflows areas but the worse one is at the bottom of University Blvd. that’s 34% of our sewage and rain water overflow happens there and so if he’s able to get these dollars that’s going to help us move that project further along. So any Council member who wants more details he said please call him personally and he’ll tell you but he’s not making things public yet. Under Pride I wanted to just mention this; Steubenville Hilltop CDC had to postpone the litter pickup because of rain so this coming Saturday is the litter pickup so if you’re interested in coming on Pleasant Heights meet at Trinity East Hospital parking lot on the LaBelle side you can meet at what is now the Marion Monastery it use to be the old Roosevelt School; meet at 11:00 and lunch will be provided at the end of the work time that’s an hour and a half; two hours and Councilman Petrella provided a lot of hot dogs and hot dog buns to feed the people. And the last thing; that’s under miscellaneous so that’s committee reports. Thank you.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor I have one. I’d like to call a Finance Committee meeting next week for further discussion with the budget. I would like to have Police, Fire, Parks and Rec, and then buildings; building and planning commission that will be 6:00. And one other; Mrs. Hahn just brought something up we were talking about that fence down at North End; I know every year around February March the commissioners have money from the pre back tax; they give money back to the community for Parks and Recreation things like that. I brought up one other time that fence is getting worse down at North End I know we painted it one year; Franciscan helped paint that I think we could probably put that on the agenda as something we could replace that whole fence with through the county maybe; through that money that they allocate to the cities and townships. I don’t know if that’s what you guys want to use that money for but I think that would be good to fix that up because now we’re getting more people down towards that North End ballfield for the fact that you got the traffic alone with the new connector and everything coming up also I think it would be nice to spruce that park up a little bit. Just on that 7th street side alone I think we get that money from the commissioners and that’s all I got to say.”

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – No Report

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor. I’d like to sunshine some legislation; it’s a word change is what actually it is. An ordinance repealing section 1195.04 and adopting a new section 1195.04 of the Property Maintenance Code. The purpose of this ordinance is to remove references to the “International Fire Code” and replace them with “Ohio Fire Code” in the 2018 Property Maintenance Code. Thank you.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Just a reminder bulk pickup in the South End this coming Friday. We still have it. I hope we have it again next year. I (all inaudible) wards I drive around I didn’t see too much stuff thrown out but I hope there is.”

Mr. Dressel – “Alright I have two things. I have an ordinance to sunshine the first one is an ordinance repealing Chapter 1199 of the codified ordinance of the City of Steubenville regarding the regulation of vacant residential and commercial property from the City and then I have another longer thing that I need to go over as well. So if we’re interested in that we need to have a meeting on that as well and decide if we want to do that. Okay?”

Mr. Villamagna – “I have a question about.”

Mayor Barilla – “Yes.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Who sun shining this (inaudible)?”

Mr. Dressel – “I am.”

Mr. Villamagna – “By yourself?”

Mr. Dressel – “Well as of right now yes.”

Mr. Villamagna – “You can’t do that by yourself can you? I mean...”

Mr. Petrella – “You need two.”

Mr. Villamagna – “You need two people and I think it should come out of a committee.”

Mr. Dressel – “Well I was doing it out of Finance because it was fee based but we can do it out of Planning as well.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Well I don’t think it’s under Finance. I think it’s under Planning committee. And other thing too; to address is we’re going to run Council meetings in Council Chambers or we’re going to run them on Facebook. (All inaudible) I wasn’t going to say anything but since that was brought up. We’re not shaking anybody down. Okay? You got a lawyer and you got Councilmen on there that are participating in a trial on Facebook. So there’s more going on than the Grand Theatre, there’s more going on than Fourth Street; we got a whole City here. One person has started all this commotion.”

Mr. Dressel – “That’s really not why (all inaudible).”

Mr. Villamagna – “Well I got the floor right now. Thank you. But that is the reason why it’s being sunshine because; we sent out how many letters have we sent out; I don’t know if you know Dave; regarding the vacant registration fees? And over a 100; I think closer to 200 but I’m not sure; people have paid and as a result of not paying; one person does not want to pay the fees. It’s not my concern when people buy property it’s their responsibility not the City’s. We’re not shaking anybody down. Now on the Council meeting that we have on Facebook it was stated that there’s Council trying to do away with this ordinance and you just said that you’re introducing it by yourself so I don’t know does anybody else in favor of taking away the vacant registration fees? Because that’s what was said on Facebook Council meeting.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Why are we paying attention to Facebook and Twitter? I don’t have it.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Well the reason why I’m paying attention...”

