

Minutes of October 21, 2015 Council Meeting

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday October 21, 2015 at 6:00 PM in the Alerts Fire Station. The meeting was called to order by Council President Kristine Davis 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.

Correspondence: A thank you note was received from Brad Troy, from AirEvac for all the help they received.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as received.

Reports of Officers of the City:

Mayor:

One bid has been received for the striping of Aetna Street. Mayor Riethmiller spoke with Mayor Callarik regarding sharing the cost. Mayor Callarik will ask his Council and get back to Mayor Riethmiller.

Mayor Riethmiller asked that Officer Siburt be given time to address Council under the Police Dept. report.

Service Director:

30 tons of hot mix was used this week to patch potholes.

Clean up day went well.

Water shut offs brought in \$6,000 this week.

Mr. Bennett spoke with Job and Family Services and the City will be getting community service workers.

Mr. Vaughn looked at the slip on South Ridge. He approved the use of gabion baskets with minor changes.

Auditor:

The report from the state Auditor regarding the budget was distributed. A meeting will be held Monday.

Law Director: no report

Development Director:

The county subcommittee meeting will be held on October 28th. Everyone who can make it is asked to attend.

The USDA Grant will tentatively close next week.

Twisted Cone will open October 27. Sugar Mama's will open the second week of November.

Code Administrator: no report

Water Superintendent:

The Hillendale water project has started. It should continue for approximately three weeks.

Police Dept.:

Officer Siburt addressed Council regarding the need to upgrade the Department's side arms and shot guns at a cost of \$7400. The side arms and shotguns are getting old and need to be replaced. Also, the department does not have enough shotguns for every officer.

Mr. Shrodes said that the guns take a beating due to wear and tear and are necessary.

Mayor Riethmiller said that it is important to have a shot gun in every cruiser.

Mr. Regis asked the price difference between the quoted cost and cost for a citizen to purchase the same gun. Officer Siburt said the difference was around \$150.

Mr. Shrodes asked Chief Reese the cost of turn out gear for the Fire Dept. Chief Reese said \$3,000.

Mr. Regis suggested acting tonight if the money is available. Mr. Krajnyak agreed and said he wouldn't want something to happen because we were waiting for a grant.

Fire Dept:

Chief Reese said the Fire Dept. is experiencing problems with false alarms at a residential complex as well as a business. There have been 24 false alarms since March at one building, 16 of those were confirmed elevator shaft issues. Chief Reese asked that the City look into a nuisance fire alarm ordinance. Mr. Regis said he will discuss with the Safety Committee. Mr. Shrodes asked Officer Siburt if the Police Department gets a lot of security alarm calls. Officer Siburt said yes, and most are false alarms.

Mr. Rodgers congratulated the Fire Dept. on the well written letter regarding the fire levy. Mr. Rodgers also asked about the roof on the Vigilant's Station. Chief Reese said there is visible damage.

Committees of Council:

Finance/Audit: a Finance Meeting will be held on Monday October 26 at 3:00 pm in the Mayor's Office. An email was sent regarding financial planning for the next 5 years. A meeting was held on the 12th. The committee discussed funding and making sure the City starts the year where it needs to be financially.

Street: No report.

Ordinance: No report

Sewer/Sidewalk: A mtg. was held on Tuesday October 20 after the Service Meeting.

Code: No report

Safety: No report. A meeting will be held soon.

Service: A Service Meeting was held yesterday. There was a report from the Water Dept. and other service issues were discussed. The committee supports purchasing holiday decorations for the Chamber of Commerce to put up around town.

Cemetery/PR: Mr. Krajnyak said the grass is finally slowing down. One more final cutting is needed to prepare for winter. Flags will be put up for Veteran's Day on Saturday November 7 at 9:00 am. Mr. Suto said water at the cemetery has been shut off.

Citizens to be Heard:

Bill Rice of the 1100 block of Indiana brought up parking on Breitenstein and Indiana. He said citizens are parking too close to the corner and a fire truck would not be able to make the turn. Mayor Riethmiller said the curbs can be painted and signs installed.

Carol Toland of 805 S. Zane Hwy. said a neighbor is feeding cats on the roof and that there is a strong smell. Also, someone is feeding pigeons. Mr. Shrodes said there is an ordinance prohibiting people from feeding pigeons. He said the issue would be forwarded to the Code Administrator. Mr. Krajnyak said there is also an ordinance that states how many animals citizens can have.

Bob Matz thanked Council for holding the meeting at the Vigilant's Station. Mr. Shrodes asked Mr. Matz about the new heating system. Mr. Matz said it is much better. Mr. Rodgers asked if the Fire Department could help purchase new doors with some of the money from Betty Zane Days.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 193 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY REGARDING THE MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX was given a second reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a third reading.

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A VACANT PROPERTY CODE FOR THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY was given a second reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a third reading.

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE

NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY

AUDITOR was given a first reading. Mr. Shrodes moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Rodgers 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 pass the ordinance as read. 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 resolution was passed as read.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Rodgers moved to appropriate up to \$7400 from permanent improvement for the purchase of new firearms for the Police Department. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, and Cleary voting yea Mr. Duncan abstained and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Shrodes moved to appropriate up to \$1500 from Permanent Improvement to purchase Christmas decorations for the Chamber of Commerce to install. 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.

Mayor Riethmiller suggested Council hold a Council Meeting at Martins Ferry High School during school hours so the students can see how local government works.

Mr. Regis made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Krajnyak and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mayor Riethmiller thanked the Vigilant's for the use of the station.

Mr. Armstrong moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rodgers and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

Council President, Kristine Davis