

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
February 11, 2020

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 Timmons, Villamagna, Anyabwile, Dressel, Hahn, Paul, & Petrella.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Utility Supervisor Lisa Knight, Urban Projects Director Chris Petrossi, Engineering Director Mike Dolak, Utility Director Chuck Murphy, Water Superintendent Jim Jenkins, 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 4, 2020. 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. 2020-2 – BY THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Villamagna, Dressel, Hahn

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADVERTISEMENT, BIDDING AND SALE OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 230 SOUTH SIXTH STREET AND DESIGNATED AS JEFFERSON COUNTY AUDITOR PARCEL NUMBER 07-03370-000 WITH THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve had heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2020-2. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-2 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Villamagna called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-2 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect on March 12, 2020.

NO. 2020-3 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES WITHOUT A PURCHASE ORDER OVER \$3,000.00 PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 5705.41.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve had heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2020-3. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-3 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-3 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect on March 12, 2020.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Timmons – No Report

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor. I’d like to sunshine a resolution authorizing the purchase of Parcel No. 07-07886-000 located at 1435 Arlington Avenue, Steubenville, Ohio from the Jefferson County Land Bank.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – No Report

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes tomorrow night is the next Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Superintendent of schools Melinda Young is going to do a presentation. The presentation she gave to Council she’s going to give to Parks and Recreation Board meeting and then they’ll be a discussion about when community meetings will follow. It’s very important that everyone know that is definitely part of the plan to have those meetings. No one is going to be disenfranchised. Hopefully everyone will get to hear their ideas and where we’re just going to see where we go from there but hopefully tomorrow night they’ll be an announcement about when those meetings will happen and where they’ll be. They’ll also be some information about the tot lots and probably in March that’ll be finalized and so again Lori will address the concerns about that. They’re going to begin working on a comprehensive five year plan to have goals set for the various parks; won’t be something set in stone but it’ll be a guideline for where we hope to go and what needs to be replaced, changed around etc. Also calls were put in ten days ago to the U.S. Coast Guard and the Army Corp. of Engineers to begin the conversation about the

various events we want to have this summer and we had an initial call back from the U.S. Coast Guard; I think what he told me was this is the time of year where they go to a lot of conferences away and so we'll just keep leaving messages and make sure that we touch base but it is really important. We're hoping to draw more people to the marina again so we want to know well in advanced what their criteria is. How many people may be expected may make a difference on what the regulations are. So we'll have to keep people abreast about that. Okay thank you."

Mr. Paul – "Yes you're Honor I have an ordinance; it'll be Council as a whole; an ordinance to approve and adopt current replacement pages to the codified ordinances, and declaring emergency. This is our; all the ordinances we have. We use to go through Drane and Assoc. and now we go through someone else Karly correct?"

Mrs. Haley – "Uh huh."

Mr. Paul – "Okay. It's the big thick book we all have. The Mayor have one sitting up on top of; you're sitting on it? (All inaudible from background chatter). Okay he's on top of it. The next thing I'd like to talk about is last week we discussed fire; I'm sorry EMS. I know there's some issues that the union proposed. I was told that's why I interrupted you; I went behind your back. I wanted to know if we could discuss it tonight in executive session but I was told no. So if there is anything from union; okay I'm directing all this to you right now."

Mr. Mastro – "Yes sir."

Mr. Paul – "If Mr.; the Fire Chief has something may I see what the Fire Chief has from the union? We need to go forward with this. I don't want to sit here and drag our feet."

Mr. Mastro – "Right."

Mr. Paul – "Because I'm tired; I went away to Texas and all I saw in the paper was an editorial from the Herald Star; I saw something else from the City of Wintersville; I saw where you and you went to the meeting. Okay? I wasn't there. I'd loved to have gone with you but I was out of town. Okay? Another thing I have is today on News 9 Jessica Haberly has discussed what you have discussed with her. Okay? I don't want to be blindsided. Alright? You and I get along but I'm a tell you what I need to know where we're going with this. Okay? So can I have what Carlo has from the union?"

Mr. Mastro – "Sure."

Mr. Paul – "Can I have that?"

Mr. Mastro – "In terms of communications or (inaudible) or whatever?"

Mr. Paul – "Communications."

Mr. Mastro – "I'm not sure what you're referring too."

Mr. Paul – "(All inaudible) from the union? I mean isn't that."

Carlo Capaldi – "I don't have anything."

Mr. Paul – "I was told today by the union president that you had it. You were going to discuss it with Mr. Mavromatis."

Carlo Capaldi – "Yeah I don't have a plan from him. I mean yeah I don't."

Mr. Paul – "Okay? I'll just deal with it myself."

Carlo Capaldi – "Yeah."

Mr. Paul – "I'll talk to the president myself and I'll get it."

Carlo Capaldi – "I don't know what you're talking about."

Mr. Paul – "Okay. Alright. Alright then I'm fine. Thank you you're Honor."

Mr. Petrella – "The only thing I have your Honor is basically on the same line as Willie does is that we asked for information from ASI and we've asked for information from Rob Herrington. Have you received any of that?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "I'm still waiting on information from ASI. I had a phone conversation with them today and Rob Herrington; Chief have you received anything statistical data from them?"

Carlo Capaldi – "Nothing new no."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Alright I'll call Mr. Herrington tomorrow."

Mr. Paul – "I talked to him today."

Mr. Mavromatis – "And what did he say?"

Mr. Paul – "That's where he told me; well it was the union president told me Carlo had it; the Fire Chief had it."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Okay."

Mr. Paul – "I don't want to sit here."

Mr. Mavromatis – "No."

Mr. Paul – "In the public."

Mr. Mavromatis – "No you're absolutely correct and I'll make this easy for you. You have no issues whatsoever if you need to talk to the Department Head or anybody."

Mr. Paul – "I have no problem talking with Carlo."

Mr. Mavromatis – "No."

Mr. Paul – "But I just want to move forward with this. I don't want to sit here and read all the articles and everything that is going around and around and other cities saying what they're saying."

Mr. Mavromatis – "I put it to rest with News 9. There's no more comments to News 9 from me on this."

Mr. Paul – "Okay."

Mr. Mavromatis – "And I am the spokesperson for the city."

Mr. Paul and Mr. Mavromatis – "(All inaudible)."

Mr. Paul – "You ever see me."

Mr. Mavromatis – “No. It just; so News 9 done. Herald Star has not approached me and I’ll give them the same answer. This is a decision that has to be made by Council and my recommendation based on what’s given to me by my Department Head Chief Capaldi and hopefully we’ll have the best plan that we can look at and go from there and that’s where we stand right now.”

Mr. Paul – “Okay.”

Mr. Petrella – “Because I think that Scott made a very valid point; I mean before we can make an intelligent decision we need to have some facts and figures.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I agree. I can’t even make a recommendation to you until I get it from these sources.”

Mr. Petrella – “I just want to make it very clear that this Council is not dragging their feet. We don’t have the information that was requested.”

Mr. Timmons – “I agree with you. I think you know the past two weeks we’ve had people tell us (inaudible) the situation is; we need to make up our minds and that’s what we’re trying to do so.”

Mr. Petrella – “Thank you.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. Last week Mr. Timmons brought up a point that he wanted me to look into. This had to do with the blue stripe of paint that’s out on the 100 block of South 3rd St. and the red stripe that is on the 400 block of North St. There is two issues here; one was brought up about a vehicle a tesla; I telephoned a former salesperson of tesla; those devices are set up to go on at least 32mph. The speed limit is 25mph but putting that part aside the way they are developed those systems are set up to bounce on multiple curbs, markings on the street, and that is highly unlikely that that would happen what was described and if it did happen there’s a malfunction with is equipment in there and his recommendation was to bring it in to the shop. That was one part of it. The other part was can we have this as a city and the answer is no. I talked with our State Representatives at the Ohio Department of; our district office for our traffic engineer and he sent me a copy of the actual policy which comes from the National Department of Transportation. Further he also sent me a complaint that was made to them which they forwarded to the State and the State forwarded it to me. The phone is no good on there. I tried calling it. It’s a dead number so the bottom line is regardless of who reported it we can’t have it there and I explained to our State official that it’ll be removed at our earliest convenience pending weather and having the funds to take it out. So those will be removed. Yes sir?”

Mr. Timmons – “Yeah I’d like to think about something that we can do for the Police and the Fire. You know (all inaudible) with those lines. I just; something you know because if that’s the reason they wanted them removed (all inaudible).”

Mr. Mavromatis – “The only person that knows that but unfortunately he is accurate; the complaint is accurate in what he said so we’ll have to remove it. So I’ll leave that up to Council or you Mr. Timmons; whatever you think might be appropriate.”

Mr. Timmons – “Okay thank you.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Today I went down to Columbus and spent four hours at a meeting by the Attorney General’s office. What this has to do with is the opioid crisis that we’re facing in Ohio and the thing of it is they would like to form what they call a “One Ohio”. That is every community in Ohio together file a suit and support the State. The State already has a pending suit to the Attorney General’s office but the Governor wants and the Attorney General wants all the villages, townships, and cities to support them in this. So one quick action can be made and then everything is broken down based on population to grade the complexity of the opioid crisis in your community. I went through and looked at the data that they had there; if we were part of this along with the rest of the cities in Ohio and a settlement was made and if this was on a one billion dollar settlement; there’s been talk of 18 billion; one billion every year that’s on another issue not this particular one but that would bring approximately 1.2 million to the city in cash. Then the rest of the funds that are there go into a foundation that is made up of City Governments, State Representatives, and you can apply to them for additional funding on things that you have spent through the years for opiate addiction whether it be narcain whatever the case may be. So I have an MOU that was given to everybody there. I’m going to have Costa review it and I’ll have a copy scanned and sent to each of you so you can take a look at it and that’s how it was left there at the meeting today but both the Governor and Mr. Yost our Attorney General came to the conference and spoke about it and this is what they’re looking for and this is the plan that they have and they’d like to have the participation of all the cities here in the State of Ohio. That’s all I have to report tonight Mayor.”

Mr. Mastro – No Report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mayor Barilla – “Signing in this evening under miscellaneous we have Mrs. Hahn.”

Mrs. Hahn – “I just have one small thing. A reminder about the Chocolate Walk. If you haven’t bought your ticket yet you can still get them. Do you know how many tickets are still available?”

Mayor Barilla – “They’ll have enough.”

Mrs. Hahn – “So (all inaudible) paid for a ticket and then there will be a number of different businesses that you can go and get something chocolate of each spot and then you come back and turn in your card for a raffle; for a

drawing. So I encourage people; it's a wonderful effort and it's a great way to see more of our businesses; they had more businesses sign up this year. So we'll put a plug in for that."

Mayor Barilla – "Thank you."

Mr. Petrella – "So Mayor?"

Mayor Barilla – "Yes?"

Mr. Petrella – "Where can tickets be and how much?"

Mayor Barilla – "They're \$20.00. The ticket at the Visitor Center across the street. It's on Saturday I think 10 till 4. The winner in the drawing will get to; two tickets of; a free meal at a local restaurant. So that's what the prize would be or is going to be. Plus you get the chocolates from everybody else. Alright thank you."

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Barilla – "We'll now move over to public forum and this evening we have signing in Mr. McLaughlin. So Mr. McLaughlin if you'll step forward and state your name and address."

Patrick McLaughlin – "407 Colonial Drive Steubenville, Ohio. I'm here because of my concerns about moving this Municipal Court to the Justice Center. I know public safety is a big issue right now and a lot of people don't have the luxury of having a car so a lot of people travel by foot and I'd even asked people that cross a major highway with a continuous flow of traffic to make it to the courthouse. I don't think its right for you to ask people to do that and it's not safe. Jim hit the nail right on the head when he was on TV the other day; you can have a million red lights if people aren't paying attention accidents are going to happen. I believe this stretch of highway on Route 7 in Steubenville is probably the most treacherous along the entire route of Route 7. Not too long ago; Carlo you was probably down there the employee from the Justice Center was leaving work and was involved in a horrific accident; changed their life forever leaving the Justice Center. It's not safe. It's not a safe intersection. I can only imagine having to cross there with your children. People with disabilities; a walker, a wheelchair; you have to think about these things. Are we willing to put somebody's life on the line to cross a highway twice to get there and to leave? I just think it's an issue that needs to be addressed. It's not safe to cross that highway and I just hope that you really think about the concerns of the people who have to cross that road to make it to that facility. I don't think it's safe. I think the money should just be invested into this building; this is the Municipal Building right here it says it right out front. That's what I believe. I think we should just invest the money into this building. It's safe. People can make it here safe and I just wanted to address my concerns. Thank you."

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