

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
May 5, 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 Council persons Hahn, Paul, Petrella, Timmons, Villamagna, Anyabwile, & Dressel.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Captain Kenny Anderson, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Utility Director Chuck Murphy, & Linda Harris from the Herald Star.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for April 28, 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. 2020-20 – BY THE SERVICE COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Dressel, Hahn, Petrella

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DESIGNATING THE CITY MANAGER AS THE LOCAL OFFICIAL WITH THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THE PROJECT AGREEMENT KNOWN AS DRESDEN AVENUE RESURFACING IMPROVEMENTS, FROM THE NORTH TERMINUS TO APPROXIMATELY 850 FEET SOUTH, CITY PROJECT NUMBER 2020-114, 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 INCLUDING UTILITY EASEMENTS, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION/INSPECTION SERVICES, BIDDING SERVICES, ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION, SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST MOST QUALIFIED BIDDER, AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREFORE, AND RE-BIDDING THAT MAY BE REQUIRED.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2020-20. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-20 please state your name.”

Mr. Dressel called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-20 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will go into effect on June 4, 2020.

NO. 2020-21 – BY THE SERVICE COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Dressel, Hahn, Petrella

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE JEF-43-4.18 (SUNSET BOULEVARD) RESURFACING PROJECT, PID 109618 AND PERFORM ALL NECESSARY FUNCTIONS THAT MAY BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE SAID PROJECT.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2020-21. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-21 please state your name.”

Mr. Dressel called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-21 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will go into effect on June 4, 2020.

NO. 2020-23 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 15, 2020 AS PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY.

Mr. Villamagna made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020-23 by roll call. Second by Mr. Paul. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2020-23 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

Mrs. Hahn asked if there were any plans of a ceremony or something to honor the Police Officers is a special way.

Mr. Villamagna replied that he and Officer Marques President of the FOP1 were having the discussion to try and come up with something for the Police Officers next week. He did state that it would be limited to a certain amount of people due to COVID-19.

Mayor Barilla made the suggestion and welcomed about using the Fort near the fountain for the ceremony like they have in the past.

Mr. Villamagna stated that he would talk to Officer Marques and let the Mayor, City Manager, and Council know what they came up with.

NO. 2020-24 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MAY 2020 AS MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH.

Mr. Villamagna made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020-24 by roll call. Second by Mr. Timmons. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2020-24 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

NO. 2020-25 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A VACTOR TRUCK PURCHASED THROUGH THE STATE PURCHASING PROGRAM.

Mr. Paul made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020-25 by roll call. Second by Mr. Timmons. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2020-25 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes I do have a report from Lori Fetherolf. There will be a Parks and Recreation Board meeting next Wednesday. She is still not sure if it will be held in chambers or if a conference call but we’ll be sure to send out a notice to all members of Council and get that to the news media. Secondly the adult fitness unit are being installed this week. One of them at Jim Wood Park and the other one at Belleview Park and finally we don’t have a definitive answer on opening the pool this summer; whether or not we’ll be able to and what time if we are able to. There are a number of different concerns that have to be addressed and I think in many ways the conversation is just beginning considering some of the recreational opportunities this summer at least in the State of Ohio and probably a number of other states. So stay tuned we’ll let you know as soon as we know. (All inaudible) to everything that I wanted to mention under I guess economic development and Jerry congratulations to the Fort on securing the funding for the paycheck protection program. That’s wonderful and congratulations.”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you Mrs. Hahn.”

Mrs. Hahn also sunshine a resolution authorizing and directing the Parks and Recreation Director and/or the City Manager to enter into a fund agreement with the Community Foundation for the Ohio Valley Inc.

Mr. Paul – “I have one this evening you’re Honor. It’s a resolution by Council as a whole.”

Mr. Paul sunshine a resolution declaring May 10-16th, 2020 as National Hospital Week.

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – No Report

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor a couple things here. One I attending the meeting for the Planning Commission and they have a list of 1.4 million dollars in projects. The problem is the city received \$987,239 in CDBG money and \$365,667 of that money is dedicated to the COVID-19 leaving us with \$621,572 but some of the project can be done with the COVID-19 money which they’re sorting that out what can be done and what can’t be done then. The other thing that I wanted to bring up was the demolition program; 414-416 Maxwell has been completed, 1513 Pennsylvania Ave. is also down and completed and on the list there was a prebid meeting on April 29th and the bids will be opened and awarded on May 6th and that’s at 365 Terrace, 438 Linden, 1275 Lincoln, 1420 Oregon Ave. rear, and 1431 Pennsylvania Ave. So they’re working diligently to get these all down so that’s it. That’s all I have tonight Mayor.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “I had question for Mr. Villamagna so there’s a property on N. 6th St. the 700 block was that part of the City’s demolition?”

Mr. Villamagna – “There’s a whole list; I don’t have it in front of me here but there’s a whole list of properties that are on the demolition list which is quite lengthy and I’m not sure if that is on there or not.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “No that one was just completed. It went down.”

