

Minutes of April 6, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday April 6, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the Martins Ferry City Council Chambers. 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 Hunker, First Ward, John Davies, Third Ward, Rick Rodgers, Fourth Ward, Ben Neiman, Jim Schramm, and Jack Regis, Council at Large.

Correspondence: None

Minutes: Minutes were approved as received.

Reports of Officers of the City:

Mayor:

Mayor Krajnyak asked for a change of order for the April 20 meeting. He would like to present several proclamations at that time.

A ribbon cutting was held at Tina's Sweet Celebrations.

Easter in the Park was a success with approximately 170 children.

A Business After Hours has been scheduled for April 27 at 6:00 pm. The event will be sponsored by Softite and will be held at the American Legion. The May After Hours will be held at and sponsored by the Elks.

A Property Maintenance Board Meeting was held this week. It was a training session lead by Paul Stecker.

Mayor Krajnyak asked that the CHIP Grant Resolution be passed tonight.

Pinwheels have been placed in front of the City Building for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Paperwork has been turned in to the USDA for the City Garage property purchase.

Several inquiries have been made concerning the sale of the current City garage property. Mayor Krajnyak met with Eric Pettington of the Ohio EPA about sewers.

Service Director:

Mr. Cleary discussed the top three culvert issues. He said that Cemetery Rd. has been a long term issue. There is a large blockage in that culvert. Odyssey Environmental has looked at the problem. The City was told the culvert was blocked and collapsed. Odyssey Environmental said if it hasn't been cleared there is no way to see if it is collapsed. They can clean out the culvert and see if it is collapsed. They expect it to take 2 days and would cost \$5,000 a day.

Center Street could be done by the City crews. The issue is below the City Garage. The culvert is collapsed and needs a new head wall.

Cherry Park has a collapse between two rail lines and the highway. Mr. Cleary has a meeting with Mr. Padgett of the EPA in ten days to discuss financing. If this problem continues it could cause transportation issues.

The pump at the Lesco pump station went out. Mr. Cleary said the water and sewer departments did a great job working together. Mr. Cleary said the pump is obsolete. Cost to repair would be \$12,700 and the cost to replace with a new pump would be \$14,700. The pump is 15 years old.

Mr. Cleary said the street sweeper will start Monday April 18. Warnings will be issued the first week to those who do not move their cars. Let Mr. Cleary know if sweeper signs are needed anywhere.

Hydrant flushing will begin next week.

Four sections of County Rd 4 have been charged, tested, and hooked up to the old lines. Residents should notice improved water pressure.

Utility collections are up \$30,000 from last year. Everyone in the Utility Office has been working really hard.

A ribbon cutting was held today at Tina's Sweet Celebrations. Mr. Cleary added that they have great donuts.

Mr. Regis asked about the Lesco pump station. He wanted to know if we were running one old style pump. Mr. Cleary said yes. Mr. Regis said the City will be in trouble if the current pump goes down. Mr. Cleary agreed.

Mr. Rodgers asked about the 1st Street Project. Mr. Cleary said he spoke with Mr. Waugh. The paperwork has been submitted to OPWC and they are drawing up the plans. Mr. Waugh will keep the City updated. Mr. Rodgers asked about the appointment Mr. Cleary had to look at the roof spraying project in St. Clairsville. Mr. Cleary thanked Mr. Regis for setting up the meeting. Mr. Cleary said the current Vigilant Station roof would have to be torn off to use the spray on process, which would be an added cost. Mr. Rodgers said this has been a topic of discussion since Jan. of 2015. Mr. Rodgers also asked about paving N. Ridge Drive. Mr. Cleary said the last estimate was \$70,000. He will get new quotes. Mr. Rodgers asked about N. 8th Street. Mr. Cleary said it can't be paved yet because it would make the problem worse. Mr. Regis said there are mines in the area. Mr. Cleary said the core drilling in the area was not deep enough and it is hard to get money for mine subsidence. Mr. Rodgers said he has seen paperwork regarding the issue from 1985. Mr. Cleary said he has seen papers from 1977. Mr. Rodgers said since it is spring he wanted to mention the three trucks with flat tires behind the Liberty Fire Station and the mattresses and litter going up Cemetery Rd. on property owned by Naylor's. He also asked about the area that needs cleaned up on Rt. 7. Mr. Cleary spoke with ODOT regarding the matter. Mr. Schramm said they did Bridgeport. Mr. Cleary said they went as far as Don St. and stopped.

Mr. Cleary said that due to the Rt. 7 project the sidewalk coming up Hanover has been eliminated. The lamp posts were put in storage and will replace others that were damaged around town.

Auditor: End of the month financials were distributed. A new column was added that will list the % of the budget already used.

Law Director: No report

Development: No report

Code Administrator: No report

Police Dept. No report

Mr. Rodgers thanked Dispatcher Hennessey and Officers Murphy, Shreve, and Duncan for their handling of the shooting near the Last Lap on March 28.

Committees of Council:

Finance/Audit: A Finance Mtg will be held on Tuesday April 12 at 5:30 pm.

Street: No report. A mtg. will be called in April.

Sewer/Sidewalk: No report

Safety: A mtg. was held with Mr. Snyder and Mr. Cooper to work on the budget for EMS. Billing was at 9%. Mr. Snyder contacted AIM from Slippery Rock, PA. They could do billing for \$4,800 a year. Start up would cost \$6500. This would save money in the long run.

Code: No report

Service: No report

Safety: Mr. Hunker and Mr. Cleary met to discuss shutting off un-needed street lights (those lights in areas where there are several lights). Mr. Hunker suggested mtg. with safety and service including Chief McFarland to get an idea or list of areas with multiple lights at corners. Mr. Hunker said the disconnect fee is also needed. The mtg. was set for April 25 at 5:30.

Cemetery: A mtg. was set for April 18 at 5:00. Mr. Krajnyak said there is \$5300 in the Cemetery Fund. He suggested hiring someone now. He also met with the CAC and they agreed to put a crew at the cemetery this summer. Mr. Neiman asked about community service workers. Mr. Krajnyak said yes, they could work at the cemetery. Mr. Neiman volunteered to check on them. Ms. Randall said there is \$3000 in Capital Outlay. Mr. Cleary asked if that is a budget line item. Ms. Randall said it is a separate fund appropriated for that. Mr. Neiman asked about perpetual care. Mr. Cleary said that money cannot be accessed. \$50 of perpetual care now goes to perpetual care and \$350 to capital outlay. Mr. Krajnyak said he has a mtg. in Columbus in June and he is going to the Auditor's Office to discuss this matter. Mr. Regis asked about a standing mower demo. Mr. Regis will set it up. Mr. Rodgers said there was a mtg. in 2015 with Dave Chanteau regarding perpetual care. Mr. Stecker said he spoke with him after the meeting and cities are not required to collect perpetual care money, but once they do you can't take the money out of that fund. The intention is to provide for the care of the cemetery when the entity that owns it no longer exists. Mr. Hunker asked Mr. Neiman to notify Mr. Wallace of the mtg.

Mr. Regis said he was approached by the Civics and asked for money for the replacement of the pitcher's mounds at the fields at a cost of \$5,000. Locking the fields was also discussed. Mayor Krajnyak said the Civics have his permission to lock the fields.

Citizens to be Heard:

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street asked if Belomar and the Port Authority will be helping the City with development opportunities. Mayor Krajnyak said he has met with Belomar and Omega and they will both help. The CIC or the Port Authority are options if needed. ADR is doing 1st Street and has also offered their services. Mr. Hord asked if the lay-off was short term or long term. Mayor Krajnyak said that is not known at this time. Mr. Hord thanked everyone for their help with the Hall of Honor. Inductions are Sunday at 2 pm.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

AN ORDINANCE REGARDING APPROACHING STATIONARY PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLES DISPLAYING EMERGENCY LIGHTS was given a third reading. Mr. Regis moved to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Schramm seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Rodgers moved to suspend the 72 hour rule to read legislation. Mr. Regis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSION was given a first reading. Mr. Rodgers moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Regis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed. Mr. Hunker moved to pass the resolution as read. Mr. Schramm seconded the motion. Mr. Regis asked if this would be administrated by Belomar. Mayor Krajnyak said yes. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Miscellaneous Business:

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

Mr. Regis moved to excuse Mr. Wallace. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rodgers and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Davies asked about live streaming the Council Meetings. Mr. Cleary will discuss with Rev. Webster at the clergy mtg. on Friday.

Mr. Schramm moved to appropriate up to \$14,718 from Permanent Improvement to the sewer dept. for the purchase of a new sewer pump with payback to permanent improvement over 5 years with no interest with the debt to be forgiven if needed. Mr. Davies seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Davies asked Mr. Regis if the \$5,000 covered the cost of all three mounds. Mr. Regis said yes. Mr. Stecker was asked if permanent improvement could be used. Mr. Stecker asked if the expected life is five years. Mr. Regis said yes. Mr. Stecker said permanent improvement could be used.

Mr. Davies moved to appropriate \$5,000 from permanent improvement for the purchase of pitching mounds. Mr. Regis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker said the mineral rights transferred to the Port Authority need to be transferred back to the City. Mr. Stecker will work with Mr. Merry to get this done.

Mr. Rodgers said the Police Dept. does a great job with the family events in the park but that no one plans anything for senior citizens. He proposed a senior citizens day in the park with activities and entertainment. Dates of August 26 or 27 are being considered and the Polish Club and Elks have offered to help. Mr. Rodgers asked if Council would like for him to proceed. Mayor Krajnyak said yes and Mr. Davies stated he had Council's support. Mr. Regis asked if he had spoken to Senior Services. Mr. Rodgers said yes.

Mr. Neiman asked about the rats in the trash at the City Park. The sewers will be baited.

Mr. Davies asked about pothole patching. Mr. Cleary said there is a list of problem areas but there are no funds. Mr. Davies discussed the street dept. funds being frozen. He asked where money from gas has come from. Ms. Randall said gas comes from permissive city. Mr. Cleary said grindings can be used but are not permanent. He mentioned equipment that melts grindings. Mr. Davies asked for a price. Mr. Cleary said it fits on a skid loader and is \$16,000 used or \$24,000 new. Ms. Randall said \$5,000 has built up.

Mr. Davies motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Neiman and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

Kristine Davis, President of Council