

Minutes of March 4, 2015 Council Meeting

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday March 4, 2015 at 6:00 PM in the Donald Myers Memorial 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 Krajnyak, First Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Rick Rodgers, Fourth Ward, Jack Regis Sr., Chris Cleary, and Rob Duncan, Council at Large.

Correspondence: No correspondence was received.

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. A Resolution of Appreciation was presented to Anthony Sarratore.

Service Director:

Mr. Bennett said that the City has 125-150 tons of salt on hand. Approximately 550-575 tons of salt and 100 tons on cinders have been used so far this winter. 450 hours of overtime have been used. Approximately \$55,000 has been spent on snow removal. Patching of potholes is being worked on as time and weather permit. Cold patch is being used for now. Hot mix won't be available until sometime in April.

Safety Director: No report

Auditor: End of the month financials were distributed.

Law Director: No report.

Development Director: No report

Police Department: Mayor Riethmiller said Chief McFarland was on a case. Mayor Riethmiller said the door and camera in the Police Station had been installed.

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

Mr. Regis thanked the city employees for the great work at keeping the streets clean. He also thanked the water dept. for their hard work.

Committees of Council:

Finance/Audit: Mr. Krajnyak said a meeting had been held on Tuesday with some of the Department Heads to discuss their budget. These meetings will be held monthly to

discuss ways to save money and create revenue. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday March 24 at 3:30 pm.

Ms. Randall said that the appropriations ordinance needs to be at the county by March 31. A Finance Meeting was scheduled for March 16th at 5:30.

Information has been gathered for the police levy. Mr. Krajnyak would like the legislation to receive a first reading on March 18. Mr. Regis asked if the levy will cover salaries or other expenses. Mr. Krajnyak said salaries.

Street: Council members were asked to suggest streets in need of paving.

Ordinance: No report

Sewer/Sidewalk: No report

Safety: The Safety Committee met in February and discussed needed repairs at the fire stations. Approximate cost is \$100,000. That does not include the cost to replace engine #2.

The cost to replace the other door at the Police Station is \$2000. Additional Police training will cost \$1500-\$2000.

It was explained that a central fire station is not being discussed.

The Fire Dept. has been answering a lot of mutual aid calls.

Mayor Riethmiller explained that the Police Dept. is often used as a safe haven for the community and the area between the doors of the station is used during domestic disputes.

A Safety Meeting was discussed to look into changes in the management structure of the EMS.

Service: No report.

Cemetery/PR: No report.

Citizens to be Heard:

Ed Lewis of 30 N. Ridge Drive discussed issues with the road situation on N. Ridge Drive. Mr. Lewis said the City has paid out more in water breaks than it would have cost to replace the line.

Ken Troyan of 36 N. Ridge Drive said there have been 8-10 breaks right in front of his house. He said that he appreciates that the last time the line broke a larger section of pipe was replaced. Mr. Troyan asked if the road will be repaired.

Mayor Riethmiller addressed both of their concerns. He explained the process of working with the engineer to establish the cost of the project and then working with the Development Director to find funding sources. He explained that the N. Ridge Drive Project has been included in the grant for the County Road 4 Project. Bidding on the project will begin in March, construction in June with the project taking 6-8 months to complete. After the waterline project is completed, the road can be paved. Mr. Armstrong said that N. Ridge Drive has been the #1 suggested street for paving for 3 years, but that the street can't be paved until the waterline issue is fixed. Mr. Suto said there have been 30 breaks in 3 years on that section of pipe.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street complimented the Street Department for all their hard work.

Mr. Hord suggested a Resolution of Appreciation for Butch Miller and the Dutch Henry. President Davis said Council will take that into consideration.

Mr. Hord asked if Duncan Donuts is planning to open in Martins Ferry. Ms. Gagin said she cannot discuss that information.

Mr. Hord said the opening of the Goodwill Store is a positive thing and that better days are ahead.

Anthony Sarratore said that he worked with this Council for three years and that you won't find a better group of people that care about the citizens. He complimented the Mayor and Administration. President Davis thanked Mr. Sarratore for his years of service.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

There was no legislation to be read.

Miscellaneous Business:

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

Mr. Krajnyak moved to excuse Mr. Shrodes. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion and after an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mayor Riethmiller introduced Toni Daniels from LIME Energy who explained the recent energy audit. A folder of the presentation was distributed and will be made a part of these minutes.

Cliff Meyer of the Jefferson Belmont Regional Solid Waste Authority presented the changes to the plan for proposed ratification. A Handout of his presentation was distributed and will be made a part of the minutes.

Mr. Armstrong made a motion 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