Mr. Dressel – “It was private. Peter Riesbeck bought that property and paid to tear it down.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “What address was that Scott?”

Mr. Dressel – “It’s in the 600 block.”

Mr. Villamagna – “What street was it on?”

Mr. Dressel – “North 6th St. He hired Steve Vukelic. He just got it done.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – No Report

Mr. Dressel – No Report

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. I’ll start off with a couple request from Mr. Dressel was in regards to the graffiti that’s on Washington Street. I notified Mr. Baird we’re going to work with Sherwin Williams to obtain some paint and get this cleaned up so we can get this painted. We’re also checking to see if there were any cameras that may have picked up something either at the top or the bottom of the hill of who possibly could’ve done this.”

Mr. Dressel – “Thank you.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “You’re welcome sir. Lighting on North 4th St. we’ll have that done. We’ll need additional lights too but it will be done this month.”

Mr. Dressel – “Okay thank you.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “You’re welcome sir. The COVID-19 I’ve been in constant contact with our Health Department as well as Trinity Hospital as we know here in Jefferson County we have 46 cases and one death at this time. What concerns me is the counties that are north of us Columbiana has 287 and Mahoney which is north of Columbiana they border each other as 961. South of us is Belmont which is 174 and reason being we’re squeezed between both of them and we do have a lot of traffic that goes in between the counties here. I also talked with Sheriff Abdalla today so far so good with the jail. There’s been no issues there and again the good news is as far as the testing Trinity Hospital in conducting their own tests where they don’t have to be shipped out like they were before. So if we need to get a test done hopefully we can get it done within 24-48 hours or less. Just to bring up to Council so they’re aware I met with the Health Commissioner and their employees today they’re receiving a lot of aggregative and harassing phone calls from some business people and citizens here. None to the atone that would be criminal charges could be but it just shows you the temperaments of people today. The Health Department is only enforcing what has been put down in place by our Governor and that’s what they do. There’s a lot of misinformation that is out there. We had requests that came from a restaurant today that wanted to set up tables outside which they could not but listening to the Governor’s briefing today and messages on their website there should be a direction this week at some time on the opening of restaurants and what protocols they’ll have to find. Internally with all of our employees they are doing well, they are doing their job, and they are out there every day. We still have the City Building that is on shutdown with limited access and those that do have to come in and conduct business here they are put into our system here so we can maintain a log on who’s been in our building, what time, and what the purpose was and again I appreciate Council being available for these meetings to keep us going and I’m hoping that things work out by the end of the month we may be able to have you all back down here. It’s just going to depend on what the curve is, what our numbers our, but we will keep you apprised and again thank you for taking the time out of your schedules to be here and that’s all I have Mayor.”

Mr. Mastros – No Report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mayor Barilla – “Next on the agenda is miscellaneous reports and signing in this evening we have Mrs. Anyabwile.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Thank you you’re Honor. I just wanted to make a suggestion because I don’t know all the different people that are assigned to committees and you know the different; how do you say? Like for instance when we; the commission. That’s it that’s the word. That you know that maybe we get the information two to three weeks in advance of whose position on one of the commissions is coming up so we have a chance to talk about the person to see if they are the right choice because you know sometimes there may be names coming up that I don’t know. I can’t vote on somebody that I don’t know and then I have a question if we do talk about the person would that be considered personnel and would we go into executive session?”

Mr. Mastros – “So that would not be considered personnel. They are not employees of the city that would all have to be on the record.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “But I still would like for us to be able to discuss who we’re putting on the commissions and the committees.”

Mayor Barilla – “Well that’s the Mayor’s choice to select someone to be on these various committees and then it goes before Council but we can give you the name or names ahead of time so that we can get information to you as to their background and other things that you might need to be aware of.”

Mr. Dressel – “(Inaudible) appointing the Mayor is Council can only approve or deny.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “I’m sorry what did you say Mr. Dressel?”

Mr. Dressel – “Council only approves or denies them we don’t appoint them. The Mayor appoints them so it’s his prerogative who he chooses. It’s in the charter.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay and then we you said approve or deny them.”

Mr. Dressel – “Right you can either say yes or no.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “But it would be good to know in advance who it is so when it’s time to be appointed we kind of know who they are.”

Mayor Barilla – “I can make sure that you get that information all of Council prior to the nomination.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay thank you.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Costa that resolution that you wanted sunshine about the recreation. What’s that about?”

Mr. Mastros – “If you recall a few months ago I had put out an email memo to all of you regarding this Ohio Valley Foundation and it’s an arm that will allow the Park Board to essentially raise money through this foundation to receive grants to do all those things that we really can’t do as a city and target various parks if we want.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Now that you brought it up it refreshed my memory and I do remember you talking about it. It’s been a couple months ago so I forgot about it.”

