

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**  
**August 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 Council members Paul, Petrella, Timmons, Villamagna, Anyabwile, Dressel, & Hahn.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Captain Ken Anderson, Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi, Sanitation Supervisor Bob Baird, Engineering Director Mike Dolak, Water Superintendent Jim Jenkins, & Linda Harris from the Herald Star.

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES**

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for August 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. 2020-50 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3<sup>rd</sup> reading**

**Messrs. Villamagna, Hahn, Petrella**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DESIGNATING THE CITY MANAGER AS THE LOCAL OFFICIAL WITH THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THE PROJECT AGREEMENT KNOWN AS JEF-SR7 15.93 TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADES, PID NO. 113672, CITY PROJECT NUMBER 2020-131, 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 – “You’ve heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2020-50. If anyone would wish to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-50 please state your name.”

Mr. Villamagna called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-50 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect September 17, 2020.

**NO. 2020-51 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ESTABLISH A FUND OR MULTIPLE FUNDS, AS MAY BE NEEDED, FOR THE STEUBENVILLE MUNICIPAL COURT MENTAL HEALTH COURT AND DECLARING IT AN EMERGENCY.**

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2020-51. If anyone would like to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-51 please state your name.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Why would it be considered an emergency?”

Mr. Mastros – “So we are receiving the funds and we didn’t realize it was going to be so soon. Judge Mascio has informed us and this was last week within 30 days at some point so we have to do this as an emergency to get the funds created and allow the money to be deposited into those funds and then start the process of going down once he starts to hire a Mental Health Coordinator. That was the reason why.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “So we wouldn’t have time for it to go through three readings the normal way that you know it’s voted in?”

Mr. Mastros – “No because it would take us three weeks to do that and then 30 days after that for the effective date. So you’re talking 60 some days and it wouldn’t have those funds created in time. For accounting purposes Dave wanted at least one of those funds created so those grant funds could be deposited.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay so we would have to wait another 30 days after we said yes we want to have the funds created?”

Mr. Mastros – “Correct. After the ordinance is passed then its 30 days for its effective date.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay. I see. Thank you.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-51 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will go into effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor. First of all I am proud to state that for 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year the City’s Finance Office under Dave Lewis’s direction and his staff have received the Auditor of State Award given for outstanding record keeping. Dave I’m very proud of you and I’m very proud of everybody in your office and I thank you for the great work that you and your staff do.” Mr. Paul also scheduled a committee meeting for next Tuesday August 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the July Month-End Report.

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – Mr. Timmons sunshine an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to apply for, accept, and enter into a Supplemental Water Supply Revolving Loan Account agreement on behalf of the City of Steubenville for payment of and completing construction of the Phase I Water System Improvements, specifically the Valve Rehabilitation/Replacement and leak detection project and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Petrella – “Why is it an emergency?”

Jim Jenkins – “This one is part of the Phase I project; this work has already been completed. Unfortunately Phase II started before Phase I was complete we had an oversight in the financial part with the engineering department and myself; more work was completed than we had funds for in the Phase I. Normally this would be rectified by a change order; we tried to put in a change order to do the payouts for Phase II because we still have money in Phase II that payout and change order was denied by Ohio EPA and the funding agency due to the fact that we didn’t have a certain line item in that project of Phase II even though it was part of Phase I. This work has already been completed and that’s what the emergency is we just need to get the money in place so we can get the change order processed properly, get the contractor their money and move on and close out Phase I.”

Mr. Petrella – “Okay thank you.”

Mr. Villamagna – Mr. Villamagna sunshine a resolution declaring the month of September as Prostate Cancer Awareness month.

Mrs. Anyabwile – No Report

Mr. Dressel – “Okay I have three ordinances to sunshine all concerning paving.” Mr. Dressel sunshine an ordinance authorizing and directing the City Manager to make application for a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission to be used towards funding the City of Steubenville 2021 City Street Hot-Mix resurfacing improvements, City Project No. 2021-100 and to execute contracts as required. An ordinance authorizing the City Manager to advertise for bids for the 2021 City Street Hot-Mix resurfacing improvements, City Project No. 2021-100, subject to the right to reject any and all bids and rebidding that may be required, authorizing the entering into said contract with the lowest and most qualified bidder, authorizing payment therefore and to execute contracts as required. An ordinance adopting the City of Steubenville 2021-2025 City Street Hot-Mix resurfacing improvements 5 Year plan.

