

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING  
October 13, 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 Petrella, Timmons, Villamagna, Anyabwile, Dressel, Hahn, & Paul.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Financial Accountants Jeff Yoder and Rebecca Colliflower, Parks and Recreation Director Lori Fetherolf, Linda Harris from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES**

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for October 6, 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. 2020-65 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE**

**A RESOLUTION HONORING FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY OF STEUBENVILLE ON THE RANKING OF #15 IN THE 2021 EDITION OF BEST COLLEGES IN THE REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES MIDEAST BY U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT.**

Mrs. Haley - A resolution honoring Franciscan University of Steubenville on the ranking of #15 in the 2021 edition of best colleges in the Regional Universities Midwest by US News & World Report. Whereas, Franciscan University of Steubenville is a private college founded in 1946 in Steubenville, Ohio, combining academic excellence in a passionately catholic environment, whereas, since 1998, Franciscan University of Steubenville has ranked among the elite top-tier of Midwest Universities, whereas, US News & World Report assessed 1452 u s bachelor’s degree-granting institutions on 17 measures of academic quality, whereas, Franciscan University of Steubenville has achieved a ranking of #10 in best value schools by US News & World Report, whereas, Franciscan University of Steubenville has tied for second among best Midwest universities for first-year retention rate, whereas, Franciscan University of Steubenville has placed third overall for students who graduate in the top 10 percent of their high school class, whereas, Franciscan University of Steubenville has achieved a ranking of #9 in best colleges for veterans by US News & World Report whereas, Franciscan University of Steubenville has achieved a ranking of #15 in regional universities Midwest by u s news & world report, now, therefore, be it resolved by the Council of the City of Steubenville, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio; Section 1: that this Council does hereby express congratulations to the Franciscan University of Steubenville for its outstanding ranking Section 2: that the clerk of this council shall present a certified copy of this resolution to Fr. President David Pivonka on behalf of Franciscan University of Steubenville. Section 3: that this resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon its passage and approval by council; otherwise at the earliest period allowed by law.

Mrs. Hahn made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020-65 by roll call. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2020-65 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

\*Mrs. Hahn gave a small speech congratulating Fr. David Pivonka.

\*Fr. David Pivonka gave a small speech thanking Council and the City for the resolution.

**NO. 2020-66 – BY THE UTILITY COMMITTEE**

**Messrs. Dressel, Timmons, Anyabwile**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR A GRANT FROM THE APPALACHIAN WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT TO INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO A NEW WATER STORAGE TANK, PUMP STATION, AND NEW WATERLINE TO CONNECT THE DOWNTOWN TO THE WEST END SYSTEM AND TO EXECUTE ALL CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2020-66. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2020-66 please step forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Dressel called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2020-66 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

**NO. 2020-67 – BY THE UTILITY COMMITTEE – 1<sup>st</sup> reading**

**Messrs. Dressel, Timmons, Anyabwile**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DESIGNATING THE CITY MANAGER AS THE LOCAL**

**OFFICIAL WITH THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THE PROJECT KNOWN AS THE WEST END WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND COMPLETE ALL NECESSARY FUNCTIONS THAT MAY NEED 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, REBIDDING IF REQUIRED, ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST MOST QUALIFIED BIDDER, AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF.**

## **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – No Report

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor.” Mr. Villamagna made a motion to accept the Mayor’s recommendation to reappoint William Hendricks at 310 Maxwell Ave. term to expire Sept. 2025 to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

Mrs. Anyabwile – “So on my quest for letting folks know about their bi-yearly pickup of refuge I talked to a gentleman down on Lincoln Ave. and we talked about the weeds down there. The weeds that are near Circle K across the street and he said he volunteers to cut the weeds one more time and that you know he would appreciate if the City would come out and you know cut especially around the telephone poles and along the sidewalks and stuff because he also wants to see you know a nice area for people to come to Steubenville. And that’s all.”

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes a few things. First of all the next Parks and Recreation Board Meeting is tomorrow night here in Council Chambers and anyone is welcomed to join us. Friends of Beatty Park is going to meet the following evening Thursday evening at 7:00 at the clubhouse again that is opened to the public. This coming Saturday the Parks and Recreation Department has switched their normal Halloween Party from the MLK Center to Beatty Park and we’re still looking for volunteers so any of you want to come especially any Council Members want to come and volunteer it’ll 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We’ll have different stations; you don’t need to bring candy she has had volunteers from her church offer to provide the candy and we’ll just position people around the Park. The children are expected to come in costume and then they’ll go from person to person and then there will be pizza and water offered in one of the shelters for the kids. So it’s a great alternative and I think it’s really worth supporting and if you have family in the area or neighbors encourage them to consider coming out.”

\*Mrs. Hahn then made a motion to go into executive session following public forum to discuss the City Manager’s contract. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

\*Mrs. Hahn also made a motion to follow the recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Board of closing the flats tot lot and repurpose the equipment to another City Park. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor I have two things. One is next week October 20<sup>th</sup> we’ll finish off the budget workshop; it’ll be called at 6:00; it’ll be the Water Department and the Sewer Department those are two big items. It’ll be next week at 6:00. Second is Chief Capaldi on the phone?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “No.”

Mr. Paul – “Okay so I’m going to introduce an ordinance tonight; it’s an emergency and what we need this for is maybe to start the; not maybe we want to start the new Ambulance Service by Sunday and to do this it’ll be an emergency. It’s an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2020-16, the existing table of organization for the City of Steubenville, specifically the Fire Department and declaring an emergency. What this will do is it’ll enable Carlo to hire the two people needed to man the ambulance for this Sunday so that we can start that new endeavor.”

Mr. Mastros – “If I may just to give a little more background. Thank you. So the current number of firefighters is 18 this will bring; this will basically be a temporary change; it’ll temporarily be pushed up to 20 and then upon retirement of one firefighter on December 15, 2020 and the hiring of another mechanic; at the end of December 18<sup>th</sup> it’ll go back down to 18. So it’s just temporarily increasing now and it will revert back to its current number; this is firefighters of 18 by the end of December. Chief can explain it a little bit better but he needed to start the hiring process now. It couldn’t wait for the retirement of the expected retirement of the firefighter in the middle of December. This is to get things rolling so if you have any questions Chief can answer them and he can be on the call for next week prior to our passage of the legislation but he needed this to get the one crew going on the ambulance for sure.”

Mr. Paul – “We already have two personnel ready to go at this position.”

Mr. Mastros – “Correct.”

Mr. Paul – “We’re just going to replace the two firemen.”

Mr. Mastros – “Correct and then it’ll go back down and it’s in the legislation it goes back down; the number of firefighters will go back down to its present number of 18.”

Mr. Paul – “Thank you.”

Mr. Mastros – “And I didn’t do a real good job of explaining it but Carlo can do a little bit better.”

Mr. Paul – “That’s all I have.”

## REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. Next week we’ll have prepared an ordinance; I’ll have Mr. Paul present it. What this is, is authorization for the City for us to purchase body cameras for our Police Department for \$220,000 or less whichever it is; not to exceed 220,000. I have to complement our attorney here Mr. Mastros for the hard work that he did for the research. Everything was supplied by our Police Department and the reason why this is coming solely tonight we had to wait; I submitted this to our Auditors I wanted him to look at that and they’re fine with it. So a lot of work was put into this. This will aid us in doing the back tracing which brings me in to what I want to brief Council on tonight also. We are now up to 406 cases in the County so we’re averaging about 3.1 cases per day here. In the City we have 12 that are being monitored right now but we have a total of 34 in the County that are being monitored right now so needless to say this has gone up quite a bit since June 30<sup>th</sup> at 80 at what we sat then. So each week it seems to be increasing here so again we have to be diligent at what we do on the events that we allow in this city and what we have our city has continued to do by monitoring who comes in our building; the proper PPE is worn and we have enough supplies that we’ve been able to purchase. I will tell you it’s going to be extremely difficult to spend all of the CARES money because of the restrictions that they put on it. We have a current time line right now we have until November 20<sup>th</sup> to have it obligated and then it goes into next year where we can actually receive the goods. It has to be then but we have to have it obligated by November 20<sup>th</sup>. So again this is why we’ve been jumping through hoops here the most important thing was we got our legal opinion and we got the Auditors to sign off on it. That was the most important thing they were very pleased with the work that Costa did and I thank the Chief and you’re people for the information that they supplied here. I will tell you that our officers and firemen have been coming into areas that people have been there that have been contacted with the virus so we do monitor that and we make sure that our officers and our fire people have the proper equipment that they’re dealing with there. And that’s all I have for this evening.”

Mr. Petrella – “I got one question. Once we get the ambulance up and running are we still having a contract with Wintersville?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Right now until we measure how the calls are we will go up to another 30 days with them. They’ve done an excellent job by coming in here and we’ve been fortunate enough to purchase that with the cares money. One other thing I want to bring to Council in which it would be just a vote by the committee.”

Mr. Mastros – “Yes by Council not the Committee.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “By Council. I need all of you to vote tonight; what we’ve looked at we need a storage facility not only for our ambulances but some of our firetrucks. Where our North Street Fire Department is right now they’re going to have to vacate the lot they’ve been using for years. Apparently it’s been sold to the church and they have other plans for it. With that it’ll run \$800.00 a month; we will have the sole use of it and this will handle anything that we need to store now that we do not have the room for. We have our two trailers that’ll be with the Police Department will be in there; our extra firetrucks that are in there; our ambulance that’s there will be parked in there and we will have sole use of going in and out of that. So I wanted to bring this to Council tonight so we could get you to pass this so we can enter a contract with the company that owns it.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Where is it?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “its here downtown. The old donovo building. So they can walk to it from the North Street Fire Station if they have too.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Jim I just have one other question. Have you had a chance to contact other City Managers and find out how they’re spending Cares Act Money or is the Auditor giving you a list like this is what we’ve already got through and approved?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I’ve talked; in fact you’ve brought this up I’ve met with the City Managers from Weirton and Follansbee a week ago again the standards are set up by each State and every Governor has sent off guidance for that so there is differences there. We have clearly followed what our Governor has put out; what our Auditor has put out and what our State Auditor has done and so that’s why it took us probably a good two weeks to do the research on the body cameras and write the legal opinion for it and they’re fine with it. That was my concern. They are the same Auditors that will come in to see us.”

Mrs. Hahn – “By the way that’s incredible because we wanted them to have body cameras and there was no room in the budget for that. So that’s a great gift.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “It’s a blessing just like the ambulances were.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Did we look into the possibility of a second dog? Just from the stand point that there is a possibility that a dog could go where an officer might find it difficult to go.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I don’t know how; I’ll have to look and see if you’re talking about spending the money under the Cares Act.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yeah.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “That’s something that would have to be researched and looked at. We have a little time but we’re also looking at a couple grants that we may get to (inaudible) the dog. I’m a big proponent of the dogs because the dog can do somethings that a human can’t and that’s the advantage of having one. Okay. Alright? Thank you.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “So we still have Cares Act Money available?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes mam. This was last week we had approximately after the third infusion of money \$995,821.74.”

Mrs. Hahn – “That we’ve spent or not spent?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “No that’s what we have right now in our account. That’s the third infusion of money.”

Mr. Petrella – “That’s what’s available.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “That’s what’s available.”

Mr. Paul – “And that’s the one that got pushed back to November 20<sup>th</sup>. The other ones all had to be in by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Which we can’t make that. It’s nearly impossible so now they pushed it back.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Right until the 20<sup>th</sup> but again that’s the amount of money and again because of the restrictions they put on it I’m hoping maybe in the next month or so if Congress can ever get on the right track they may open this up because every city in this country is going through a difficult time right now. What better way to give an infusion of money to the cities to help them out. I wish we could do this for wages but we can’t because one you can’t have it budgeted for the year it has to be something that wasn’t budgeted and clearly the things we’ve been able to spend it on haven’t been budgeted and met the guidelines that they put out. So again I can’t thank Costa enough he put a lot of hours in this. We had it reviewed by our Auditors and they were fine with it and that was another blessing that moment there. So that’s where we’re at.”

Mayor Barilla – “Mr. Mavromatis a question on the storage facility is that a rental?”

Mr. Mastros – “It’s a lease.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “It’s a lease but we have a 90 day escape clause.”

Mayor Barilla – “And a lease is for terms. How long is the lease set up for?”

Mr. Mastros – “We’re still waiting from the landlord that would be Mr. Saltzman to get us a copy of the lease; I’m sorry of his agreement but the major terms are that Mr. Mavromatis negotiated are \$800.00 a month, 90 notice to terminate, and for a term I don’t even think we have a term. It might almost be; we don’t have a term yet so at this point it would be month to month until we get the written lease as to what he is thinking and what we’re thinking but since we do have a 90 day termination clause either way it wouldn’t be an issue but I think we would like to start storing things pretty soon.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes.”

Mr. Mastros – “And he’s taking his time getting us the lease but I know he’s also going to give us access to the property currently.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Right.”

Mr. Mastros – “So one just to make sure we can do that because we’ll bring you back the lease as well but we wanted to make sure that this is something Council is okay with the concept of leasing the building in those general terms and you’ll see a written lease we just have to wait for the landlord to give it to us.”

Mr. Paul made a motion that the City Manager and Law Director enter into a lease agreement for the storage area at the old Donovo building and negotiate with the said landlord. Second by Mr. Villamagna. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

Mr. Mastros – No Report

## MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mayor Barilla – “We’ll now move onto miscellaneous reports and we have Mrs. Anyabwile signing up this evening.”

\*Mrs. Anyabwile talked about changing the public forum ordinance. Mr. Mastros advised her to get with his assistant Mr. Battistel and discuss the changes she wants to make to the ordinance so she had something to present to Council upon sun shining the ordinance.

## 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