

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
February 18, 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 Villamagna, Anyabwile, 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, Utility Supervisor Lisa Knight, Urban Projects Director Chris Petrossi, Engineering Director Mike Dolak, 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 11, 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. 2020-7 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF PARCEL NO. 07-07886-000 LOCATED AT 1435 ARLINGTON AVENUE, STEUBENVILLE, OHIO FROM THE JEFFERSON COUNTY LAND BANK.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve had heard the reading of Resolution No. 2020-7. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Resolution No. 2020-7 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Villamagna called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2020-7 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

NO. 2020-8 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve had heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2020-8. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-8 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-8 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor I’d like to sunshine a resolution proclaiming March 2020 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – No Report

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes so under Parks and Recreation we had the Parks and Recreation Board meeting last Wednesday and the Steubenville City Schools made their presentation on Jim Wood Park. Is the community meeting set up?”

Lori Fetherolf – “I’ve not heard of anything.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Okay that’s the next phase is having a couple of community; one or two community meetings where they’ll make their presentation and people will be able to ask questions. Then it will go back to the Parks and Rec Board for their recommendation to City Council and Lori will make that recommendation on behalf of the board and herself and then we’ll have an opportunity...”

Mr. Villamagna – “Kimberly I have a question about the presentation.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yeah.”

Mr. Villamagna – “It is to my understanding and when I saw it does not show where they are going to relocate the stuff that’s going to be removed.”

Mrs. Hahn – “That was the last drawing that they submitted right.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Are they going to submit another drawing before we have the meeting? Okay.”

Lori Fetherolf – “Yes because (inaudible) she kind of said wherever we would like the playground equipment to go and that kind of stuff but yes there will be a final presentation.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Before we have the...”

Lori Fetherolf – “Yes. Correct. Yes.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Thank you.”

Mrs. Hahn – “So yeah there was one shelter that has to be relocated, the gazebo.”

Mr. Villamagna – “The splash pad.”

Mrs. Hahn – “I don’t think the splash pad had to be relocated but they want to put in something that; recycling it so it won’t be a constant use of water. It’ll use a lot less water. They hadn’t put where the track would be. They will have a walking track and then a little more parking. That was another feature that was pointed out so.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Are you in communication with them Lori?”

Lori Fetherolf – “Yes and so you’re right so they were going to put a walking track around the soccer field so it was just; she said that preliminary plan was to make sure that everything could fit in to that location.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Right. Okay.”

Lori Fetherolf – “So they do not have where the walking track will be rerouted and they’ll have walking tracks (all inaudible).”

Mr. Villamagna – “When they mentioned parking that brought something to my head was there’s definitely not enough parking there just for what’s going on right now so and I understand that they own some property on the other side of the school also. Just so they’re aware that there’s a parking problem.”

Lori Fetherolf – “Yes. Yes. Yes in fact her and I talked about where would be a good location to have more parking.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Alright.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Thank you.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor. First of all I’d like to make a motion we’d go into executive session regarding to discuss the preparation for collective bargaining with the Fire Department concerning their compensation and their other term in conditions of their employment.” Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion accepted declared Mayor Barilla.

Mr. Paul – “The second I would like to call a Safety Committee Meeting. Dave you get off the hook here. Next Tuesday February 25th right here in this building at 6:00 p.m. That’s it.”

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – “Yes I want to introduce Carlotta and Teresa from the CDC Hilltop Group. They have a couple announcements to make.”

Teresa DiCarlantonio – “Thank you Eric. Teresa DiCarlantonio 407 Lawson Ave.”

Carlotta Jordan – “Carlotta Jordan 616 Ross Park Blvd. Steubenville, Ohio.”

Teresa DiCarlantonio – “We want to make a public announcement our Hilltop organization is holding their litter sweep March 28th. It’ll be our 14th year. We made some changes as you know the past few years. We’re just use; our neighbors are good. They come out; they know whenever they hear when the litter sweep takes place they take care of their block so we don’t meet any more like at Trinity East and you know they just do; they help us out you know they do their block. We’re going to have a little luncheon afterwards. We are partnered with Franciscan University and we get anywhere between 25 to 45 students that volunteer for the effort. What we do now is we scout the area the day before and we go to the areas that need to be focused on. That makes it more efficient and that’s really it unless you have a question.”

Mr. Timmons – “Did you say times?”

Teresa DiCarlantonio – “The time; we’re going to start around 10:00 a.m. till about 12:00; put a couple hours in.”

Carlotta Jordan – “Well this isn’t a bulk pickup because some of them would like that to be but this is little. Any litter around your house and I’m always in the kitchen working and (inaudible) and we give to the students so anybody that would like to make a donation we will do it. We do have a change in officers. I’m going to be President; I’ve been at this for 14 years. I was the exception; I went in the morning; Barb went in the evening; we went to classes. You have to take classes for this. Okay and I’m going to ask you to help us out to feed them; to feed the college children and we are non-profit. We are 501C3 and so your help would be appreciated and I keep a record that of everybody gives me somethings so you don’t have to worry about that and I will probably be coming to more City Council meetings now to see what’s going on in the city. Because we do try to help the city in anywhere we can.”

Teresa DiCarlantonio – “Thank you very much.”

Mr. Timmons – “And that’s all I have.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. From last week’s meeting I have attempted to get information; data information from ASI which they have not released to me. So I have to base it off the statistical data that was given to me by 911. The Chief has prepared a possible plan if you choose to go this way. Our finances are a big question on how much we get into this. I’ve talked extensively with 911 they are willing to work with us like they have been and I just got notified tonight there were two standing calls that they couldn’t respond too. They eventually did but not ASI.”

Mr. Paul – “In city limits?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes.”

Mr. Paul – “I saw that email.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “This is the problem here. The interesting thing that I didn’t know last Tuesday; this is back in 1968 the same problems there and I read the paper article on it so it was alive then. So again this is a lot of cities are going through this and the bottom line is we’re going to have to address this. So again we’re looking at things and this is one of the issues we’re going into executive session tonight because of personnel issues that we’re phased with as a city within our Fire Department and this is what has to be discussed this evening. So again we’re staying on top of this. The other thing I brought up and you may have not of got this; I will see that you get it. It’s a copy of the MOU that the State where I attended the meeting last Tuesday and this has to deal with the opioid settlement going after the dispensers and users; all of this together. I’d like you to take a look at it. They’re going to have a decision made in the next two to three weeks on what direction they want to go. The ultimate goal is having Ohio; it’s called One Ohio it’s for the State itself. Everybody participating together so they can go as one group against the manufacturers and the dispensaries so that’s the goal there. If the statistical data was correct and we were part of this and a settlement was made based on a billion dollars a year our share would be anywhere between 1.2 and 1.3 million. So again if it’s a multiple billion dollar settlement then you just multiply by the years there. So again we’ll stay on top of this and I’ll keep you appraised of this. Yes sir?”

Mr. Villamagna – “Jim I have a question. In the beginning I didn’t hear the first (inaudible) that you said when we were talking; did you contact ASI and asked them for the information and they refused to give it to you?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “That’s correct.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Okay.”

Mr. Timmons – “They refused or they just said you’ll get it later?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “No. They won’t give it to us.”

Mr. Paul – “We’ll just move on without them.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I will tell you this Mr. Bob Persick was here at the meeting last Tuesday and he met with me after. I explained to Bob what I needed and he said he would pass it on and then I ended up calling him two days later and he says that they don’t want to release the information. I didn’t ask for financial. I don’t need the financial but I just need to verify the records of what shows but to give you an idea 911 said there were to ASI was 2,962 calls and approximately 15% or 444 came back to them. Winterville 268 they responded on; this is in the City of Steubenville; 60 from Mingo and 32 from Temps and there could have been a couple...”

Mr. Villamagna – “32 from where?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Temps. Toronto. So again they’re all a part of this; their reciprocal; they help one another and they’re still willing to do this but we’re going to have to react on some type of plan here to do something. It’s going to require funding there’s no ifs, ands, or buts; it’s hard to get an exact but if 90% of all cities today run a fire based EMS. That’s accurate and the majority of those are funded by levies. I mean that doesn’t mean we have to go by a levy but the bottom line is the numbers are there to show that’s how cities fund this is through levies and that may be the direction we have to go there but the bottom line is we’re going to have to get something up quickly and go from there. And I understand some of the conditions with ASI; they’ve been doing this for 50 years and they’re not the only ambulance company that has suffered from these issues of non-paying customers or the pay that was given. It’s just not enough to cover the investment that they have. I understand that but the bottom line is this will have to be addressed by our city now. This is just one of many things that we’re dealing with here. What I’m also going to do; there’s different ways to do it but I’m going to have a document prepared for all of you and this is based on last year’s because I want you to see it in black and white. This city is not in the condition that a lot of the citizens may think it is. It’s improving. Our department heads have worked diligently fixing our leaks, our sewer issues, just to have you with our crime; I mean we have 12 areas that we focus on and 10 of the 12 areas are low again. They are below the previous year so that tells you right there that the crime in our city is down but I also I’d be wrong not to say this our citizens are taking a more accurate part and what I mean by accurate they’re picking up the phone; they’re calling our Police Department and they’re giving them a description or what the crime is or who they are looking for and they’ve been very good there but also with our Police Officers out there; they’re out there; they’re more aggressive and they’re going after the criminals there. So again when you look at this up and down this Ohio Valley this city is in pretty good shape especially in the Law Enforcement standpoint. But all of this; all of our departments here have done their due diligence and you’ll be able to see this and then we can discuss this later. That’s all I have Mayor for tonight.”

Mr. Mastro – No Report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mayor Barilla – “We’ll now move onto miscellaneous reports and signing in this evening is Mr. Petrella.”

Mr. Petrella – “Yes you’re Honor. I realize it’s only February however Chris since we were talking about the demolition and everything along with that goes weeds and litter and there are still lots that have not been cut since last year. Prime example is the lot that is on State and Cedar; the weeds are about as tall as I am right now and there’s a lot of vacant lots there so we do have those chronic vacant lots; if somebody could compile that so we can start getting them into the courts now so we don’t have to wait for later on this summer I’d greatly appreciate that. Okay? And I think if we can get a jump on this and figure out how we’re going to handle this this year and so we can get the city cleaned up and presentable. So that’ll be greatly appreciated. That’s all tonight you’re Honor.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes I just had one thing to mention the Faith in the Future luncheon is a week from tomorrow and I have forms here. It’s a \$5.00 suggested donation. It’s up to you to pay what you can but it’s really a wonderful opportunity to gather together and the speaker this month is going to be our own Mayor Barilla. So very grateful

that you're willing to share and I've got 10 copies up there. I can have more next week. You just go online and sign up so they have some kind of idea on how many people will be coming. So I wanted to recommend that. Thanks.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Barilla – “We do not have any one signing in under Public Forum.”

Council Chambers were cleared for Executive Session.
Council Chambers were reopened for adjournment.

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