

## **Minutes of June 3, 2015 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday June 3, 2015 at 6:00 PM in the Donald Myers Memorial Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President Pro Tem Russell Armstrong with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were Robert Krajnyak, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Rick Rodgers, Fourth Ward, Jack Regis Sr., Chris Cleary, and Rob Duncan, Council at Large. Mr. Armstrong will vote as Third Ward Council.

**Correspondence:** Updates to the codified ordinances were received. The resolution to approve the changes to the codified ordinances will need to be passed at the next mtg.

**Minutes:** Minutes were approved as received.

**Mayor:** A copy of the Mayor's report was distributed which will be made a part of the minutes.

Mayor Riethmiller said several businesses have contacted the City about donating trees. A Landscape Committee was formed and will be chaired by Mr. Krajnyak and Mr. Shrodes.

**Auditor:**

The 2016 budget was distributed. A budget hearing will be held on July 1 at 5:30 pm. An exit conference will be held on Monday July 13 at 4:00. End of the month financials were distributed.

**Development Director:**

Ms. Gagin said that Council needs to vote to accept the bid on the County Rd 4 project.

**Code Administrator:** No report

**Police Dept.** No report

**Fire Department:**

Chief Regis asked that Council approve the resolution for the fire levy.

**Water Superintendent:**

A copy of the Water Superintendent's report was distributed which will be made a part of the minutes.

**Park District:**

The pool opened Saturday. Donations have fallen short and the pool may need to close early.

Mr. Regis asked the cost of sponsoring a free swim. Mr. Deaton said \$300.

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit:** A Finance Meeting will be scheduled at the next meeting.

**Street:** A Street Committee Mtg. will be held Wednesday June 10 at 5:30 to discuss the issue regarding Madison Street and paving from license plate money. The paving from last year's license plate money should be completed at the end of the week. Mayor Riethmiller said the Rt. 7 paving project has been expanded so the date has been pushed back. The paving of Zane Hwy should start in late June.

**Ordinance:** No report

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report

**Code:** A mtg. will be held on Monday June 8 at 5:00 pm.

**Safety:** No report.

**Service Committee:** A meeting was held on Monday. Discussed building conditions, painting yellow lines, landscaping, trees that need removed in the Park and purchase and sale of property.

**Cemetery/PR:** Mr. Krajnyak thanked everyone for their help with the flags. The Elks are donating a gross of flags. Mr. Krajnyak said that flags were placed at St. Mary's Cemetery, but that the City did not dispose of old flags in the garbage. Mr. Krajnyak asked that if you remove flags you take them to the American Legion or the City Building so they may be disposed of properly.

#### **Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street asked about a Town Hall Meeting with State Rep. Jack Cera and State Senator Lou Gentile. Mr. Hord volunteered to set up the Town Halls. Mayor Riethmiller approved but asked that they be scheduled in the fall.

Mr. Hord said at the Commissioner's Meeting they discussed how development and the economy are booming in Belmont County. Mr. Hord asked how closely the City works with the County for development. Ms. Gagin said the City has a relationship with the CIC, Commissioners, and Port Authority. She added that there are not a lot of open spaces to build along the river. Mayor Riethmiller said the City gets calls daily about places who want to build here but they want large acreages.

Mr. Hord asked if the closing of the Martins Ferry Party Center is temporary or permanent. Mayor Riethmiller said permanent.

Mr. Hord thanked the Street Crew for patching the pothole on Virginia Street.

#### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

Mr. Regis moved to suspend the 72 hour rule. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary and Duncan voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY TO THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION**

**OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY A ONE (1.0) MILL RENEWAL LEVY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Shrodes moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Regis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary and Duncan voting yea and the motion was declared passed. Mr. Krajnyak moved to pass the resolution as read. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary and Duncan voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Duncan moved to pave Fox Avenue. The motion was discussed. Council agreed that it needs to be done, but decided to discuss in a Street Committee Meeting to decide how Council would pay for the project. The motion was tabled.

Mr. Duncan moved to purchase bag attachments for the tractors at the cemetery. Mr. Shrodes said the idea should have been brought up at the Service Meeting so that there would have been time to get prices and decide how they will be used. Mr. Krajnyak said he will look into it. Mr. Duncan asked about Perpetual Care. There is a meeting with Mr. Stecker after the Council Meeting to discuss.

Mayor Riethmiller added that bags would need to be rear bags and for 4 wheel drive mowers.

Mr. Rodgers asked for garbage cans at the cemetery so people can dispose of flowers.

Mr. Armstrong said we had them in the past and that it is a good idea to keep the cemetery clean.

Mr. Cleary thanked Mr. Suto for repairing the ozone generators in house and saving the City a lot of money. Mr. Shrodes added that taking care of the three wells also saved a lot of money.

Mr. Shrodes said that the water bills included the information on the three can limit for garbage cans.

Mr. Shrodes moved to allow the Chamber to use School Rd. and Alumni Rd. for the fireworks. Mr. Cleary seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary and Duncan voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Regis moved to allow the Fire dept. to block 4<sup>th</sup> Street from Hickory to Clay Street on August 8 for the Fire Dept. Water Battle. Mr. Krajnyak seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary and Duncan voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Regis moved to accept the reports of supervisors and management. Mr. Krajnyak seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Shrodes moved to approve the bid of \$2,897,820 by James White Construction for the County Rd. 4 water project. Mr. Krajnyak seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary and Duncan voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Shrodes moved to go into Executive Session for the sale and purchase of property under Ohio Revised Code 121.22. Mr. Krajnyak seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary and Duncan voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Regis moved to go out of Executive Session. Mr. Cleary seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary and Duncan voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mayor Riethmiller asked if Mr. Bennett was at the last Service Committee Meeting. Mr. Shrodes said yes and that the committee recommended that the City Garage be abandoned. Mr. Shrodes said with the wall collapsing, black mold, and water dripping on electrical the building needs to be abandoned. Mr. Deaton said that water is only dripping on the hot water tank. Mr. Duncan asked who said it was unsafe and are they qualified to make that decision. The City Engineer Jeff Vaughn of Vaughn, Coast, and Vaughn made the decision. Mr. Rodgers said that a checklist needs to be prepared for inspections and issues need to be documented in the future.

Parking of the various City trucks and equipment was discussed. Limited space is available. Mr. Krajnyak suggested that trucks can sit outside and that things could be rearranged to accommodate equipment that can not park outside.

Mr. Shrodes moved to allow Administration, the Development Director, and Auditor to research funding sources for the purchase of property. Mr. Krajnyak seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary and Duncan voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Cleary moved to adjourn. Mr. Krajnyak seconded the motion and after an affirmative voice vote was heard the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Russell Armstrong, President Pro Tem

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council