

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
August 4, 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 Dressel, Hahn, Paul, Petrella, Timmons, Villamagna, & Anyabwile.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Parks and Recreation Director Lori Fetherolf, & Linda Harris from the Herald Star.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for July 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. 2020-47 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2019-93 TO AMEND THE REVENUE TAX BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 31, 2020 TO ADJUST FOR THE CHANGE IN REVENUE RECEIVED FROM JEFFERSON COUNTY AS A RESULT OF THE APPLICATION FOR CARES ACT FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2020-47. If anyone wishes to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-47 please state your name.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-47 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will go into effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

NO. 2020-48 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2019-94 TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020 FOR AUTHORIZATION TO APPROPRIATE AND AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF CARES ACT FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2020-48. If anyone wishes to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-48 please state your name.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-48 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will go into effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

NO. 2020-49 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2020-43 SPECIFICALLY AMENDING THE METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF AMBULANCES WITH CARES ACT FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2020-49. If anyone wishes to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-49 please state your name.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-49 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will go into effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

NO. 2020-50 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 1st 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.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes I have a few things to report under Parks and Recreation. We have received two grants which is very exciting and it’s one of the things I think Lori Fetherolf is really to be commended (all inaudible) really great follow through on these grant applications. The first one is from the JB Green Team and they are providing picnic tables that will be at the pool and the Ohio Parks and Recreation Commission has made it possible for us to purchase three computers for use at the MLK Center for the kids and the community to use. This coming Saturday is going to be a cleanup day as long as people at least clean up in the morning at Beatty Park. Volunteers are meeting there at 9:00. If you’ve got a weed whacker or a (inaudible) that might make it easier to cut the weeds on the paths that would be great otherwise bring gloves and help pick up litter and we’re going to be working on the trails so starting at 9:00 this coming Saturday at Beatty Park. On Sunday the Tri-State disc golf Association is going to offer a Frisbee golf demonstration at Beatty Park at 10:00. So that will be Sunday morning we’re hoping they’ll find another day and time to offer that because for the number of people that’s not a convenient day or time but this is their own schedule and they’re offering that. For people who would like to check out Beatty Park maybe even for the first time there’s going to be two different nature walks. The first one is going to be August 13th at 6:00 p.m. so it’s Thursday August 13th at 6:00 p.m. and they will have a naturalist there who will be able to guide people through that appreciate and understand what we’re seeing at Beatty Park. Alright and then I wanted to ask real quickly I was told that someone came to Beatty Park today and it appears that they were dumping insecticides into the creek and someone who was there doing some cleanup took photographs also photographed the license plate number of the person. Did you receive that report Jim?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Kimberly she sent me pictures; the Chief has been given this we’ve identified the person in there but what the problem is they need to call the Police when these are happening not after because the chemicals were dumped and the vehicle leaves. We know who it belongs to and they’ll be investigating this tomorrow.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Okay and actually the first call made was to the Police.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mrs. Hahn – “And then they sent you the information. Okay because we really want to make it clear to the public that they are not to misuse any of our parks in anyway. They need to clean up after themselves and most especially they should not be dumping any chemicals. Okay so that’s the report thank you so much.”

Mr. Paul – No Report

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – No Report

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor thank you I have a couple things. First thing I want to do is I want to send a thank you to the city workers and the community service. Judge Mascio had community service down there at the marina along with the city workers and they did a really great job getting it cleaned up down there. It looks really nice and kudos to Judge Mascio and our city employees that were also down there and also Judge Mascio this week he was able to have the community service workers they cut four lots. So that’s doing pretty good since they’re limited and they are back to work a little bit now.”

Mr. Villamagna made a motion to accept the Mayor’s Appointment to the Port Authority; he’s Rick Rollino he lives at 1803 Hamilton Place term to expire August 2024. Second by Mr. Dressel. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Yes you’re Honor. I would like first of all to thank the volunteers who came out on Saturday. So we picked up garbage and trash and old sofas and mattresses from the alley behind 8th and 7th from Adams to Slack and also cleaned up 8th St. from South St. over to Market and the same group of people are willing to come out again next week and we’re going to attack Linden Ave., Garrett, and Railroad. We’re doing whatever we can to you know clean up because they themselves also want to you know what to have a nice place to live. So I want to thank that crew and we’re going to continue to do what we can for the first ward. So this Saturday at 12:30 and we’ll start on the corner of Linden and Slack and just walk because it’s a one way and then come down around and then come out Railroad and back over to Slack. That’s all that I have.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. Just a quick update to Council we’re up to 208 cases in Jefferson County and 3 deaths. A sad one was Mr. Vic Corsi passed away and a big booster fan for Big Red but a lot of people know him here in town so we still have some active cases here and again I can only reiterate when you’re out wear your mask, stay your social distancing and keep your proper hygiene up washing your hands but everybody is dealing with this. It’s been very difficult when you can support our businesses here with takeout

and a lot of you know which ones those are. The other thing I want to bring up I talked with Mr. Rob Herrington at 911 today he's been notified that for the next 60 hours there will be no EMS coverage in Steubenville by ASI. They're going through some difficult times on keeping staff so we're trying to move as quickly as we can on our ambulances and getting ourselves staffed up here. Mr. Herrington advised that they can get an extra ambulance together but he needs our financial assistance from the city and what it equals out to \$858.00 a day and for the next 30 days that's \$25,740. I talked with Mr. Willie Paul today and I briefed him on this because he's the head of the Safety Committee. I think that this is a necessity at this time it's not really known why ASI is in this predicament but we have to deal with this as a city so I wanted to at least brief Council on this where we're at and we'll deal with the issues as we have too. Any questions from any of you?"

Mrs. Hahn – "Jim so if ASI is unable to staff an ambulance is it possible for them to lend us an ambulance where we would not have to pay; we wouldn't have to pay nearly as much."

Mr. Mavromatis – "No you have too many liability issues. Number one I don't think they would give us an ambulance without their people on board. This was the proposal they had earlier on that they wanted us to supply the manpower and they would supply the ambulance and this is the easiest way to do it right here and again 911 has done a remarkable job of filling in for when ASI has not been available."

Mr. Villamagna – "Jim unless I misunderstood you I think you said the hours but you meant 60 days didn't you?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "No 60 hours."

Mrs. Anyabwile – "So three days?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "No."

Mr. Paul – "No it's 12 hours a night."

Mr. Villamagna – "Okay."

Mr. Paul – "5 days equals 60 hours. What Mr. Mavromatis and I discussed with Mr. Herrington today was (all inaudible) maybe that we can use some of the Cares Act Funds to help offset this money we need to support the Ambulance Service in Wintersville. Because as you know Mr. Herrington has to answer questions to their Council in Wintersville and we think this is probably the best way we can do this until we can also get ours. Tonight after we voted on; tomorrow they're going to cut a P.O. and we're going to start with our new ambulances and they should be coming soon right Mr. Capaldi?"

Chief Capaldi – "Just depends on how quick they can get them here."

Mr. Paul – "We're working towards that goal (all inaudible)."

Chief Capaldi – "Two to three weeks."

Mr. Paul – "Okay. Just to help you out a little bit Jim I didn't want to step on your toes."

Mr. Mavromatis – "No that's fine and so that it's clarified for Council this is the Wintersville Fire Dept. that'll be responding. They have been responding in the past when ASI has been tied up or when they're not available. So I think this is the safest thing we can do right now and we will be expediting. If we have to take and I will talk to the Fire Chief tomorrow if we have to take it out of (inaudible) to staff an ambulance when they get here we're going to do so and so I think these ambulances should be here in about two weeks or less. Any other questions?"

Mrs. Anyabwile – "But in the meantime 911 wants the city to pay \$850 a night for coverage."

Mr. Mavromatis – "That is correct."

Mr. Dressel – "Well they are paying Wintersville not 911 correct?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "That is correct."

Chief Capaldi – "What's going on is Wintersville at night only has two crews on duty and what they said is they can't send both the crews into the city because if they have calls in their city they only have two crews at night; they have three crews during the day but only two at night. He can put an extra crew on a night but that's where they would have to pay for overtime for two people to add onto that crew. That was just one suggestion if not he can't guarantee that they're going to have a crew available over night if there's a call. That's where that comes from."

Mr. Dressel – "It's a good idea."

Mr. Villamagna – "Yeah I think it's a great idea also."

Mr. Petrella – "So if we're paying this money and there's bills sent out do we receive the money from those bills?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "No I brought that up today in our conversation due to his record keeping and how long it takes him to get back they'd have to hire another person just to maintain those books so this is as clean as we can keep it and if you don't want to do this it's no problem you're not going to have any coverage in this city. It's as simple as that."

Mr. Paul – "What we're actually doing is we're paying the overtime for those employees to work that shift and they're going to work it time and a half so that's what we're paying that's what that \$858.00 is. Okay?"

Mr. Petrella – "I understand that but I also pay 911 levy too."

Mr. Paul – "Okay and they need to support their ambulances. So all we're doing is we're paying for a service and we'll provide the service once we get the ambulances and our crew together. But in the meantime we need some kind of help."

Mr. Timmons – "I just wanted to say you know I am in favor of this having that we need the coverage and you know kind of just; you know if there was ever a doubt of whether this was the right thing to do obviously I mean this kind of proves it right here that we were definitely in need of doing our own. So yeah I'm definitely in favor of this."

Mrs. Hahn – "Yeah that's a good point Eric."

Mr. Mavromatis – “Mr. Petrella let me clarify this it is the Wintersville Fire Dept. not 911 that this funding goes too. I want to make sure that’s clear.”

Mr. Petrella – “Okay.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “So this guarantees us coverage for whenever there’s a 911 emergency.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Well there’s no guarantee. What are you going to do if you have five calls and all your things are tied up? So there is no 100% guarantee. What this gives us is coverage other companies have come into this city because ASI was not available; they were on calls and Wintersville was tied up so again with the number of calls; they have dropped a certain degree but they’ve also started to pick up now. And this isn’t just this ambulance service they’re transport. They’ve notified our nursing homes, hospitals on their limitations on transporting so there’s a lot of issues there that they are dealing with. That’s it.”

Mr. Mastros – “Thank you Mayor. Just briefly you all should’ve received my email this afternoon; a memo in an email regarding a lease that we have with Ohio Power. We lease a small parking lot for our M & R employees to park their vehicles there. It’s at the South and High St. area it is renewed every four years; I think it’s been renewed many of times but I know the last time we signed it was in 2016. Ohio Power reached out to me to see if we wanted to lease it again and I explained to them that we did we just have to get authorization. Nothing in the Contract was changed from the last contract. The yearly lease payment is \$375 so it’s (all inaudible) payment but it does provide us parking for our employees. I have no issue with the language. I’m just going to request that a motion be made to authorize and direct the City Manager to sign a renewable lease and we’ll go ahead and get that done and we’ll take a voice vote.”

Mr. Petrella – “What’s the term of the contract?”

Mr. Mastros – “Four years.”

Mr. Petrella – “Thank you.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Well I just didn’t receive that email. How many parking spots does that affect?”

Mr. Mastros – “I don’t know exactly off the top of my head. The email that I sent out to the department heads because I just have to figure out who used it; it was the M & R Dept. and I can’t tell you how many; it’s not a huge lot but it’s a decent size lot where all the employees can park their vehicles.”

Mr. Paul – “And it’s \$375.00 correct?”

Mr. Mastros – “Correct per year.”

Mr. Paul made a motion to permit the City Manager to sign the renewal lease with the Ohio Power Company for our employee parking. Second by Mr. Timmons. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

Mr. Villamagna – “Costa quick question for you. What do we have to do to authorize that ambulance service thing? Do we have to do something tonight? DO we have to take some kind of action?”

Mr. Mastros – “It all depends if we are ready to do it and I don’t know if there’s going to be a written even a memorandum of understanding or a written agreement. It probably should be written and I can get with Mr. Mavromatis tomorrow and Mr. Herrington to scratch out something because just so there’s no misunderstanding what the service is going to be for and the consideration for it. There should be some kind of written memorandum. I don’t think we have to do anything tonight we can do what we just did on a short term kind of agreement like this we can do a voice vote but I think we’ll be okay for next week.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Okay I just wanted to make sure that we’re not unprotected in the city. That’s all.”

Mr. Petrella – “When’s the coverage start?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “It starts tomorrow. There’s been no coverage.”

Mr. Mastros – “Okay I’m sorry I didn’t think it was tomorrow. Why don’t we go ahead and authorize Mr. Mavromatis to go ahead and enter into that agreement just so there is some formality to it and I just didn’t think it started tomorrow. I’m sorry. We can authorize Mr. Mavromatis to do that with a motion and a vote.”

Mrs. Anyabwile - “Can we make a motion (all inaudible) how would we be able to see an itemized statement of what the money is going to like how many employees? How much per hour? How much per overtime hour? Because it sounds like a bill to me and anytime that you get a bill we should see where the money is going and how much we’re paying and why.”

Mr. Mastros – “I don’t want to overstep my bounds here but I think you’ll be able to receive those once we get them. Again I assume that’s the way that would work. A bill would be furnished and we would pay that bill.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “What you’re paying for is to have a dedicated ambulance service for the City of Steubenville whether if you use it or not. If they don’t leave the station we’re still being charged. This is just like any other business you pay to have them there and they’re going to be busy there’s no doubt about it.”

Mr. Villamagna – “It’s a flat fee right Jim?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “That’s correct.”

Mr. Paul – “Is it possible to be like something then and now?”

Dave Lewis – “Well I suppose but there’s no reason if you’re going to authorize it tonight we’ll get a purchase order in the morning and Jim can enter into an agreement later in the day.”

Mr. Paul – “That might be better. That way we can reimburse and it would be the Village of Wintersville that we would be reimbursing.”

Mr. Paul made a motion to have the City Manager enter into an agreement with the Wintersville Fire Dept. to provide ambulance services to the City of Steubenville for thirty days. Second by Mr. Timmons. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Mavromatis explained that we had two people signed up tonight for Public Forum. He contacted the individuals and talked with them about their issues and how we could possibly help resolve them. They were satisfied with their answers and didn't feel the need to come down. He also added that this way of public forum works really well and a lot of people have signed up for 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