

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
February 19, 2019

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, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Utility Supervisor Lisa Knight, Engineering Director Mike Dolak, Urban Projects Director Chris Petrossi, Wastewater Superintendent Chuck Murphy, Sanitation Supervisor Bob Baird, Parks and Recreation Director Lori Fetherolf, Linda Harris from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for February 12, 2019. 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 – I have one. It’s to Honorable Jerry Barilla and Members of Council. We, the Officers and Members, of Steubenville Firefighters Association Local 228 and Steubenville AFSCME Local 2015, are writing this letter to express our support for City Manager James Mavromatis. We believe that over the past three years he has carried out the duties of City Manager in an exemplary fashion and should be commended for the job he has done. We believe that Mr. Mavromatis has a genuine concern for the safety and well-being of Steubenville’s citizens, businesses, and city employees. He has shown by his actions that he truly cares about what happens in the City. Very often he can be found out in the community. It is not uncommon for the City Manager to show up in the middle of the night at an emergency scene to assess the situation and check on the needs of the City employees working and/or the affected residents. He can also be found in attendance at the many events going on in the community. He is not one to hide in his house or office while things go on around him. We appreciate his concern for the employees of the City and pledge to support his efforts to keep everyone safe while they provide service to the citizens. We are aware that Mr. Mavromatis’s contract is up in March of 2019. If he wishes to continue serving in the position of Steubenville City Manager we would like to offer our endorsement for the renewal of his contract. When Mr. Mavromatis was hired to fill the position of City Manager the City was facing many challenges and we believe that progress is being made under his leadership to fix many of those issues. Further, we believe that it would be a mistake to not renew Mr. Mavromatis’s contract when the City is in the middle of so many important projects and dealing with serious issues that have begun to be addressed during his tenure. In closing, the Officers and Members of Steubenville Firefighters Association Local 228 and Steubenville AFSCME Local 2015 would like to endorse the renewal of James Mavromatis’s contract as City Manager. We believe that not renewing his contract would be doing a disservice to the citizens, residents, and employees of the City of Steubenville. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. Sincerely, President Joe Ribar Steubenville Firefighters Association Local 228 and President Jim Raymond Steubenville AFSCME Local 2015.”

Mayor Barilla – “Alright so I’ll ask for a motion to accept the communication into the minutes.”

Mr. Villamagna made a motion to accept the communication as read and made a permanent part of the record. Second by Mr. DiLoreto. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.”

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

NO.2019-13 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING THE EXISTING TABLE OF ORGANIZATION OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO AND NOW ENACTING A TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2019-13. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2019-13 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2019-13 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will take effect on March 21, 2019.

NO. 2019-14 – BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. DiLoreto, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND/OR DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE SECURITY CAMERAS AND WIRELESS BACKHAUL PROJECT, SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE MOST QUALIFIED ENGINEERING OR DESIGN CONSULTING FIRMS AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF THE SAME.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2019-14. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2019-14 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2019-14 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will take effect on March 21, 2019.

NO. 2019-15 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Villamagna, Hahn, Petrella

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AN EASEMENT TO COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLING AND MAINTAINING A NEW GAS PIPELINE TO SERVICE THE RESIDENCES IN THE BUENA VISTA AREA.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2019-15. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2019-15 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. DiLoreto called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2019-15 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will take effect on March 21, 2019.

NO. 2019-16 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 2nd reading

Messrs. Villamagna, Hahn, Petrella

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.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the second reading of Ordinance No. 2019-16. The third and final reading will be next week February 26, 2019.”

NO. 2019-17 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – 2nd reading

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 111.25, SUBSECTION (B) OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the second reading of Ordinance No. 2019-17. The third and final reading will be next week February 26, 2019.”

NO. 2019-18 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION HONORING ISAIAH CULBREATH.

Mr. Paul made a motion that we read Resolution No. 2019-18 in its entirety. Second by Mr. DiLoreto.