Mr. Mastros – “Yes sir. If you search your emails Mr. Villamagna you’ll find that memo in there. It lays it out pretty good but you can call me.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I remember Costa. Thank you very much.”

Mayor Barilla – “Okay next under miscellaneous we have Mr. Paul.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor. In my ward I’m having an issue with ATVs okay? I understand that if they don’t go on the street there’s no penalty to the individuals. To get to the house in question the riders have to traverse the road but a lot of the times we don’t have the Police presents to sit there and wait on these kids to come down the road. We have an ordinance its ordinance number 1337.13 it’s unnecessary noise and its states no person shall make, continue, or cause to be made to continue at any swimming pool or family pool and allow any unnecessary unusual noise. Any noise that annoys or disturbs and this just applies to swimming pools; injures or endangers the comfort and repose in health and peace or safety of others and that’s all I have up because I was doing it from my cell phone. Also we have an ordinance 505.09 barking dog or howling. Okay? So we can go to a neighbor’s house and tell them to shut their dog up; put them inside but we can’t stop the noise from these ATVs. I’m getting a lot of; like I said numerous calls and they are not only doing that. They’re urinating in public; they’re also drinking; they are doing some other things so according to OHSA standards and I don’t know if OHSA applies to a neighborhood but 85 decibels if you go with a time weighted average and that’s probably 4 to 5 hours that could be hearing loss. This could lead to a noise induced hearing loss NIHL according to OSHA standards. It’s possible to (inaudible) an app to perform your own hearing noise levels which in the mill we had some meters to do that. So I’m going to give you a couple examples that 90 decibels which like I said 85 is the level; the threshold; 90 is a lawnmower or a motorcycle at 25 feet distance. Okay? And 100 which is outdoor motor and jackhammer and 110 is loud rock music and the steel mill which we worked in and Mr. Petrella and Mr. Villamagna know this from previous years of working in the industry. The other one I have is 120 is a chainsaw. If you’ve ever heard one of this things run it sounds like a chainsaw. Chainsaw is at 120 and it’s immediate loss to your hearing so the neighbors that I have in this neighborhood that are dealing with this for I don’t know how many years; I don’t know I’ve been hearing about it for 5 months and I don’t want to say the neighborhood but I think we need to come up with an amendment to our 1337.13 unnecessary noise limits because I’m telling you I’m getting nothing but complaints and I think it’s the noise. I really do and like I said I know we can’t pick these gentlemen up driving down to the location where they’re going but I don’t know what that would be under Costa? I’m asking you right now what that would be under. Would that be under health and safety? Look up 1337.13 and I’m not sure what that’s under in our ordinances but I need help (all inaudible).”

Mr. Mastros – “Right so what we can do is we can take a look at our current ordinances and how they read and then if we need to adjust then we can. If it a matter of just enforcing what we have I can get with the Chief and Mr. Mavromatis and get a plan together. However if we need to amend our ordinances because if our ordinance really doesn’t deal with the situation that your constituents are confronting than we’ll go ahead and amend the ordinance approximately. I can give you a call tomorrow and we can discuss.”

Mr. Paul – “Okay and can you figure out what committee that’s under then I will go with that person. I don’t want to step on anybody’s toes. I just want to make sure we do it the proper way.”

Mr. Mastros – “Yes we’ll do that as well. Yes sir.”

Mr. Paul – “Thank you my friend.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Mr. Paul just to back you up on that. I don’t know what’s been going on but the last two weeks it’s been almost unbearable on Efts Lane. They’re just coming back and forth back and forth and I mean they’re not just putting they’re open full throttle back and forth. There’s woods in the back there and they’re going in it. It’s become a real problem there too. I’ve got some calls about it also so it’s becoming worse and worse because these ATVs are becoming more popular every day.”

Mr. Paul – “And I know on Pleasant Heights I’ve had complaints. I’ve had some complaints on Pleasant Heights a couple months back so I mean I know it’s going on through the city and I just think we need to address it.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yeah I agree with you 100%.”

Mr. Paul – “Costa I’d appreciate that.”

Mr. Mastros – “Yes sir.”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you Mr. Paul. Also signing in this evening is the Mayor and I want to remind Council and the news media that this week May 7th is Tuskegee Airmen Day in the City of Steubenville and I want to read to you here a letter sent to the granddaughter of Jerome Edwards who is buried in the Union Cemetery whose tombstone is almost unrecognizable and so we petitioned the government to provide a new tombstone for Jerome Edwards. So the granddaughter Helen Edwards received this letter and I’ll read it to you. It says the United States of America honors the memory of Jerome Edwards. This certificate is awarded by a grateful nation in recognition of devoted and selfless consecration of the service of our country in the Armed Forces of the United States. Signed Donald J. Trump President of the United States. So this young lady the granddaughter received this letter from the President and a new tombstone is going to be shipped to Union Cemetery with the proper lettering on it when it was first installed.”

PUBLIC FORUM

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