

Minutes of January 6, 2016 Council Meeting

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday January 6, 2016 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 Hunker, First Ward, Rick Rodgers, Fourth Ward, Ben Neiman and Jack Regis Sr. Council at Large.

President Davis welcomed the newly elected officials and explained that four Council Members constituted a quorum.

President Davis also announced that Jack Regis Sr. would serve as Finance Committee Chairperson. Other committees will be announced when the new Council Members are appointed.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Council Member Cleary announcing that he is resigning his Council seat to serve as Director of Public Service.

Mr. Regis moved to hire Lee Ann Cleary as Council Clerk. Mr. Rodgers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Rodgers, Neiman, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as received.

Reports of Officers of the City:

Mayor: Mayor Krajnyak thanked everyone for their support. He said he will do the best job he can to move the City forward and that he will work with the Council and Administration in what is best for the City.

Director of Public Service: Mr. Cleary thanked everyone for the welcome he received. He also thanked Mayor Krajnyak and Water Superintendent Suto. Mr. Cleary said that he is currently working on a comprehensive policy and standard operating procedure for the utility office so that a framework will be in place for a new Office Manager.

The sewer truck is out for repairs. The estimated cost is \$26,000. Mr. Cleary asked that the money be loaned to the sewer dept. from Permanent Improvement.

Mr. Cleary also distributed information for the repairs to the manhole on Don Street. Estimated cost is \$29,400. Mr. Cleary asked that this also be a loan from Permanent Improvement.

Auditor: Ms. Randall wished everyone a Happy New Year. End of the month and end of the year financials were distributed.

Law Director: No report

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

Code Administrator: No report

Water Superintendent: No report

Police Department: No report

Fire Department: No report.

Committees of Council:

Finance/Audit: A Finance Committee Meeting will be scheduled as soon as the committee is finalized.

Citizens to be Heard:

Richard Hord of 915 Viginia Street wished everyone a Happy and prosperous New Year. Mr. Hord said he is looking forward to 2016. He added that 2015 seemed to end on an upswing. Mr. Hord asked if there is an agenda for 2016 including projects, goals, etc. Mayor Krajnyak said that goals include the completion of the County Rd. 4 waterline Project as well as the approval of the grant and loan to pave 1st Street. This project will help bring business to the 1st Street area and will help the City to more toward a RUMA agreement. Mayor Krajnyak said that exciting things are happening. He said that the City is diligently working to bring business to Martins Ferry for jobs and to increase the tax base. He added that a Business After Hours Meet and Greet is being planned. This will help the Administration and businesses work together. Also, plans are being made to work with the churches to get community involvement. A student advisory council is also being considered to help get our young people interested and involved.

Mr. Hord commended the Fire Dept for the outstanding job they do. He thanked Jack Regis Jr. for the great job he did as chief. Mr. Hord congratulated the new chiefs. He also commended the Police Dept. for the outstanding job they do.

Mr. Hord asked how the vacant seats on Council would be filled. Mr. Hunker said applications would be accepted until January 15 and then interviews will take place.

Mike Masters of 1059 Central Ave. voiced concerns over the plans for development in Crawford Heights and how that will affect the playground. Mr. Masters welcomed the new Mayor. He said he enjoys living in Martins Ferry and likes the community involvement. Mr. Cleary said no plans have been made and a meeting is being planned for the citizens in Crawford Heights to discuss any future projects. Mr. Masters also voiced concerns over the icy conditions from the water run-off from Dutch Hill and the bad guard rail near St. Rt. 250. Mayor Krajnyak said he may have someone who will take

care of the guardrail issue for no cost to the City. Mr. Cleary will get with Mr. Masters about the meeting as well as the ice issue.

Patty Cline of 1010 Dutch Hill said her mailbox has been hit from the icy road conditions. She added that the current playground is not safe right now. She welcomed Mayor Krajnyak and Mr. Cleary. She said she is proud to be from Martins Ferry and is happy she moved back.

Mr. Hunker asked Mr. Cleary if the meeting with the Crawford Heights citizens could be scheduled later in the month to give more people the chance to attend. Ms Cline added that there are trees down at the edge of Vineway. Mr. Cleary will look into the issue.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Regis moved to appropriate \$29,400 as a loan from permanent improvement with payback over 7 years with no interest for the manhole project to be completed by Odyssey as recommended by the Sewer Authority. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Rodgers, Neiman and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Regis moved to appropriate \$26,016.14 as a loan from permanent improvement with payback over 5 years with no interest for repairs to the sewer truck. Mr. Rodgers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Rodgers, Neiman and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Rodgers asked Mr. Cleary to call ODOT about the clean up needed on St. Rt. 7.

Mr. Regis said he received a call from a citizen that accidentally left his garage open when he was away from home for three days. He said nothing was touched. He told Mr. Regis he feels very safe because of our Police Dept.

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

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