Mrs. Haley – “Resolution No. 2019-18. A Resolution honoring Isaiah Culbreath. Whereas, for three decades Isaiah Culbreath, as a member of the Steubenville community, dedicated a large portion of his life promoting entertainment for the youth and young adults of our city; and whereas, the most notable project being the formation and management of the famous, Biggio Girls Softball Team. The Biggio Girls played their home games in front of the hundreds of loyal and enthusiastic fans every week at the North End Ball Field, but they also traveled to many cities in the tristate area and beyond; and whereas, one of Mr. Culbreath’s most impressive accomplishments was in the music business. Isaiah brought many national recognized entertainers to Steubenville. Acts such as James Brown, Smokey Robinson, George Benson, The Coasters, The Platters and many, many more. Along with his wife Mattie he booked this entertainment using Steubenville as a gateway to many larger cities like Pittsburgh, Chicago, New York and so many more. Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Council of the City of Steubenville, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio: Section 1: That this Council does hereby express its sincere appreciation to Isaiah Culbreath for his efforts and dedication to the Steubenville community. Section 2: That the Clerk of Council shall present a certified copy of the Resolution to the said Isaiah Culbreath. Section 3: 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 that Resolution No. 2019-18 be adopted by roll call. Second by Mr. Villamagna. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2019-18 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor thanks.”

Mayor Barilla – “Mr. Paul?”

Mr. Paul – “Thank you you’re Honor. The Culbreath Family would you like to come up. Go ahead and come in here. I’d like to present this ordinance to you; is this your?”

Isaiah Culbreath Jr. – “My father.”

Mr. Paul – “Your father okay I didn’t have the pleasure in meeting your father but I remember the Biggio Girls Softball Team and they were a great team. Some of the girls are about my age and I remember Caroline Swearingen; Chico’s wife yes. She was a good softball player herself so I’ll present this to you and thank your father for everything that he had did for this City. Thank you sir.”

Mayor Barilla – “Congratulations Mr. Culbreath.”

Isaiah Culbreath Jr. – “Thank you.”

NO. 2019-19 –BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 1st reading

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 191 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE REGARDING MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the first reading of Ordinance No. 2019-19. The second reading will be next week February 26, 2019.”

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes probably the City Manager will say more but I wanted to get to share a little bit from the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board. So the rental fees and the; the swimming fees would remain the same and the rental fees will all remain the same except for the clubhouse and the clubhouse is going to increase \$25.00. So you could know and if you want to do one of the rentals the form; did you go with the simplified form? Okay so that’s just one page instead of the number of pages that had things that didn’t apply and things that did apply so that’s really great. I appreciate you simplifying that. They’re looking into adjusting lighting on the two ballfields that are going to be done this spring. Do you have a date for when the ballfields are going to be done or just be...?”

Lori Fetherolf – “Redone?”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yeah redone.”

Lori Fetherolf – “When the weather breaks.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yeah.”

Lori Fetherolf – “(Inaudible) yeah.”

Mrs. Hahn – “And the wall at the pool?”

Lori Fetherolf – “It is 99% done. As soon as the weather breaks they’ll put the top on and they’ll fix the cracks.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Awesome. She’s been interviewing people to fill the position that we opened up for Parks and Recreation and in about 30 days someone will begin that work so the timing is great and (all inaudible from coughing). Lori mentioned one thing to me over the phone that the number of visits at that MLK Center went from 12,000 in 2017 to 21,000 in 2018. So that’s exciting you know a lot of work was done on the building; a lot of people have donated things; people have thought of activities and it’s just very exciting to have that. You’re doing so well so thank you for all your hard work.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor I have one item. Tomorrow evening February 20th at 6:00 I’m calling a special meeting tomorrow to discuss the City Manager’s contract okay? With that being said we’ll probably go through roll call and then we’ll probably go into executive session but we expect to come out with some kind of resolution at the end of the day. So that’s tomorrow night; 6:00; our Council Clerk Karly she had called me today and put the advancement in; 24 hour notice so it’s out there and tomorrow night 6:00.”

Mayor Barilla – “Okay.”

Mr. Paul – “Right here in these Council Chambers. Okay?”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you.”

Mr. Paul – “Thank you.”

Mayor Barilla – “Mr. Mastros we don’t need a second on that do we?”

Mr. Mastros – “No.”

Mayor Barilla – “Okay thank you. Thank you Mr. Paul.”

Mr. Petrella – No report

Mr. Timmons – No report

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor. I’d like to introduce a resolution 2019-14; a resolution proclaiming March 2019 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and under Economic and Planning I’d like to acknowledge our Manager from the Port Authority. Thank you very much for coming. I appreciate your attendance. Do you have anything good to report to us or somethings were in the works that we talked about earlier; maybe some developments coming but nothing concrete yet.”

Evan Scurti – “Nothing concrete. I’m looking forward to working with you on the lot sale discussed.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yeah.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Yeah.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Thank you Evan for your work. That’s all I had Mayor.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “I think we have a; I have it here; go on Willie. Introduce it.”

Mr. Paul – “Okay. This is under I think (inaudible).”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Appointments”

Mr. Paul – “It’s an appointment by you you’re Honor. The Regional Transit Authority Board and I make a motion that we accept Sue Hogue of Colonial Drive; her term starting this month 2019 and it’ll expire in 2022.” Second by Mr. DiLoreto. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

Mr. Dressel – “Yeah I have one item. (All inaudible) ordinance under the Service Committee I’m assuming to authorize; an ordinance authorizing and designating the City Manager as the local official with the authority to execute the project known as the City of Steubenville Phase IV Street Sign Upgrade, City Project Number 2018-138, and complete all necessary functions that may be required to complete said project, including but not limited to, engineering design services, right of way services including acquisition of right of way, utility relocation, construction administration/inspection services, bidding services, advertising for bids for

construction, re-bidding if required, entering into a contract with the lowest most qualified bidder and authorizing payment therefore.”

Mayor Barilla – “Do you have something to raise here with the property; vacating and selling of properties with the Port Authority? Is that being brought up tonight or no?”

Mr. Mastros – “It’s up to Council. If you want me to start; prepare the ordinance...”

Mr. Villamagna – “Do you want me to sunshine it tonight Costa?”

Mr. Mastros – “If you’d like. We’d have to do a couple things. We’d have to (inaudible) to (inaudible) of sale and conveyance of the property to the Port Authority for sale to the University and we’d have to (inaudible) sunshine an ordinance vacating out...”

Unknown – “How did you (inaudible) the street?”

Mr. Mastros – “West side of University Blvd.”

Chris Petrossi – “Franciscan Way west.”

Mr. Mastros – “Franciscan Way west.”

Mr. Paul – “Do you all (inaudible)...”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yeah.”

Mr. Paul – “Written up?”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yeah.”

Mr. Mastros – “That’s fine. Let me do that for you.”

Mr. Paul – “We can do it tomorrow? Instead of (all inaudible). Would that be okay tomorrow?”

Mr. Mastros – “(All inaudible).”

Mr. Paul – “Just have something written up for us we’ll do it tomorrow.”

Mr. Mastros – “Very good.”

Mr. Villamagna – “(All inaudible from coughing)”

Mr. Paul – “Yeah that way we’ll get everything in line. Okay.”

Mr. Mastros – “Thank you.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Costa? How about the other; for the other property on South Street? (Inaudible) property.”

Mr. Mastros – “I think that’s not (inaudible); I don’t think that’s firmed up yet.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Okay.”

Mr. Mastros – “There’s a lot (all inaudible).”

Unknown – “What about Frank?”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Keep at it.”

Mr. Dressel – “Franklin Ave. we’ll do tomorrow as well right?”

Mr. Mastros – “Oh yeah. Franklin as well. I counted that as the University because they want that.”

Mr. Paul – “Mayor Can I make a...”

Mayor Barilla – “Mr. Paul yes.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes. I’m not; I may of said the Port Authority and I was; I’m sorry if I did say that. The Regional Transit Authority Board.”

Mayor Barilla – “Correct.”

Mr. Paul – “I’m sorry if I said that because you looked at me confused and I want to make sure it was the Regional Transit Authority Board. Sorry about that.”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. I received the letters from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency; for one I wanted to see black and white with the approval of our loans. I’ve already signed the documents and they’ve got in so they verified this with that. So I’d like to give these to the Clerk so she has; thank you. Again they are aware of our financial situation. I’ve had numerous conversations with them and I think they’re pleased that we’re heading in the direction that correct our issues that they have been talking to us about for many years and this is what they wanted. I’m not quite sure on the movement. The previous director of the Ohio EPA is now in Athens, Ohio. There was a change naturally with the new Governor coming in so that brings him closer to us. So I look forward to working with Mr. Butler a little closer now that he (inaudible) more closer to us and he’s well familiar with the problem. So we’ll stay on top of that. I had a request come in from Trudy Wilson from the; it’s the old 4th Street which is now down on South Street; the medical center there. She’s interested on August 2nd the First Friday of setting up a barbeque on the grant street lot and having some dancing there but I need to talk to her because this is actually quite a ways out of the realm. It’s on the 200 block (inaudible) the 300 block there but again she showed an interest for this as a fundraiser for them so that’s something I’ll look into more and brief Council on it. Glenda Harlan called; sent an e-mail; Karly has been in contact with; (inaudible) tonight Mr. Dressel on your; the ordinance on our garbage pickup; mainly the cans being left out and she has a legitimate complaint. She furnished us with photos so we’ll have our sanitation people follow up on this but again it shows the citizens do communicate with us. They bring up issues here and we’ll deal with the issue. I don’t want to go into a lot of detail but there’s been a lot of e-mail traffic discussing a church here in the downtown area. I did my ground work on this and just to put this out and all I can do is reiterate this; do not believe what you see on Facebook. Do not believe what you see in e-mails that are being posted because I can tell you right now that entity had all the permits it needed to do its work. There’s some things that need to be

finished up on. What drew my attention was the seriousness on a couple issues there so I immediately had our inspector Mr. Bodo go out there today and those are completely false plus the documentation was there when the State came in and inspected the boarders. So again everything has been in compliance except for some things that need final inspection. So again I want Council rest assure our people are doing their job as well as the State also and again all I can tell anybody that wants to post something on Facebook or send out e-mails just come and see me we'll get to the bottom of it and we'll go from there. Mayor that is all that I have this evening."

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

Mr. Timmons – "Can I say something (inaudible)?"

Mayor Barilla – "Yes."

Mr. Timmons – "That letter wasn't signed either was it?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "Well there was some e-mail traffic that identified a sender."

Mr. Timmons – "Okay."

Mr. Mavromatis – "And again we dug a little deeper into that and there's always an ulterior motive."

Mr. Mastros – No report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

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

Mrs. Hahn – "Yeah. I wanted to follow up on a conversation that has been ongoing; different people talking about how as a Council we might be able to talk to each other and one of the hard things about the sunshine laws it fixes a major problem and it; in the past I've heard some towns have leadership that had a public meeting and then they actually went somewhere else and had the real meeting and where they made a lot of decisions and so the sunshine laws of Ohio are correct that and they make sure that what we're doing is out in the public. Where it got confusing is through e-mail because it's supposed to be a prearranged meeting; which an e-mail rarely is; and then it's supposed to be people who are in close proximity and that's a little difficult to navigate but when I took the sunshine law training three years ago they said you got to really watch e-mails. So I called the Ohio Attorney General's Office today and just talked through somethings. It is not possible for us to do a kind of work session or a work retreat that is not open to the public with the media there. It's not possible for us to gather for a meal or to have even four of us at an event unless that event is just information; even attending an event. When it comes to e-mail it is possible for any of us to send out an e-mail for informational purposes and probably the best thing would be to actually say it right on this is for informational purposes and then we're not to respond individually as if we're beginning a conversation but it is possible for us to legally send information to each other. It just; it gets tricky so you know for; it's difficult because I think it's hard to know how to talk to each other and build relationships and build trust when everything has to be in front of the public eye but I know we're committed to doing the things that are the right; the right things to do in the State of Ohio. So I'm grateful for the concerns that have been raised in different ways and I hope that kind of addresses (all inaudible). I'm disappointed there isn't a possibility for a work type retreat but it just isn't."

Mr. DiLoreto – "Jerry?"

Mayor Barilla – "Mr. DiLoreto."

Mr. DiLoreto – "I've said it time and time again don't discuss anything on Facebook; don't have Twitter; I don't have e-mail. So if anybody wants to come and see me you better come and see me face to face. Anything else you put on Twitter (inaudible) as far as I'm concerned is all garbage. I want to see somebody face to face. I have no secrets. If I have something to (all inaudible) Councilmen I go right to your face. (All inaudible) but you know where I'm coming from. So as far as I'm concerned let's get rid of this Twitter, e-mail, and everything else and conduct business in a professional way. Thank you. I'm old fashioned."

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Barilla – "We'll now move onto public forum this evening and signing in this evening is Sarah DiCarlantonio but I don't see her in the audience. So Mr. Paul?"

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

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR