



## Martins Ferry City Council Meeting Minutes of January 17, 2018

The Martins Ferry City Council met in Regular Session on Wednesday, January 17, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Donald Myers Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President Pro Tempore Rick Rodgers with the Pledge of Allegiance recited by those present in chamber, followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering Roll Call were Bob Hunker, First Ward Council Member; Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward Council Member; Suzanne Armstrong, Third Ward Council Member; Thomas Burns, Jim Schramm, and Jack Regis, Council At Large; and Rick Rodgers, Fourth Ward Council Member, serving as President Pro Tempore, who also reserved his right to vote for the evening.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the January 3, 2018, Council Meeting were approved as received.

**Correspondence:** The only correspondence received was a card from former Clerk of Council, Leah Ann Cleary, expressing her appreciation for the flowers, cards and well wishes from the council members.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Krajnyak asked council members to consider the approval of the annual retainer of Jeff Vaughn as the city's consulting engineer.

The Mayor expressed his gratitude for the patience the citizens of Martins Ferry have shown during several situations throughout the city, including the extreme weather; the delays of sanitation collection as a result of breakdown of the packer; and a major water line break on Madison Street. The Mayor went on to commend the city employees for their hard work, dedication, and willingness to "go above and beyond" what is typically expected under very difficult conditions.

#### **Service Director:**

Mr. Cleary advised council members that the city's salt supply has been replenished and an additional order has been submitted to Cargill for another 150 tons of salt.

Mr. Cleary further advised that sanitation services were still behind as the result of the previously reported mechanical issues of the packer. He went on to express his great appreciation to Mayor David Smith and the Village of Bridgeport for their assistance in addressing the problem by loaning one of their dump trucks when it was available. Mr. Cleary has received notification that the necessary part for the packer has arrived, and the repairs will begin tomorrow. He asked for the continued understanding of the citizens.

Mr. Cleary stated that the transfer station was once again down because of a re-occurring problem brought on by "wear and tear." It is estimated that approximately five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), will be needed to make the necessary repairs and he asked council to include this in the agenda for discussion at the next Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Cleary said that he will gather additional information for their review.

Mrs. Armstrong asked for clarification on the sanitation backlog and if it would be remedied this week. Mr. Cleary stated that it would probably be the following week before a regular schedule can resume, depending on the weather.

**Auditor:**

No report from Ms. Randall.

**Law Director:**

No report from Law Director Paul Stecker.

**Police Department/Fire Department and EMS:**

No reports.

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance and Audit:** Mr. Regis stated he didn't have a report and was waiting for a meeting with Ms. Randall, whenever she was ready to discuss the budget. Ms. Randall said she will be prepared after a meeting with the Mayor.

**Street:** Chairman Rodgers stated that he would be inviting Mr. Hurbst to attend the next city council meeting to discuss a previously submitted proposal.

**Ordinance:** No Report from Chairman Shrodes.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No Report from Chairman Robert Hunker.

**Safety:** No report from Chairman Schramm.

**Service:** Chairman Shrodes reported that a Service Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at 5:30 p.m., which included a presentation by Enterprise Fleet Management demonstrating a savings of approximately \$180,000.00 over a ten (10) year period for vehicles for the the city. The recommendation of the Service Committee is to forward the proposal to the Finance Committee for review and consideration. A copy of the minutes from the meeting was provided.

**Cemetery:** Chairman Burns advised that a Cemetery Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, immediately following the Service Committee Meeting, which was very convenient as both committees have the same members. Mr. Burns stated the meeting was primarily informational for his benefit to be updated on the activities and responsibilities of the committee. Additionally, a discussion was had pertaining to the Riverview and Walnut Grove Cemeteries, the responsibilities thereof, and work in need of completing. A copy of the minutes was provided.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street thanked Mr. Cleary and Mayor Krajnyak for addressing the ice accumulation on the 900 block of S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mr. Hord mentioned a recent report from the Village of Bellaire and their attempts to have a more "citizen friendly" Police Department. Mr. Hord commended the City of Martins Ferry Police Department, specifically Chief McFarland and Sgt. Scales, stating he believed the Martins Ferry Police Department was outstanding and very citizen friendly.

Mr. Hord asked if any consideration has been given to filling the position of Director of Development. Mayor Krajnyak responded that the city was currently working with a grant writer; Belamar; Omega; and a few similar agencies, in lieu of hiring someone for that position. Mayor Krajnyak said he believes everything has been working well so far without a Director of Development.

Mr. Hord inquired if there were any current plans for updating the one hundred-year-old City Building to make it handicap accessible or in the alternative, building a new structure. Mayor Krajnyak stated it would be too cost prohibited for the existing structure to be updated, as the last estimate of for the installation of an elevator was approximately 1.3 million dollars, almost twenty years ago. Mayor Krajnyak opined that a new city building would be the best route if funds were available in the future. Mr. Cleary confirmed that the city was still in possession of proposed plans should funding become available through a Federal Stimulus Program or other grants. Mr. Shrodes added that grant funding from the State

of Ohio from casino proceeds would be beneficial if available to local cities, although it was his understanding that said grants stopped at the county level.

Lastly, Mr. Hord brought to the council's attention the retirement of Sue Douglass from her position as Director of the Belmont County Department of Development/Community Improvement Corp. Mr. Hord stated he believed that Ms. Douglass has done an outstanding job for the county and will be greatly missed. Mayor Krajnyak agreed with his sentiments and stated she had helped the city with various projects over the years, including Project Forward.

**Ordinances and Resolutions:**

***An Ordinance Changing the Pay of the City Clerk and Declaring an Emergency.***

The Ordinance was given a first reading with Mr. Shrodes moving to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Mr. Hunker. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Shrodes, Armstrong, Burns, Schramm, Regis, Rodgers, and Hunker voting yes, declaring the rules suspended. Mr. Regis moved that the Ordinance be passed as read, which was seconded Mr. Schramm. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Regis, Rodgers, Hunker, Shrodes, Armstrong, Burns, and Schramm voting yes, and the Ordinance was declared passed.

***An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2017-16 Directing Reimbursement by the Sewer Capital Project Fund and General Fund to the Permanent Improvement Fund for the Purchase of a Schwarze A400 Street Sweeper.***

The Ordinance was given a first reading with Mr. Shrodes moving to suspend the rules and Mr. Regis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Shrodes, Armstrong, Burns, Schramm, Regis, Rodgers and Hunker voting yes. The rules were declared suspended. Mr. Schramm moved to pass the Ordinance, which was seconded by Mrs. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Schramm, Regis, Rodgers, Hunker, Shrodes, Armstrong and Burnes voting yes. The Ordinance was declared passed.

President Pro Tempore Rodgers asked Mayor Krajnyak if he would like to proceed with a motion to retain Jeff Vaughn as the City Engineer, which he affirmed. Mr. Regis moved to pass said motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hunker. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Regis, Rodgers, Hunker, Shrodes, Armstrong, Burns and Schramm voting yes. The motion was declared passed.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Regis moved to accept the Reports of Officers, which was seconded by Mr. Hunker. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Regis, Rodgers, Hunker, Shrodes, Armstrong, Burns and Shramm voting yes, and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Shrodes moved to excuse Mrs. Davis from the evening's council meeting. Said motion was seconded by Mr. Rodgers and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was passed.

Mr. Shrodes moved for adjournment and seconded by Mr. Hunker. After hearing an affirmative voice vote, the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Laura A. Zupko, Clerk of Council

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Kristine Davis, Council President