Mrs. Anyabwile – “So I have a question. Does hot-mix different from repaving and if so how?”

Mr. Dressel – “No it’s not different.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay so in the streets that were presented in this ordinance are different from the streets that were presented a couple of weeks ago in that paving request.”

Mr. Dressel – “This probably does not include the CBDG paving. That’s different funding for it.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “I see.”

Mr. Dressel – “Yeah that’s paid out of the block grant. A different grant that the manager is applying through is Ohio Public Works so we can check on that and confirm it you know because we have three readings of these. But I’m pretty sure that’s what you’re seeing because I know why you’re asking because the streets in your ward aren’t on there.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Right well I see the community development division which is the Steubenville Planning and Zoning Commission.”

Mr. Dressel – “Yeah they oversee all of it. It’s still engineering it’s just a different grant.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay thank you.”

Mike Dolak – “Yes what Scott said is true. The streets like Hill and Spring those are through the CDBG program. These streets that you see in front of you that Scott just introduced those are through the 7/10 income tax so it’s two different funding.”

Mrs. Hahn – No Report

## REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. I just want to give an update to Council on where we’re at with the positive testing in Jefferson County. Today we’re at the high of 257 and we’ve had one other individual pass away due to the virus and just to give you an idea this is going from June the 30<sup>th</sup> where we had a low of 80 up to that date. So this has been approximately 47 more days that we’ve gone there so we’re averaging about 3.6 positive tests and those are the ones that we just know about. We still don’t have a real quick turn around on some of this testing but that’s where we’re at per the Jefferson County Health Department. Mr. Villamagna the letter will go out tomorrow involving the neighbor that we met with Monday. So I just wanted to let you know that that letter will go out tomorrow.”

Mrs. Hahn – “I just wonder how many positive tests have there been in the last week?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “We had 239 then so in a week’s time what we have now; we had 18 cases that we’ve gone up in the last week.”

Mrs. Hahn – “And then a total of four deaths now?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes we just had one recently that passed away.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Okay thank you very much.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “You’re welcome.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Jim I’d like to thank you and Costa and Mike Dolak for the time that was put in researching that sidewalk thing. Thank you very much.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I appreciate that Bob. That’s what the gang is all here for. What I’d like to also do I’d like to have Mr. Dolak brief Council on a couple issues here that’s why I had him come in this evening.”

Mike Dolak – “Council last week I believe Karly sent you an email and some attachments and it was called local roads Oil and Shale. Did you receive that?”

All – “Yes.”

Mike Dolak – “Okay and what that is this was pushed through about a year ago through the State Rep Jack Cera’s office working with the Ohio Dept. of Transportation and it’s funding for municipalities roads that have been impacted by the oil and grass industry work. So what I thought would be good for us to apply for would be a project like a pavement rehab project resurfacing at the intersection of State Route 7 and Third Street. The southern limits would be along State Route 7 at Wells and then the northern limits would be up at third and then we’d also would do that pavement rehab all the way back into almost where to the entrance of where Pilot J is at as well as the old Wheeling Steel property which I believe now is called Tide Water/River rail. There’s a lot of offbeat gas companies that help assist in oil and gas that do trucking out of there and that may be a good project for us to apply for. This is state funding through the gas tax and it is the projects are 100% funded and what I would request tonight; Costa if you were okay; if Council is okay with this just a yes vote so I could put the application in and the process is the application would be due on September 15<sup>th</sup> of this year and we would be notified at the beginning of next year if we did receive an award and then construction would commence sometime between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 and this work is paid for up to \$500,000 at 100%. Is there any questions?”

Mr. Mastros – “I have no issue with that Mike. A motion and a vote to permit you to make application for that is fine. It’s kind of like normally that we do; I’m sorry not as normally as we do but as normal for whatever reason I don’t know why we wouldn’t want to do it; just because we make application that we received we don’t definitely have to do it. Correct?”

Mike Dolak – “Well if we would get the reward then the next step would be for me to bring an ordinance to Council moving on with the project so yes if Council is interested then we would move forward. Just a nod today and then we would move forward with a full ordinance at the first part of next year if we would be lucky enough to receive that project.”

Mr. Mastros – “Okay and that’s fine. I don’t have an issue with that and I know we would have to formally do and accept the grant money and all that but by formal ordinance. That’s fine. A motion and a vote to make application tonight is fine.”

Mr. Dressel made a motion that we move forward with the vocal vote on the Oil and Shale grant application. Second by Mr. Timmons. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

Mr. Mavromatis – “One more thing that I wanted to let Council know about I talked with Mr. Herrington; since they agreed to come into Steubenville and cover it they’ve come in 126 times since we had that agreement set up with them. Just to give you an idea on the number of calls that they’ve come in to the City of Steubenville. Not to mention the number of calls that our own Fire Department has gone out on. So just something to keep in the back of your mind. I met with today; he came in just to see how things were going with the two ambulances that we had arrive was the distributor came in from Kentucky to check on everything. Our heart monitors are in. We’re now waiting for our carts and supplies and as soon as we get those in we should be ready to go out and start giving service to the citizens. That’s all Mayor.”

Mr. Mastros – “Just briefly you’re Honor. This week Mr. Mavromatis and I and Mr. Petrossi had a meeting with our outside Counsel regarding our complaint that was filed against or will be filed against us by the House of Rights Commission. I’m not ready to brief you yet. It was a good meeting and hopefully we’ll be able to brief you shortly in executive session hopefully coming up within the next two weeks. That’s all I have.”

## MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

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

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Thank you Mayor. I just wanted to report the assemblies in the community are concerned about speeding through certain blocks which children are playing. For instance on 8<sup>th</sup> Street between (inaudible) and South St. and South St. there was actually a child and he was hit last year because of you know drivers that come through and we’re speeding and didn’t see the children out there. They wanted to know if it was possible to get speed bumps there and I have talked to a couple of people and I know speed bumps have been requested on different streets and the difficulties but at least get some kind of signs out there requesting drivers to slow down; children are playing because right there on the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and South there is a group of children who play right there on that guardrail and you know they come out towards the sidewalk towards the edge of the curb sometimes and you know the kids are playing and they ride their bikes. Another family requested some

kind of slow down mechanism on Railroad Ave. because that's another street they said that people just speed through and not even watch. That's what I have. Can anything be done with these two blocks?"

Mr. Mavromatis – “Well I can answer on the speed bumps we don't place those in the city because they'll cause damage to our plows that we use during the winter time.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Right I was informed of that.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “The signs can be looked at and also we can check about setting up radar or speed monitoring in those areas and cite the people that are speeding in there.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay is there signs to get people to slow down?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I just said yes we can. We can get signs it's just a matter of purchasing and getting them placed up there.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay and then also I remember last week when I spoke about maybe looking at maybe having Police start maybe doing foot patrols in certain areas where it's really rough. Is it possible to get some dialogue and come back with an answer in a couple of weeks?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I can give you an answer now if you want it. There are some nights we only have three cars in the whole city. Which puts one out on west end, one downtown, and one up on the hilltops. I would tell you right now we do not have the manpower to do walking beats like they use to do years ago. I would probably say a better approach would be is having these neighbors setting up neighborhood watch programs where they watch out for one another and phone in information when they see something that doesn't belong in their area.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Also like we have those beats that are available why not part of the beat that they pull over to the side and walk one or two blocks that we know that are troublesome like we know the corner of Claire and Rosswell and walk down a block just to have a presents and walk back that's like 5-10 minutes. Because that's still part of that beat.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Well I'll be more than happy to discuss that with you privately if you'd come and see me.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Okay.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I would appreciate that. Thank you.”

## **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