

Minutes of October 7 2015 Council Meeting

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday October 7, 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 read from Ron Hilton, Captain of the Alerts Fire Station regarding the new heating system.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as received.

Reports of Officers of the City:

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

Mayor Riethmiller thanked the Alerts Fire Station and Captain Hilton for hosting this Council Meeting.

Mr. Krajnyak suggested the Mayor speak with Mayor Callarik of Bridgeport about splitting the cost of striping Aetna Street.

Service Director:

Mr. Bennett said that catch basins are being rebuilt and covers raised on Zane Hwy. A new catch basin was installed on 4th and Locust.

A verbal approval is needed for Citizen's Bank to move forward with the paving of the parking area.

Work continues on patching potholes and alleys.

Mr. Bennett asked that if citizens see people opening and using fire hydrants that they call the Police.

The brush hog needs repaired. Estimated cost is \$6500. Mr. Duncan asked what repairs are needed. Mr. Bennett said brakes and clutch.

Mr. Bennett said there is a slip on North Ridge from water run-off. Mr. Vaughn is going to look at the slip.

Mr. Regis thanked Mr. Bennett and the city workers for the job on the alley on Mackey Ave. between 8th and 9th.

Auditor:

End of the month financials were distributed.

Law Director:

Mr. Stecker reviewed the ordinances receiving a first reading tonight. Mr. Duncan asked about the vacant house ordinance and how vacant was defined. Mr. Stecker explained that if the house is visited regularly it is not considered vacant.

Development Director: A copy of the Development Director's report was distributed and will be made a part of the minutes.

Code Administrator:

Mrs. Suto thanked the Belmont Co. Land Banking Committee for the five houses that were torn down and announced that five more would be scheduled to be torn down in the near future.

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

Mr. Suto said the Hillendale Project will begin Monday.

Mayor Riethmiller asked for the citizen's patience during this project as well as the County Rd. 4 portion of the project.

Mr. Suto said hydrant flushing has been canceled for October.

Mr. Cleary asked about the monthly rental of the liquid oxygen tanks. Mr. Suto said they will be picked up soon.

Fire Department:

Chief Reese said that it was Fire Prevention Week. The smoke detector project has continued with kindergarteners receiving a free smoke detector. Chief Reese added that if families need help installing the smoke detector they can contact him or Chief Regis. Chief Reese said his Chief's truck was recently hit and the estimated cost of repairs is \$6,000. This will be covered by the City's insurance.

Committees of Council:

Finance/Audit: a Finance Meeting will be held on Monday October 12 at 5:30 pm in the Mayor's Office.

Street: No report. Mr. Armstrong said there is \$29,000 left in the street paving fund that can be used in Hillendale.

Ordinance: No report

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

Code: Mr. Cleary thanked Mr. Stecker for all of his work on the vacant property ordinance.

Safety: No report. Mr. Regis thanked the Alerts for hosting tonight's meeting and said the new furnace was great.

Service: No report. A Service Meeting will be held at 5:30 pm on October 20.

Cemetery/PR: Mr. Krajnyak said Mr. Deaton had a crew cut Walnut Grove Cemetery.

Citizens to be Heard:

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street thanked Council and Administration for the lines painted on Aetna Street at the Rt. 7 intersection.

He said that the Land Banking Project seems to be progressing well.

Mr. Hord announced that a Town Hall Meeting with State Senator Lou Gentile would be held on Monday Nov. 9 at 5:30 pm at the library.

Mr. Hord asked if Hall of Honor member Dr. John G. Krammer could ride in the Christmas Parade.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

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

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

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A LEASE/PURCHASE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY FOR LIGHTING UPGRADES FOR THE CITY'S BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES was given a first reading. Mr. Regis 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. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with council members Krajnyak, Shrodes, Armstrong, Rodgers, Regis, Cleary, and Duncan voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Rodgers moved to hold the remaining 2015 Council Meeting at the following locations:

October 21-Vigilant's Fire Station

November 4-Ladder Company

November 18-Liberty Fire Station

December 2-Recreation Center

The motion was seconded by Mr. Cleary and 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 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.

Mr. Shrodes asked if the money for the Chamber of Commerce to purchase Christmas decorations could be discussed at the Finance Meeting. Mr. Cleary added that they purchase the City's decorations and that they last over five years. Mr. Rodgers said he has no problem with the decorations, but asked that the lights be cleaned before the decorations go up. Ms. Gagin said the lights will be cleaned as part of the lighting project.

Mr. Shrodes said there is a business that has asked to be able to park trucks and put up a gate on the dead end portion of the alley between Clay and Fayette.

Mr. Regis moved to give permission to use the alley between Clay and Fayette for parking for a local business. 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.

Mr. Shrodes announced the Veteran's Day program will be held on Sunday Nov. 8 at 2 pm. A parade will be held and the program will be held at the City Park. This year's speaker will be U.S. Congressman Bill Johnston.

Mr. Regis moved to approve the letter from Citizen's Bank regarding the paving of the parking area on Locust Street. Mr. Cleary seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Armstrong moved for the City to join the Chamber of Commerce and to take the membership fee from the General Fund. 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.

Ms. Randall said financial reports will be on everyone's desk in the Council Chambers.

Mayor Riethmiller announced that Trick or Treat would be held on Saturday October 31 from 6-7.

Mayor Riethmiller discussed Council and the Mayor's salaries and how they compare to those in the county.

Mr. Rodgers moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong 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