

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

Also present; Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Chief Bill McCafferty (Acting City Manager), Finance Director Dave Lewis, Linda Harris from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for November 24, 2020. Second by Mr. Petrella. 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. 2020-82 – BY THE SERVICE COMMITTEE – 2nd reading

Messrs. Dressel, Timmons, Anyabwile

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADVERTISEMENT, BIDDING AND SALE OF VARIOUS VEHICLES AND ONE CARGO TRAILER FROM THE WATER DEPARTMENT.

NO. 2020-83 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 1st reading

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 191.04(B)(2) OF CHAPTER 191 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO BY PROVIDING FOR CONTINUING THE WAGE AND PROFIT TAX OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO, FROM ONE PERCENT (1%) TO ONE AND THREE-TENTHS PERCENT (1-3/10%) PER YEAR, FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR PERIOD, ALLOCATING THE ADDITIONAL THREE-TENTHS (3/10) OF ONE PERCENT (1%) INCREASE TO BE USED, EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT (85%) FOR SALARIES FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AND FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%) FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS, TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT ON THE PRIMARY ELECTION ON MAY 4, 2021 FOR A VOTE BY THE PEOPLE UPON SAID ORDINANCE, AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, OHIO TO CONDUCT SAID ELECTION.

NO. 2020-84 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 1st reading

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 191.04 (B)(2) OF CHAPTER 191 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO BY PROVIDING FOR CONTINUING THE WAGE AND PROFIT TAX OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO, FROM ONE AND THREE-TENTHS PERCENT (1-3/10%) TO TWO PERCENT (2%) FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR PERIOD, ALLOCATING THE ADDITIONAL SEVEN-TENTHS (7/10) OF ONE PERCENT (1%) INCREASE TO BE USED AS FOLLOWS: FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000.00) TO STREET IMPROVEMENTS; THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$300,000.00) FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT; ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) FOR PARKS AND RECREATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND THE BALANCE TO THE GENERAL FUND, TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT ON THE PRIMARY ELECTION ON MAY 4, 2021 FOR A VOTE BY THE PEOPLE UPON SAID ORDINANCE, AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, OHIO TO CONDUCT SAID ELECTION.

NO. 2020-85 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 1st reading

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTING THE QUESTION OF THE CONTINUING OF THE SEVENTH-TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT (.7%) MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX LEVY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR PERIOD TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO, FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION AT A PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE ON MAY 4, 2021, SUCH LEVY BEING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT, PARKS AND RECREATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND GENERAL FUND.

NO. 2020-86 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 1st reading

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTING THE QUESTION OF THE CONTINUING OF THE THREE-TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT (.3%) MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX LEVY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR PERIOD, TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO, FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION AT A PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO ON MAY 4, 2021, SUCH LEVY BEING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING SALARIES OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AND MAKING STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – “Yes I just wanted to say under Utilities I did think that the Street Department did a very nice job last night and into today cleaning the roads. I’m always quick to complain about things but if there’s something good I’d like to talk about that too so I thought that they definitely did a very nice job so I just wanted to say that.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor just under Economic Development I’d like to say; I’d like to remind the people of the City here that there’s a lot of little stores at the mall that have sprung up. There’s a tailor shop out there and other little stores up there and also Hollywood Plaza because we tend to talk about downtown all the time we kind of forget that there’s Hollywood Plaza and the mall. Keep that in mind when you’re doing your Christmas shopping to stop in there and keep them open and that’s all tonight Mayor.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Nothing other than I agree with Mr. Timmons about the roads and to thank the Street Department. That’s all I have sir.”

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “Under Parks and Recreation I don’t have any updates. Under Economic Development I just want to encourage the businesses here in town to be following up with the County Commissioners; they are working through all those applications they may need follow up and I especially want to express my appreciation to Tricia Maple and the people working at the Chamber they have bent over backwards and it really is at this point there’s no (all inaudible) coming to them for all of this work but they are doing it because it fits (all inaudible) of encouraging businesses and non-profits. And then today is giving Tuesday I encourage people to consider making donations to some of our wonderful 501(C) 3 around the city. Thank you.”

Mr. Paul – “I really have nothing but there’s one thing I’d like to talk about. I know the Finance; I had a question a little bit ago in a text message; is Dave Lewis on the phone or present?”

Mayor Barilla – “He’s present.”

Mr. Paul – “Dave may I come down to the city tomorrow for about 15 minutes to a half an hour? I just got to ask you some questions (all inaudible).”

Dave Lewis – “You sure can.”

Mr. Paul – “Talk to you about some dates I know we have the 8th and the 15th and if we need (inaudible) date I would like to talk to you about that. I know that it’s in the Charter that we are allotted \$5,200 a year and I think that’s all we’re allowed as a Council members and the Mayor’s I forget his wage but I don’t want to exceed that. I would like to sit down and talk with you about somethings and I know that everybody wants to get on board with the budget next year so can I come down and meet with you tomorrow Dave?”

Dave Lewis – “Yes sir you can I’ll be down here all day tomorrow.”

Mr. Paul – “Okay. Other than that I have nothing this evening your Honor on that; next week I’ll come up with some times and dates and things that we need to move forward with on the financial budget for next year.

Thank you your Honor.”

Mr. Petrella – “I was going to bring this up under miscellaneous but since you brought it up under committee reports I was just wondering because you said that we were going to have one more committee meeting on the budget prior to the introduction.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes I don’t know if we’re going to do it next week; here’s what I want to fill out to everybody; the 22nd would everybody be wanting to go until the 22nd or would you rather have something the week before on the; I was thinking about this today so it’ll be the 8th then the 15th; would you like to go that week of the 15th or would you like to go until the 22nd? And then that way we can take the two weeks off after that’s Christmas week and then a couple days after New Year’s Eve. It’s up to you guys I just want to sit down and talk with Dave about that tomorrow. I wasn’t sure.”

Mr. Petrella – “Well how about after you talk to Dave how about giving me a call because you know I think after we concluded our hearings I think it was the consensus of Council that we wanted to meet one more time to go over and see what we had and what we can do and what we can’t do and I know there was a couple people including myself that had a problem with a couple of things that the departments had produced or presented to us.”

Mr. Paul – “Well that’s why I said would you like too; I could call a special meeting so would you want to go to the 22nd or go to the 15th and go on a Thursday? I mean that’s only giving you two days. If we go to the 22nd that will give you another seven days so I want to talk with Dave tomorrow about this and then I will get back with you Craig.”

Mr. Petrella – “Okay thank you Willie. I appreciate that.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Mayor? Willie I like the idea of a special meeting where we can discuss nothing but Finances and then that’ll be the last meeting that we have for the year and call it a day. That’s my opinion Will.”

Mr. Paul – “Okay then what I can do; I’ll talk to Dave and then what I can do I can ask for a roll call; is Costa here?”

Mr. Mastros – “Yes sir.”

Mr. Paul – “If I would; okay here’s what I want to do if I would cancel the 22nd but then turn around and ask for a special meeting on the 22nd is that possible or no?”

Mr. Mastros – “So you want to cancel the 22nd the regular meeting; have a special meeting just involving the budget.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes sir.”

Mr. Mastros – “As long as it doesn’t interfere with anything else we need to (inaudible) you can do it. I don’t see why you can’t. I mean it is appropriate to do that if you’d like. There’s nothing legally that says you can’t do that so that would be your call if you want to do that. Council’s call really.”

Mr. Paul – “My main thing would be it gives us another seven days rather than trying to go you know say we did the 15th; it gives us another seven days to look over the budget and make sure we got you know everything is what we want in there. I don’t know is that what everybody wants? I’m not sure. I’m just trying to figure out something for everybody.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Willie what about; can we do a finance committee meeting next week and meet as early as 6:00 to have an hour and a half to go through the budget in more detail and then if we end up actually having any questions that aren’t quite resolved we could still do another finance committee meeting the following week and still have the 22nd to vote on the budget.”

Mr. Paul – “Well that’s all up to Dave. That’s why I wanted to meet with him tomorrow.”

Dave Lewis – “I mean everyone is here but I mean right now I got everything on track. Our finals numbers that we need to finalize the budget come in tomorrow afternoon. We’re waiting on basically a few last adjustments and the payroll goes out Friday to post in the system. Once that comes in we were planning on working the rest of that week possibly into the weekend so that you have the budget books on Tuesday. I’ve been trying to get them done for Friday but sometimes we may need to go through a weekend to get it done for you. The budget doesn’t look too bad at this point. We are close to balancing the general fund. We should be balanced general fund wise, water fund and sewer, sanitation is still a little bit in the red but we’re working on that. We were planning to have everything to you for next week on; that’ll be the 8th; I mean as long as you guys need we can go over the budget; we were going to make any changes that you wanted; the next couple days I mean even if you wanted to meet on Wednesday the 9th I mean I can meet with you there and you can have everything for the 15th.”

Mayor Barilla – “So you want this meeting to take place at 6:00 next week?”

Mr. Paul – “If Council wants I can call for it right now and I’ll meet with Dave tomorrow and find out you know what more we need to move forward but I know this is a tough year for Dave and his staff but yes that’s why I want to meet with Dave for sure without a doubt. If he’s wanting to go next week at 6:00 I’ll call a 6:00 finance committee meeting next Tuesday.”

Dave Lewis – “That’s what we’re on track for.”

Mr. Paul – “Okay we’ll do that Dave.”

Dave Lewis – “Sounds good.”

Mr. Paul – “Your Honor I want to call a finance committee meeting next week at 6:00 on the 8th.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mastros – No Report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Paul moved to adjourn. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll call. All ayes. So moved; meeting adjourned declared Mayor Barilla.

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR