

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 26, 2021

The 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, & Hahn.

Mr. Villamagna made a motion to excuse Mr. Dressel from tonight's meeting. Second by Mrs. Hahn. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Linda Harris from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for January 19, 2021. Second by Mr. Villamagna. 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. 2021-1 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 2nd reading

Messrs. Villamagna, Hahn, Petrella

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND URBAN PROJECTS DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE 2021 CDBG & HOT MIX STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO SAID CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND MOST QUALIFIED BIDDER AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF.

NO. 2021-2 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 2nd reading

Messrs. Villamagna, Hahn, Petrella

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND URBAN PROJECTS DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE 2021 INSTALLATION OF ADULT FITNESS STRUCTURES AT NORTH END PARK AND MURPHY PARK, SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO SAID CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND MOST QUALIFIED BIDDER AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF.

NO. 2021-3 – BY THE SERVICE COMMITTEE – 2nd reading

Messrs. Dressel, Timmons, Anyabwile

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE 2021 CITY STREET PAVEMENT MARKING PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 2021-102, 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. 2021-4 – BY THE SERVICE COMMITTEE – 2nd 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 CITY STREET SIGN REPLACEMENT PHASE 6, CITY PROJECT NO. 2020-144, 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.

NO. 2021-6 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2021-6. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2021-6 please step forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Villamagna called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2021-6 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

NO. 2021-7 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2021 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH.

Mr. Villamagna made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-7 by roll call. Second by Mrs. Hahn. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2021-7 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

NO. 2021-8 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – 1st reading

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO OF AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH JAMES MAVROMATIS.

NO. 2021-9 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING THE THREE (3) YEAR WAGE AND BENEFIT CONTRACT ENTERED INTO BY THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE WITH LOCAL 2015 OF AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AFL-CIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2021-9. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2021-9 please step forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2021-9 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect upon the Mayor’s signature.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor. I have one tonight and it would be a resolution and it’s a resolution honoring former Mayor Domenick Mucci and what I would like to do is rename the alley that he lives on called Steel Ave. and I would like to rename that street as Mucci Way and I would a resolution honoring Mr. Mucci for the many years of service that he’s had and I think he’s deserving of this honor.”

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – Mr. Timmons expressed his condolences to the family of Mr. John DeStefano and to the City of Follansbee.

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor a couple things.” Mr. Villamagna made a motion to go into executive session following public forum to discuss the litigation of the Zimmerman case. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla. “Okay Mayor under planning I’ve got some number from last year; under litter control there was 17 outside storage complaints; 253 litter/pollution complaints; 258 weed complaints; 39 litter citations; 31 weed citations; 9 PRAs which are traffic violations; 2 outside storage violation citations. The litter control officer handled 576 calls. In the building department there was 208 inspections completed; there was 506 re-inspections completed; there was 208 violations processed; 90 cases were referred to the court and 118 are waiting for action from our Law Director. And under Economic Development Paramount pursuits they started that operation drive last week they had 118 people had clicked on the webinar to learn about the program, 20 people actually registered and 16 people actually attended the webinar and they had a mix of people there; several people from the area were there and also I asked them; one of the questions was if anybody doesn’t qualify they’re not just kicked to the side they are referred to SBDC which is the Small Business Development Corporation that’ll handle anything that doesn’t come under the guidelines of what we have. So all in all it’s pretty good and so far it’s starting out pretty good they had 16 people actually in attendance. That’s it Mayor.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Do you know if they’ll do the webinar again? Because they are some people that didn’t get the information.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I can’t answer that. I imagine they probably will because they want to get more people involved so I would say they probably would.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “Okay under Parks and Recreation there really isn’t anything to report. Lori is working toward an Egg Hunt and she just doesn’t have the details yet.” Mrs. Hahn also sun shined a resolution proclaiming the week of January 31st – February 6, 2021 as Catholic Schools Week.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. I wanted to let Council know that this Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the old Hibbetts at the mall the Health Department will be giving the vaccines out to the age groups that's left in the 80 group and then moving on downwards so those two days they will be there at the mall. We will have services from the City, the Police Department and our Paramedic EMTs will be on site so that there's no issues.”

Mr. Villamagna – “That's by appointment only though right?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes those are by appointment there. So again they are slowly moving down the age bracket to get these out. I did also do an inquiry about another possibility of a pop-up test. The Health Department is willing to do that it's a matter of getting everyone else like the National Guard and try to hold it in the downtown area here. So again when I get a little more information on that I'll give it to Council but everybody's in support of it but I can tell you this our Health Department has been busy five days a week trying to administer these vaccines and then keeping up with their statistical data and the back tracing on the positive cases here but again they give me information every day so there's a dialogue there. So they're doing a remarkable job with the limited amount of vaccines that they are getting here so hopefully more will be coming in the next copy of weeks here but everyone is dealing with that same issue. And that's all I really have to report tonight. Again Mr. Timmons brought up Mr. DeStefano I did meet with him and the other City Manager from Weirton from time to time in the mornings and when you sit and talk with other City Managers it's remarkable how all of you deal with the same issues. Money is usually the number one issue. No one seems to have enough of that but again it was a good relationship with him and I'm very sad about his passing but it's an important thing that he doesn't go unrecognized because this is real life and this is hitting home and the citizens have to pay attention and I know it's a pain and it's upsetting; it's been a long year but we have to maintain our diligence and keeping up with the masks and the distancing until everybody can get these vaccines so that's all I have Mayor.”

Mr. Mastros – No Report

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

PUBLIC FORUM

Council Chambers were cleared for Executive Session.
Council Chambers were reopened for adjournment.

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