

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**  
**September 1, 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 Timmons, Villamagna, Anyabwile, Dressel, Hahn, Paul, & Petrella.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Parks and Recreation Director Lori Fetherolf, Utility Director Chuck Murphy, & Linda Harris from the Herald Star.

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES**

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for August 25, 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. 2020-52 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading**

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE 2021-2025 CITY STREET HOT-MIX RESURFACING IMPROVEMENTS 5 YEAR PLAN.**

**NO. 2020-53 – BY THE SERVICE COMMITTEE – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading**

**Messrs. Dressel, Hahn, Petrella**

**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.**

**NO. 2020-54 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading**

**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.**

**NO. 2020-57 – BY THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE**

**Messrs. Dressel, Timmons, Anyabwile**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DESIGNATING THE CITY MANAGER AS THE LOCAL OFFICIAL WITH THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THE PROJECTS KNOWN AS THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SECONDARY AERATION SYSTEM UPGRADE AND PARACETIC ACID SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT 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 AND MOST QUALIFIED BIDDER AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2020-57. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-57 please state your name.”

Mrs. Hahn – “I had a question. Chuck did we finish the testing that you had to redo for that Paracetic acid system and are we going to be able to use the Paracetic acid or is the replacement project mean that we are not going to be able to use it?”

Chuck Murphy – “We are going to be able to use the Paracetic acid that’s not an issue there at all. The only thing we did go ahead and complete; redo the study (all inaudible) that cause problems with the previous testing through the bypass area. That has been all said and done; submitted to Ohio EPA. We are waiting on their final response in regards to these things but the clarification that I have from them is we’re going to be able to you know work through this aspect.”

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

Mr. Dressel called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-57 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. The ordinance will take effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

Mr. Timmons – “Yes I do have one thing. I’ve been getting some calls about 1504 Foster Place and there seem to be a lot of juveniles hanging around there especially at night. It’s vacant and I guess there’s been issues with it before and I guess 1506 as well so if we can look into that I would appreciate it. Thank you.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor one question. I thought Chris would be at the meeting but I got a call from some people on the north end and they were asking me about this Habitat for Humanity the two lots that we turned over to them. Do we have an update Jim on what’s going on with those lots that we’re supposed to turn over to Habitat for Humanity?”

Mr. Mastros – “I can answer that. So the holdup is on my end Mr. Villamagna. I need to get a title search done and looking at redoing the agreement between us the City and the Port Authority who is our agent but the holdup is on my end and we’ll get that squared away.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Okay because they wanted to start construction; I forget what they told me now what the month was but okay Costa thank you.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – No Report

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – No Report

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor. I don’t have a report but Mr. Mavromatis I spoke with you today moving forward we’re getting close to the end of the year I know that Dave he’s having a rough time; this is a tough year financially and I would like to start thinking about and I would like for us to start meeting in Council Chambers; I would like to start going over the budget hearings. I know that people have a lot of questions. I know we’d like to get a lot of things taken care of and I think we need to do that soon so we don’t at the end of the year we’re not going to have a ton of questions before we vote on it before we have the two weeks off throughout Christmas break and New Year’s Eve. Could you talk with Dave tomorrow Mr. Mavromatis please?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes I can and I know he sent out the (inaudible) to the department heads and we have a return date on that. I’ll get that verified for you and see if we can get started on a date but I do agree with you Council is going to need to come back down here for that.”

Mr. Paul – “And I know it’s a rough year and I understand Mr. Lewis’s part is (inaudible) but I think that the year that we’ve had; I mean we need to dive into this sooner than later. I know it’s going to be tough on Dave and his staff. I know Dave and he’s pretty good at what he does so I think we can come out. AS you said as we spoke today you told me 2021 will be something else too so it’s going to be a tough two years.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay I’ll call you tomorrow.”

Mr. Paul – “Thank you that’s all I have.”

Mr. Petrella - “Yes you’re honor a couple items. One I agree with Mr. Paul I think we need to get back into Council Chambers and I think we need to hurry up with the budget hearings because I will tell you absolutely ecstatically if it comes in on an emergency I will vote no. There’s no reason why we have to do our budgets on emergencies.” Mr. Petrella made a motion to go into executive session following public forum to discuss personnel. Mr. Mastros informed Mr. Petrella that we couldn’t go into executive session to speak on the matter he wanted to because the person is not considered an employee for the City of Steubenville. Mr. Petrella withdrew his motion.

### **REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS**

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. The current briefing for Council our numbers are up to 284 cases in Jefferson County. The unfortunate thing is 8 of these cases come from a group of individuals at a location that they all went to and the Health Department is trying to track this down even further. So the concern the Health Department has at this time is we’re now going into a three day weekend again. If I take you back to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend how the numbers shot up after the holiday so they’re doing everything possible the Health Department can to track these individuals down; where they were at and what the cause of this was. So I wanted to update Council on this right now. Tonight at 6:30 I attended a meeting at TEMS that’s the ambulance service and rescue service in Toronto, Ohio. I met with their Council Board there and explained to them where we’re at right now with this in the City of Steubenville. We currently have our two ambulances here; they have the decals on them. We have our heart monitors in; our supplies are in and we’re just waiting on our cots and mounting hardware which should be somewhere between September 4<sup>th</sup> and September 8<sup>th</sup>. We’re also waiting to get our ESC billing software and our stair chairs. Once we have all that we’ll be up and running with those ambulances. We also looked this past week Chief Capaldi and myself at a possible location that we can store one of our fire trucks so that this will give us adequate room to house two of our ambulances at one of our fire houses most likely it’ll be the downtown station. But the other reason why I met with the Council out there several weeks ago they broke away and they ordered Chief Crago to cease anymore calls coming into

Steubenville because they're being paid by levy out there by their respective townships and they cannot justify why they are continually down here and which I understand this and I briefed them on this where we're at they are very much interested in a mutual agreement aid and once we get up and running they will entertain the idea where they are able to come into our town and I also expressed to them that we've gone up to Toronto with our fire trucks in the past which they were aware of that. But just to give you a little statistical data I wanted Council to be aware of and this came from the 911 center for the month of August. In the month of August there's been a total of 193 calls in the city; 179 of these calls since we added their third crew that's coming from the 911 service out in Wintersville. We have an extra crew on every night. There's not been service from ASI and that's caused to have the extra crew there. This is the staffing issues that they brought so again we're dealing with those issues with them. They've been an extreme help to Steubenville and we're progressing here. Once we get our ambulances in service that we'll go from there."

Mrs. Hahn – "Jim I was trying to right this down. You said 193 calls do you mean between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "That is in the City of Steubenville. It doesn't matter to the 24 hour period for the month of August."

Mrs. Hahn – "Okay so 193 total and 179 of those Wintersville had to have their special crew come into the city?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "179 of those was the extra crew that was added on. All of those calls the 193 were in the City of Steubenville and 179 of those were based on the extra crew that was added."

Mrs. Hahn – "Okay. So only 14 calls for an ambulance during the day time hours 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m."

Mr. Mavromatis – "No again that's just a breakdown for the City of Steubenville. I can't answer specifically if all 179 when they added the third crew so that can be from eight at night to eight in the morning or other calls during the day."

Mrs. Hahn – "Okay thank you."

Mr. Mavromatis – "That's all I have Mayor."

Mr. Villamagna – "Jim I wanted to commend the Wintersville EMT they're doing a great job. I had a call they picked up an elderly woman and people called me on the phone; it happened out here and they really appreciated the treatment that was given to them by Wintersville and I think they're doing a fine job inside of our city limits for us so they're to be commended; Rob Herrington to be commended and all the people that are working there. Thank you that's all I have Jim."

Mrs. Anyabwile – "Can we do a report about the weeds?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "I asked; I have two council people that have sent me a list of the main areas. I met with Costa and Mr. Baird and we're looking as far as we can go legally. Mr. Mastros explained the legal way we have to go about it and I'm looking to stretch what we can do and that's dealing with the right of way of the City of Steubenville. So that's where we're at we will focus on those targeted areas and deal with them."

Mrs. Anyabwile – "Thank you."

Mr. Petrella – "Jim or Costa have we removed the limit on that ordinance or are they still enacted?"

Mr. Mastros – "They are still intact. We did talk about that I do recall; I don't remember and I apologize for that; that's probably going to be on me again but I think what we needed to do was make sure we cross reference the revised code to make sure that the revised code didn't set that limit again because the revised code sets our ceiling. I don't think we can go any more than the revised code or less than the revised code says kind of like the notice issues; you have to mirror the revised code more but you can't go less and I think we wanted to take the date restriction off too if I recall correctly. It wasn't just the height limit it was also the date restrictions is what I recall correctly. Okay then I'll have a draft for everybody."

Mr. Mastros – "Hopefully we'll have a day as I mentioned last week since I haven't heard back yet from our outside counsel that hopefully we can get you a report on our civil rights commission lawsuit but I think he's still waiting for word from the Attorney General's office after the negotiations they were doing but as soon as I hear from them; actually he and I will brief you. I will ask him to call into the meeting and we will go into executive session regarding that but I have not heard back yet. That's all I have Mr. Mayor thank you."

## MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mayor Barilla – "We'll move onto miscellaneous reports now and signing in this evening under miscellaneous reports is Mr. Petrella."

Mr. Petrella – "Yes you're Honor. I could've probably asked this under Jim's report but I know you've been in negotiations with the unions when do you think a briefing for Council will occur?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "I'm glad you brought that up Mr. Petrella. We spent four and a half hours yesterday our next meeting we have two items left and we're meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> and I would say after that then we can come to Council and I can brief you where we're at and we'll go from there."

Mr. Petrella – "Thank you that's all I have Mayor."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Yes September 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 we meet again. So if everything is finished that day then I can bring it to Council that following Tuesday. I'll keep you posted on that."

Mr. Petrella – "Thank you."

Mayor Barilla - "Also signing in this evening is the Mayor and I wanted to ask Council to consider something that's been on my mind since I became Mayor as to renaming of the street or alley behind Mayor Mucci's business which is Steele Alley. If we could change that to Mucci Way. In the amount of years that Mr. Mucci

has given to this City and the amount of money that he has gotten for the City through OMEGA certainly we need to do something to honor him in that regards. So I'm asking however it goes about to; to have Steele Ave. changed to Mucci Way so whether if it's done by a resolution or ordinance Mr. Mastros should know more about that and if Council would consider doing so. I seriously think we need to recognize him because like I said I know that he's brought over a million dollars here to our city and for the 25 years that he's put in the city. If you'll please consider that."

All of Council agreed.

Mayor Barilla – "I don't know how you bring that forth so that we can pass that."

Mr. Mastros – "So what we'll have to do is we'll have to do an ordinance in changing the name of the street. I'll get with Mr. Dolak and get the portion of the street or if it's going to be the whole street and get the particulars so I can get something to Council very soon."

Mayor Barilla – "Thank you Mr. Mastros."

Mrs. Anyabwile – "Can I ask a question because Mr. Petrella did bring up this letter when will we be able to discuss this about the Port Authority appointment?"

Mayor Barilla – "There really isn't any discussion on that. That's the digression of the Mayor and the Mayor's appointment to that position was then approved by Council. As Mr. Mastros said that appointment is not a city employee so I don't know where..."

Mrs. Anyabwile – "But it was said how he was not totally here for three years so wouldn't that disqualify him?"

Mayor Barilla – "Yes so the question is if the Port Authority is willing to wait six months to have that position filled then he could be requalified or put back on the docket to be appointed. If they're not willing then we'll have to make another decision. So that's where it stands."

Mrs. Anyabwile – "Okay."

Mr. Paul – "They haven't appointed (inaudible) in a year so I don't think they would be too bad if we didn't get (all inaudible) on there in six months."

Mayor Barilla – "That's true. I talked with Mr. Scurti about it and he says that he feels the Port Authority would be willing to wait for the time to pass so that he could be then appointed to the board."

Mr. Dressel – "Good idea."

## 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