Mr. DiLoreto – “I mean not you anybody.”

Mr. Villamagna – “He’s trying to sunshine an ordinance to do away with the fees. It should go through the committee.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “I agree with you.”

Mr. Dressel – “I agree with that as well.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “I agree with you.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Then if you want to call a Planning Committee meeting; I’ll call the Planning Committee meeting but as long as I’m chairman that’s where it’s going to come out of and I’ll call the Planning Committee meeting. We got budget hearings; we had a water crisis and we’re sitting here because one person don’t want to pay a vacant registration fee but that’s my take.”

Mr. Dressel – “Just so you’re clear this comes out of a meeting I had with Kimberly last week before I even knew the other situation was going on so...”

Mr. Villamagna – “(All inaudible).”

Mrs. Hahn – “Actually I don’t; at this point I’m not supporting (all inaudible)...”

Mr. Dressel – “Right she’s not.”

Mrs. Hahn – “I actually think the vacant fees are what we should go after to have demolition.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Well that’s my take.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yeah.”

Mr. Dressel – “So we need a meeting.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yeah so I have a different opinion on it.”

Mr. Villamagna – “We’re not a City where we have all this latitude; where we have all this money.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Right.”

Mr. Villamagna – “That we depend on fees to run the City. We don’t have no tax base here let’s be honest about it. We depend on it but I want to have a meeting I just don’t appreciate having two Council meetings. I like to meet on Tuesday nights not on Mondays at 8:00 at night with a lawyer and other Councilmen who have no business talking City business on Facebook when it’s not even true. There’s a lot of derogatory things said on that Facebook account from an attorney about us shaking down citizens. That’s nonsense. We make 52 stinking hundred dollars here and we got to put up with bribery; we’re stealing everything; we’re idiots; well we are idiots I mean because we’re here I mean.”

Mr. Dressel – “(All inaudible).”

Mr. DiLoreto – “I’ve been called worse than that.”

Mr. Paul – “(All inaudible)”

Mr. Villamagna – “I know that’s why I was thinking Willie you are kind of right. But that’s not in consensus to Council. Consensus to Council is try to do things here orderly. This Council had worked hard to try to revitalize this whole town and I’m; I’m talking like the Gerber baby but you know who I am Mayor. I’m not going to have anybody come to this and disrupt calling us names. It’s okay if we argue because we’re family but I ain’t listening to this and Council has no business on there participating in that kind of conversation unless they’re going to stick up for us and no one did. That’s all I got to say on it.”

Mr. Timmons – “The only thing I would; I mean I would like to discuss it a little further the vacant fees. I mean I think it’s worth looking into for sure. You know you said 100, 200 letters were sent out.”

Mr. Villamagna – “We sent out; I know for sure 100.”

Mr. Timmons – “(All inaudible) recent. That is something that we have recently have done? We didn’t use to do that in the past?”

Mr. Villamagna – “This ordinance has been on the books again 2014; January the 12th 2014 it’s been on the books and this Council we’ve all agreed that we got to do something with the vacant structures. That’s what everybody in this room says they don’t want vacant structures but now if someone has vacant structures and they did something good for the City we overlook it. Well that’s the good ol boy way. The good ol boy way was when somebody did something for you; you did something for them. I don’t operate that way. I’m for the good

of the City. I ain't shaking anybody down. Believe me and we can talk about it but we have to have the interest of the City not individuals. This is not an individual town. It's the pride of all these citizens here. We have to think of everybody in this City not just 4th Street and that's it. We have to think of other parts of the City."

Mr. Timmons – "I agree I'm just; I think that; I remember Kimberly saying before how many vacant structures there are."

Mr. Villamagna – "Right."

Mr. Timmons – "And the amount of money we were collecting in vacant structure fees was..."

Mrs. Hahn – "We have not been serious about it."

Mr. Timmons – "It's not serious at all. I think we either better; you know we need to take this serious now or we need to..."

Mr. Timmons and Mr. Villamagna – "(All inaudible)."

Mr. Timmons – "That's why I'd like to talk about it."

Mr. Villamagna – "I want to have a Planning meeting and we can discuss this further. But we want a doctor but we want to pay shoemaker wages. You know the building department; we got the worse building department in the City that's what people say. We got one guy working there that does the inspections. One guy. We don't even have an electrical inspector there. We're paying \$59,000 we applied for that job right? We tried to get another one here. Get any applications? No right? Because they're not coming here. Them kind of people ain't coming here but then we turn around and we want to know why this isn't going on. Why that's not going on. There are laws. You know..."

Mr. Paul – "The Ohio Revised Code."

Mr. Villamagna – "You have to go by the Ohio Revised Code. You have to research property. You just can't send a letter to Bob Villamagna and tell him I got to do something because I'm going to come down here and I want to see Costa or the City Manager and I want to know who do you think you are sending me a letter? I don't own that property. It's a fair assumption but I'm just; I get totally upset when I hear these remarks and I see Councilmen on there that don't stick up for me because I'm sticking up for everybody in this room. If someone says that you're dishonest or anybody in this room is dishonest; I'll have one heck of an argument with them because we might not all get along in this room all the time but I believe everybody's honest in this room and trying to do the right thing for the City so I'll call a Planning Committee meeting and I know we have stuff going on next week so that's no good right?"

Mrs. Hahn – "Yeah next week probably won't be good."

Mr. DiLoreto – "Jerry?"

Mayor Barilla – "Yes Mr. DiLoreto?"

Mr. DiLoreto – "I think the first thing nothing should be discussed on Facebook or Twitter or the cell phone revolves the Council. You got something to say you say it here and you talk to them personally. If somebody says that I'm on Facebook I could care less. If they got a complaint come and see me toe to toe. It's very unprofessional discussing Council business on Facebook; I don't know what Facebook is or Twitter. I can't use my cell phone."

Mr. Villamagna – "Mr. DiLoreto an attorney; an attorney on Facebook trying to case on Facebook. She should be ashamed of herself."

Mr. DiLoreto – "She should be."

Mr. Villamagna – "And I'll say that to her face."

Mr. DiLoreto – "Well that narrows it down; she said."

Mrs. Haley – "Okay. Alright."

Mr. DiLoreto – "Okay I'm done."

Mrs. Haley – "Is Mr. Dressel done?"

Mr. Dressel – "No I'll save the other one for the planning meeting since he's going to call it now."

Mayor Barilla – "Okay thank you Mr. Dressel."

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – "November 20th is our Light up Night. Council has decided to move our meeting to Monday which is good. I wanted to report to Council we have all the money that we needed for our fireworks this year. It was all donated by citizens of Steubenville so we should be; a fairly good show according to the contractor that's going to be putting this on. He's done this for the last three years so again that's all I had to report."

Mr. Mastro – No Report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mayor Barilla – "We'll now move onto miscellaneous reports and signing in this evening under miscellaneous is Mrs. Hahn."

Mrs. Hahn – "I wanted to mention that the annual Faith in the Future breakfast is this coming Friday morning; 8:00 at the Froehlich's restaurant. If you're interested in coming you can go on Facebook. This is a good thing to go on Facebook for and it's just put in Faith in the Future and it will come up and it's \$10.00 for the breakfast and the new chief operating officer at Franciscan University Bill (inaudible) is going to be the speaker so we'd love to have you if you're able to come. Alright? Thank you."

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Barilla – “We’ll now move onto Public Forum this evening and signing in under Public Forum is Mike Florak. Please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mike Florak – “My name is Mike Florak. I work at 1235 University Blvd. You’re Honor, members of Council and everyone in the audience; what Mrs. Hahn said. Thank you Mrs. Hahn so much but we do have the annual Faith in the Future breakfast. This has been a 15 year long tradition that’s gone on. Many citizens and leaders of our community it’s open to the public. You can RSVP through me you don’t have to go through Facebook. So anyone that wants to come you can see me and I’ll put a couple of my cards up here on the ledge here.”

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

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR