

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
August 27, 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 Dressel, Hahn, Paul, Petrella, Timmons, & Villamagna.

Mr. Paul made a motion to excuse Mr. DiLoreto from tonight's meeting. Second by Mr. Timmons. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion accepted declared Mayor Barilla.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Fire Captain Chris Allen, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Financial Accountants Dave Babela & Jeff Yoder, Utility Supervisor Lisa Knight, Water Superintendent Jim Jenkins, Urban Projects Director Chris Petrossi, Engineering Director Mike Dolak, Sanitation Supervisor Bob Baird, Parks and Recreation Director Lori Fetherolf, Parking Enforcement Officer Chuck McGinnis, Linda Harris from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for August 20, 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 – "Nothing this evening."

Mayor Barilla – "Thank you Madam Clerk."

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

NO. 2019-61 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO MEMBERS OF THE STEUBENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD TEAM.

Mr. Paul made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-61 by roll call. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2019-61 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

NO. 2019-62 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2019 AS PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

Mr. Timmons made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-62 by roll call. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2019-62 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

NO. 2019-63 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO PAUL AND SANDY RUE.

Mrs. Haley – "Resolution No. 2019-63. A resolution of commendation to Paul and Sandy Rue. Whereas, Steubenville residents Paul Rue and Sandy Rue performed at the National Senior Games or Senior Olympics held June 14-25 in Albuquerque, New Mexico; and whereas, Sandy Rue performed in the age groups 70-74 and came home with three second-place bronze medal wins and a gold, the latter of which came as part of her contribution in the 4 by 100 meter relay; and whereas, Paul Rue performed in the age groups 75-79 and earned fourth place finishes in the shot put and discus. 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 congratulations to Paul Rue and Sandy Rue for their accomplishments at the National Senior Games or Senior Olympics and wishes them the best of luck in all their future endeavors. Section 2: That the Clerk of this Council shall present a certified copy of this Resolution to the said Paul Rue and Sandy Rue. 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. Timmons made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-63 by roll call. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2019-63 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

Mr. Timmons – "Mr. and Mrs. Rue if you want to; one for each of you. So you know I was reading the article and you guys faced diversity several things; you had an injury and you weren't allowed to throw the disc thing right? But you still did very well. You got a gold medal. You didn't bring it tonight?"

Sandy Rue – "No."

Mr. Timmons – "Alright but yeah congratulations. Thank you for representing Steubenville the way you did and I'll give you both those resolutions. (All inaudible)."

Sandy Rue – "Thank you very much."

Mr. Timmons – "Thank you."

Sandy Rue – "Thank you very much."

Mayor Barilla – “Congratulations.”

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes I really want to have Lori explain in case any of you have not yet signed up for the newsletter that Parks and Recreation puts out it is; it’s a great simple little newsletter. It doesn’t take a long time to read it but if we can encourage more people to sign up you will get that newsletter every month and you’ll be able to say to people these are the things that are happening in Steubenville for kids for recreation. There are wonderful options that more and more coming forward offering things. She just does an outstanding job with that so can you tell people how they can sign up.”

Lori Fetherolf – “Yes just what you said it’s once a month so (all inaudible) people with their e-mail. So you can sign up three different ways. One is just e-mail me with your e-mail address. One is to we have a Facebook page Steubenville Parks and Recreation. You can leave me a message or on that page on the left side it says join and you click on that it takes you right to the page just put your e-mail address in. So it’s real easy I just try to update on what’s going on (all inaudible) in the future. Thanks.”

Unknown – “What’s your e-mail address?”

Lori Fetherolf – “lfetherolf@cityofsteubenville.us”

Mrs. Hahn – “And that’s all I have for tonight.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes it’s nothing really I just wanted to remind everybody that we have a Finance Committee hearings again next week at 5:00 and I think Mrs. Hahn has what till 6:30?”

Mrs. Hahn – “Parks and Rec.”

Mr. Paul – “Parks and Recreation at 6:30 so I just wanted to remind everybody of those two meetings prior to our 7:30 meeting and then next week I’ll call if we want to go move forward with Dave with the other; one of these days we’re going to have to get to Lori’s Parks and Rec. I know we wanted to have Mr. Mavromatis go over some of the other issues in the parks.”

Dave Lewis – “Right.”

Mr. Paul – “So next week I’ll have another date and time for us to continue our budget hearings. That’s it you’re home thank you.”

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – No Report

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor. Just to let Council know I spoke to you on the phone today about Total Lawn Care has got the plan about drafted up here; it’ll be ready either tomorrow or Thursday and he’s going to forward it to me and then I’ll give it to Council and I’ll give it to the Mayor also and he’s pretty excited about doing the job. He said he’ll make it look beautiful so with that being said; then the other thing was I attended a breakfast this morning with Bill Johnson this morning down in Mingo with Sophie Schoolcraft down there and he was very encouraging about the area talking about the unemployment rate has it’s down and everything and the jobs has increased and everything is going to be in the paper tomorrow so I’m not going to even try to say the stats but it was very encouraging. So that was this morning and Sophie Schoolcraft is just an amazing person. She’s 90 years old and she’s just still going strong so I appreciate being invited to it. Thank you Mayor that’s all.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. I have two things for this evening. Back to our parking lot to the west of our building here; I had that reviewed by our Parking Enforcement person Mr. McGinnis we have more than enough spaces there to handle the parking after keeping the records for the last 3-4 weeks. I recommend that we rent out at least the first 10 spaces at \$40.00 a month. The \$40.00 a month is what is set in the codified ordinances. I brought up \$50.00 earlier but rather than have this changed right now let’s go with \$40.00 a month. I would recommend that this be placed in a fund Dave that you could set up; that that money would be utilized for the maintenance of that parking area there. If we have enough that we could start looking at a couple other lots that we could reseal; get the parking blocks set up correctly and open some more there. Several of the businesses have asked; these are the owners; is there places for us to park? And again at this point only 2-hour parking so I know we will fill this up quickly. We have to get an identifiable parking pass that we can issue and we will start with the monthly purchases first and once we get that then we; it’ll be enforced. If we see we can do another 10 spots then I recommend we go that way. As long as we still have spots there for citizens that come down and want to go shopping they have a place to park there. It was also brought to my attention that they had some questions on parking on the 100 block of North 4th Street. There is a sign that’s posted there that identifies it as 2-hour parking. It could possibly be misconstrued. The problem is that sign is right where there is a yellow curb zone. The yellow curb zone takes president over the 2-hour parking so that sign is going to be moved back pretty close to where Yorgo’s is. That way it will line up with the cars; it’s not a painted curb and it will continue going north there so we’ll take care of that. This apparently came up while I was not here last week this had to do with the 911 notification. I talked with the director out there; one that is used for emergency notifications. Clearly our water outage we had back in January of 2018 that was a massive outage; we needed to

let people know but there's two things you need to be aware of landlines are no problem. If you have a cell phone and you wanted to have notifications you must call out there and get it registered or go online like they said. They determine what the emergency is. Having a water outage in a two block may not be classified as an emergency. Also there is a charge; he didn't know what it was at the time. He's going to meet with the directors and let me know. So as soon as he has that meeting he will let me know then I will brief Council on what the charges to us or whoever it has to go too."

Mr. Villamagna – "I thought he told us there would be no charge?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "Well that's what was originally told to me back a year and a half ago. Now apparently he says it's a small charge so let's hear what he says it has to be but I hope that answers what you were looking for and Mayor that's all I have for this evening."

Mayor Barilla – "Do you have something there Mr. Mavromatis for Dave Lewis? His award."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Oh yes. Is there a gentleman here? Yes sir. At this time I'd like this gentleman represents the State Auditor's office in Columbus. I'd like him to come up and present an award to Mr. Lewis and his staff. This is the 5th year in a row that the City and Dave Lewis and his staff has received the Auditor's Award with distinction. Please come up sir."

Perry Alexandrides – "So my name is Perry Alexandrides I'm the East Regional Liaison with the State Auditor's Office and it's my honor to be here tonight. On behalf of our Auditor of State Keith Faber to present the City of Steubenville the Auditor of State Award with distinction. It's important to know that this award puts the City of Steubenville in a very select group. The Auditor of State audits nearly fifty-nine hundred entities across the State of Ohio. That's governments, school districts, (inaudible) you name it. In 2018 only about 5% of those were even eligible for this award so if that tells you anything about how stringent the requirements are. The Auditor of State Award with distinction is presented to local governments on the completion of a financial audit that meet the following criteria. They have to complete a comprehensive annual financial report within six months of the fiscal years end. They have to have a clean audit. No findings for recovery, no material citations, no material weaknesses, no significant deficient, no single audit findings or questioned costs, or other financial concerns, and they have to receive no management letter comments related to ethics referrals, question costs less than \$10,000.00, lack of timely report submission, reconciliation issues, failure to obtain a timely single audit, findings for recovery, public meetings, or public records issues. Basically you have to be perfect. Right? This award represents the hard work of every city employee who strives each day to achieve accounting excellence. I want to recognize the Mayor, City Council, and most importantly the Finance Department for the work that you've done; the excellent job you have done accounting for every single dollar here in the City of Steubenville. I specifically want to recognize you Dave for the outstanding job you've done, your leadership, your professionalism, and your commitment to fiscal integrity. So on behalf of Auditor of State Keith Faber and the people of the State of Ohio I want to present this award to the City of Steubenville for the job you've done."

Dave Lewis – "It's really an honor to receive such an award. It's not an easy thing to as you said to obtain a clean audit and it's not an easy thing to put together a comprehensive annual financial report. Our report is close to 300 hundred pages now so a lot of hard work goes into obtaining a clean audit and putting that report together. These guys are great assets to the City. They do a remarkable job of producing financial reports and (inaudible) the controls and they're very committed to everything they do for the city. I have members in my staff who couldn't make it tonight; Lisa is part of my staff; she's here tonight; does an outstanding job for us and other members do an outstanding job for us. We work really hard to achieve that; this level of recording and do an outstanding job taking care of the public's funds so I appreciate him coming out tonight and presenting this and let Auditor Faber know that we really appreciate you guys recognizing the City of Steubenville for the work we do. We are absolutely..."

Perry Alexandrides – "If I may I'm sorry I had to read all those requirements but just; that was just to give you an idea of the level they go too to watch out for your tax dollars and I think that's something just incredibly valuable to have so you guys are lucky to have Dave Lewis and everybody here in the Finance Department and in the city working for you. It really says a lot."

Mr. Mastros – "Thank you Mayor. As I mentioned last week just a quick executive session regarding pending litigation. That will be the Sinclair Ave. issue. We can have that after commencement of all business or when we're finished with all business I should say. I would appreciate it thank you."

Mr. Petrella made a motion to go into executive session following public forum to discuss pending litigation on the Sinclair Ave. issue. Second by Mr. Dressel. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion granted declared Mayor Barilla.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mayor Barilla – "We'll now move onto miscellaneous and signing in this evening under miscellaneous is Mr. Timmons."

Mr. Timmons – "Yes my biggest; the biggest complaint I'm receiving recently is the parking and you know; I know it always seems to happen when school starts back and I know the issues we have with the streets, drive ways that are small enough only for one car but I still have the problems on Woodlawn, 1700 block of Oregon, Columbia and Oxford east of that intersection has been really bad. You know Chris; you and I have talked about one of the issues with the unrelated you know that ordinance with that and basically its unenforceable correct? I mean that's what we determined?"

Chris Petrossi – “Well we’re continuing to enforce what we have while we work on changes and Costa do you want to add anything?”

Mr. Mastros – “No just we’re; we’re going to keep reviewing the changes and then we’ll present something to Council here very soon.”

Mr. Timmons – “Okay so we will be getting something on that? But in the meantime you know if we could have some Police up there checking; you know a lot of them; I couldn’t even drive my car through the other night and I have a photo of that; just the out of state license plates and just taking up parking on the grass; parking on the sidewalk so and that’s all I have.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yeah I just want to mention two things. The Harmonium Project announced at Council that they would have a forum where they would explain sort of their history and what they hope to do and it was very informative. There were probably between 30-40 people in the room and I’m sorry more Council members couldn’t make it but it was a wonderful presentation and then they followed that up this weekend with the sidewalk chalk event; side walk chalk art event and the Open Air Market and it was wonderful to be there and then incoming students from Franciscan were kind of checking out the downtown with their parents and a lot of people were going into the businesses and so anyway I thought it was a wonderful thing that the Harmonium Project helped make possible and then I had an opportunity to talk to Dolores Wiggins right before the meeting and she said we really should just mention we had 10 take the civil service exam and it’s just the first step but all 10 passed that exam and so we’re very proud of them and hopeful as they continue to go through the process and (all inaudible) to serve. So thank you for your work and I’m very proud of those 10. Okay thank you.”

Mayor Barilla – “I do want to mention I had the opportunity; well not the opportunity but I was there when the fire took place last week. I believe it was on Park Street and a house had burned and it’s the first time I’ve ever been on a scene of a fire that took place of that nature and that day I believe there were three fires that the city fire department had to attend too. And if you ever actually be at a fire and see what these men go through to go into a house that’s (inaudible) to give their life to save someone inside is remarkable. So I have to commend the Fire Department for heroism and the family that was devastated there; losing everything. There was a young boy there that had a shunt in his brain; I think he was 5 years of age he looked more about 3 but anyway he had a shunt inside of his skull that lead to his stomach to let off the fluids from his brain to prevent seizures and he was on medication and he lost all of that. The dad was just absolutely frantic to try to get medication for his son and everything was gone and it was needed to be at 12:00 noon; it was ten after twelve he had no way to get medication but Red Cross came and was very helpful in that. But these men that put their life on the line and that Police Chief back there with the men in our Police Department; boy I don’t know how they handle it or do what they do but they are true heroes in our community so congratulations to both of you.”

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Barilla – “Alright well we have no one signing in these evening for public forum. So we’ll now go into executive session so I’ll ask the audience to please clear the chambers.”

Council Chambers were cleared for Executive Session.

Council Chambers were reopened for adjournment.

Mr. Paul sunshine an ordinance authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Mr. Justin Bailey regarding water service issues on Sinclair Avenue and declaring an emergency.

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