

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 25, 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 Villamagna, Anyabwile, Dressel, Hahn, Paul, Petrella, & Timmons.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Urban Projects Director Chris Petrossi, Linda Harris from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

Mayor Barilla read and presented a proclamation to James Middleton the Director of Nursing at Trinity Hospital. Brief statement by Mr. James Middleton.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for May 18, 2021. 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. 2021-26 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Villamagna, Hahn, Petrella

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER AND MAYOR TO SIGN A CONVEYANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE JEFFERSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY TO EFFECTUATE THE SALE OF TWO PARCELS OF REAL ESTATE TO THE FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY OF STEUBENVILLE.

Mr. Mastros – “Mayor? Thank you. Hopefully at long last we’re going to vote on this today. As late as this afternoon we were making additional changes; I sent you an email wanted to correct some of the typographical errors in the ordinance. I sent you all the changes in redline version and the corrected version so before we pass can I have a motion to correct those typographical errors as found in the ordinance; we’ll make that motion; pass it and then we can have the third and final reading but we have all the documents now in the order in which everybody has accepted them. Thank you.”

Mr. Villamagna made a motion for the corrections in Ordinance No. 2021-26. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

Mrs. Haley read Ordinance No. 2021-26 as amended.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2021-26 as amended. If you wish to speak on Ordinance No. 2021-26 as amended please step forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Mayor before I call for question; Mr. Lewis is the communication still going on?”

Dave Lewis – “Yes. Not since I spoke when you asked me a couple weeks ago.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Okay but everything...”

Mr. Paul – “Can I table (inaudible).”

Dave Lewis – “(All inaudible) they are working on getting us the information needed.”

Mrs. Anyabwile – “Should we not wait until everything is finalized before voting for the third time?”

Mr. Villamagna – “I tend to agree with...”

Mr. Paul – “I do too.”

Mr. Villamagna made a motion to table Ordinance No. 2021-26 as amended until everything is finalized with the TIF program. Second by Mr. Paul. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2021-26 as amended is tabled until further notice.

Mayor Barilla – “Is that okay Mr. Mastros?”

Mr. Mastros – “Yes and I’ll reach out to at least the attorney I was working with on this agreement that was representing the University and I’ll just them expedite the information that Mr. Lewis needs and we’ll get this back going.”

NO. 2021-34 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. Villamagna, Hahn, Petrella

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE OHIO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FOR THE 2021 COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION (CHIP) PROGRAM AND

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A PY 2021 COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION (CHIP) PROGRAM APPLICATION WITH THE STATE OF OHIO ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2021-34. If you wish to speak on Ordinance No. 2021-34 please step forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Villamagna called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2021-34 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect on June 24, 2021.

NO. 2021-39 – BY THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE – 2nd reading

Messrs. Paul, Villamagna, Dressel

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT, 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 MOST QUALIFIED BIDDER, AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREFORE AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED.

NO. 2021-42 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE WEEK OF MAY 16, 2021 AS NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK.

Mr. Dressel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-42 by roll call. Second by Mr. Paul. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2021-42 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

NO. 2021-43 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE WEEK OF MAY 16 – MAY 21, 2021 AS NATIONAL EMS WEEK.

Mrs. Haley – “A resolution proclaiming the week of May 16 – May 21, 2021 as National EMS Week. Whereas, the theme for EMS Week 2021 is “This is EMS: Caring for our Communities”; and whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to test EMS professionals like never before. EMTs, paramedics and other frontline workers are rising to the challenge and each has a crucial role in responding to the public health crisis of our lifetime; and Whereas, National EMS Week is a time to recognize and honor EMS professionals for their tireless dedication to their communities not just during this pandemic but every day; and Whereas, throughout the pandemic, EMS has been on the frontlines, caring for the sickest COVID-19 patients, while also staffing COVID-19 testing and vaccine clinics. EMS Week is a chance for communities to come together and express their gratitude for EMS practitioners, our nation's paramedics and EMTs, as well as their families, have been through so much. Recognizing their service and sacrifices is an important step in healing and recovery from the stress and intensity of the past year; 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 acknowledge that the week of May 16 – May 21, 2021 shall be designated as “National EMS Week” in the City of Steubenville. Section 2: That the Clerk of this Council shall issue a certified copy of this Resolution to Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi. 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.”

Mr. Petrella made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-43 by roll call. Second by Mr. Paul. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2021-43 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

Brief statement from Mr. Petrella.

Brief statement from Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Villamagna – No Report

Mrs. Anyabwile – No Report

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes just one thing the Parks and Recreation Board meeting is tomorrow night but unlike the last few months it’s going to be in the clubhouse so it’s open to the public and we would love to have you come if you’re available. There will be an updated report on Beatty Park for sure and I’m very sure that Lori is going to give us an update on the pool and how we’re making head way there. If anyone is interested in helping me out I’m going to be working on it next week landscaping at the pool. If you have a little group of students or people in the community; an organization that might be willing to help it would be wonderful. Just contact me through the city and I’m more than happy to tell you when I’ll be working on it. Thank you so much.”

*Mayor Barilla informed everyone that the City installed the plaque at Beatty Park for Gerald “Yonk” DiLoreto. Also Delores Wiggin’s plaque was installed in the City Building.

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor I have one.” Mr. Paul sun shined an ordinance under finance. It’s an ordinance an ordinance adopting a tax budget for the Fiscal Year 2022 for the City of Steubenville, Ohio providing for a public hearing thereon. “This is the tax we submit to the County correct David?”

Dave Lewis – “That’s correct.”

Mr. Paul – “Anything else you want to add to that?”

Dave Lewis – “It’s just 2022 that’s a document showing the County that we’re planning ahead for 2022 and of course we do that five year forecast so we’re planning ahead every month. We’ve taken that data and put it into the format that they have requested and we’ll submit it to them. It will go through three readings so in 30 days it will all be done by July 15th so we can file everything then.”

Mr. Paul – “Thank you Dave I appreciate it. You’re Honor I am done.”

Mr. Petrella – “No report but I have a couple questions. I see that there are a couple lots Jim that haven’t been cut. There’s a lot next to Mr. Pasquarella’s house that I think it’s also schedule for demolition. Chris do we have a tentative date on the possible demolition on that house?”

Chris Petrossi – “I think it’s pretty far down on the list. I don’t have the list with me but I can get you the information (all inaudible).”

Mr. Petrella – “Because it’s going to need cut before that demolition. It’s starting to attract some undesirable animals.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Petrella – “And once again back to the weeds and litter and as soon as we can get part-time personnel on board I’d greatly appreciate it.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you.”

Mr. Petrella – “That’s all you’re Honor.”

Mr. Timmons – “Yes I have a few things. Jim and Asantewa there’s been some emails going back and forth about truck traffic on Lincoln Ave. remember when I brought that up?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes.”

Mr. Timmons – “I did receive a text over the weekend there is still large trucks going up the road because there’s no signs at the bottom of the road. All of the signs are at the top of the road and this person suggests putting one at the Lincoln Ave. off ramp. But it seems like it’s still going on and most of the times it’s early in the mornings so I wanted to pass that along.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Alright. Thank you.”

Mr. Timmons – “Also I turned this in a few weeks ago but there’s a business right here on Market Street and it looks terrible in front of it. Weeds are growing very high you know we talked about trying to attract different businesses and we’re talking about trying to bring a grocery store but I just can’t imagine having to be by this business right now just overgrown with weeds and it’s an active business. Something needs to be done about that and I’ve received a couple citizen complaints about that. Do you know which one I’m talking about?”

Mr. Paul – “Where the hub used to be.”

Mr. Dressel – (All inaudible from multiple people talking).”

Mr. Timmons – “Yeah it’s Dollar Tree.”

Mr. Dressel – “We had somebody else actually go in and propose cleaning it up and putting down mulch for them and they gave him a number that was so ridiculously low that it wouldn’t even pay for half the mulch cost let alone doing the work.”

Mr. Timmons – “But its right there. It’s right in the middle and everybody is driving by it.”

Mr. Dressel – “I mean just clean it up. Even one of the managers could get a weed eater or something.”

Mr. Timmons – “Finally Foster Place. There’s an alley off of Foster Place I spoke to a bus driver this week and he is having trouble; there’s a child that lives at the end and he takes Foster and tries to take that alley but the pot holes are so bad it’s tearing up his bus and I drive that too when I’m doing calls over there so if we could please look at just something to patch it up to make it passable it would be appreciated. That’s all I have for this evening.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. Last week we had two vaccine locations one was at the downtown library which had a little over 50 people came which was an excellent location because the majority of the people that came up were from the housing here that was right down the street about a block and a half. And the other one was up at Schiappa Library up by the mall and they had quite a few people there. I was there early so there wasn’t enough to really see how it compared to downtown. So hopefully they’ll be able to put a few more up in strategic locations where people can actually walk to them is what we need. Last Wednesday we met with the FOP representatives; we have a tentative contract we’re waiting for the final language so it’ll be presented to their union. Thursday we met with the Fire Department the same thing and then today we met with the ACSME Union and we were able to cover the remaining things left there so again I appreciate what Council said in our meeting it’s been very supportive. What we’re waiting for is the final cap from all of my department heads so Council knows how many actual cases that we have of our employees of the virus and how many got put in the plenty box because they had a family member or someone was exposed to it that they had to be off for the 10 days at least. But the city services were still maintained and kept up by our employees so again I appreciate Council listening last week to Dave and myself and once we have the votes are back from the unions and I would say next Tuesday we’ll go into executive session and we’ll discuss those then and we should have them all done. The only thing left that I would ask Council and possibly next week if I can meet with Mr. Paul and Mr. Villamagna the last we have is our non-union employees there’s a couple issues there we need to talk about on some wage increases and I’d like to talk to Council in executive session next week about that. The last thing

is I asked Ms. Wiggins to come down this evening one I wanted her to view where her plaque has been placed and I asked News 9 and I asked the Herald Star at the end of Council so we can go there and they can take a picture. It's a much deserved award. We finally got there and I appreciate your patience Ms. Wiggins but more importantly I wanted to make sure that plaque would stay up there because for those of you who have not touched it it's an extremely heavy plaque but I talked with the manufacturer of it and they sent the specific bolts for that reason so that plaque is secured to that wall there. That's all I have Mayor."

Mr. Mastros – No Report

Mr. Villamagna – "Mayor? If I could ask Mr. Mavromatis a question because I keep forgetting. Mr. Dolak I had him go up on Keagler Drive to check the roadway and our streets are already lined up to be paved; could you get Mr. Baird to take a ride up there and see maybe if when they start patching if they can maybe do something there?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "Okay."

Mr. Villamagna – "It's pretty bad and the money has already been expended for the road."

Mr. Mavromatis – "I'll go up there tomorrow for myself and see. There might be a way we might be able to do something temporarily."

Mr. Villamagna – "Yeah if you could I would appreciate it."

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Barilla – "We'll now move onto Public Forum and signing in this evening is Mr. Gary Repella. Mr. Repella please step forward and state your name and address."

Mr. Gary Repella spoke to Council about possibly adopting a small piece of land in Brady Estates. He wanted to just let Council know what they would like to do and it explained how it wouldn't happen for several months because they would have to come up with the money to purchase a nice sign that says "Welcome to Brady Estates". Mr. Repella said himself and some other neighbors would keep up with the piece of land and take it off the city's hands.

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