

Minutes of February 17, 2016 Council Meeting

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday February 17, 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, Phil Wallace, Second Ward, John Davies, Third Ward, Rick Rodgers, Fourth Ward, Ben Neiman, Jim Schramm, and Jack Regis Sr. Council at Large

Correspondence: No correspondence was received.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as received.

Reports of Officers of the City:

Mayor:

Mayor Krajnyak announced that the City would sponsor a business Meet and Greet on Wednesday Feb. 24 at 5:30 pm at the American Legion. This will be a casual meeting to discuss ideas.

Yesterday the Mayor met with ODOT regarding the two slips on State Rt. 250 that could affect waterlines. Both projects should be completed by the end of May.

Information regarding the future City Garage was distributed.

The Times Leader will hold a "Meet the Candidates" on Wednesday Feb. 24 at 5:30 pm.

Mayor Krajnyak met with the EMS. A meeting will be held in the future regarding the budget and will include representatives from the State Auditor's Office.

Mayor Krajnyak met with EMA and Belmont 911 call center last week. A training session will be set up for our dispatchers. This training will be paid for by 911.

Mr. Wallace requested a policy regarding the Zika virus and stagnant water.

Service Director:

A Service Meeting will be held on Monday Feb. 22 at 5:30.

The sewer work/water break on West Jefferson is in the process of being repaired. The water break has been fixed, the sewer line is currently being worked on.

Training will take place tomorrow for the new AED machines as well as CPR training.

Offices will be closed from 10-11:30. Training will take place at the EMS building.

Mr. Rodgers asked about Cemetery Rd and whether the company that worked on the Don St issue had looked at the Cemetery Rd issue. Mr. Cleary said they will look at it when the weather breaks.

Auditor: Current financial reports have been distributed Ms. Randall explained the layout of the reports.

Mr. Wallace asked how far in the red the City can be before something happens. Ms.

Randall said that is not for her to decide. She added that she needs to speak with Mr.

Stecker. Mayor Krajnyak said that he has been working with Ms. Randall and that they meet three times a week. Mr. Rodgers thanked Ms. Randall for coming to the Finance

Meeting. He asked when the budget would be ready so Council would have plenty of time to look it over. . Ms. Randall said that appropriations will need to be worked on. Mr. Davies asked if she has the numbers for what will be coming in. Ms. Randall said yes, she has the amended certificate from the county. Ms. Randall said a special meeting might be needed to pass the budget.

Mr. Rodgers asked Mr. Cleary how much has been used in materials and labor for clearing snow. Mr. Cleary said 250 tons of salt have been purchased. 200 tons more need to be purchased by the end of May. Cost is \$74.50 a ton. He added that some overtime has been used, but that he did not have those figures. Mr. Rodgers said the workers have done a good job.

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. Mr. Rodgers thanked Ms. Gagin for finding out about the lighting on Rt. 7 and for the breathalyzer machines.

Police Dept. no report

Fire Dept. no report

Water Superintendent no report

Code Administrator: no report

Water Superintendent: no report

Committees of Council:

Finance/Audit: Mr. Regis said a meeting was held on Feb 9. The committee discussed the purchase of the Ohio Valley Chemical property. They went over information on the buildings. Cost would be approximately \$2700 month with the first payment due in November (estimated). Mr. Regis recommended bringing the legislation off the table. Mr. Regis said the dispatchers were discussed.

Street Committee: A meeting will be held on Tuesday Feb. 23 with engineer Richard Watt regarding the 1st Street project. A Street Mtg will be scheduled after that meeting.

Code Committee: no report

Ordinance Committee: no report

Sewer/Sidewalk: no report. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

Safety Committee: A meeting will be held on Feb. 22 at 5:00 to discuss parking issues in Crawford Heights.

Service: no report. A meeting will be held on Feb 22 at 5:30

Cemetery/PR: no report. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

Liaison to the Chamber of Commerce: Mr. Wallace said that the businesses were concerned with snow removal and the snow being an issue for people parking in the business district.

Citizens to be Heard:

Mike Masters representing the Crawford Heights Playground Committee asked that the deed be amended so that no one would be able to sell the playground property in the future. Mr. Hunker said he spoke to Mr. Stecker and that something could be put into the deed. He said future City Councils could change the deed in the future. There is no specified use in the current deed so if the land were no longer a park the land would go back to the Park District.

Mr. Masters said that the committee is working on phase 1 of the project which includes fixing up the basketball court, the swings and the pavilion. He said there is confusion regarding the fence and asked if some fencing could be removed from Davis Park and added in Crawford Heights.

Mr. Masters asked for a meeting with the Park District, Civics, Mayor, and Council to discuss who is responsible for what. Mr. Davies explained that Council has no control over the Park District. Mr. Deaton said the Park District had a meeting scheduled for Monday Feb. 22 at 5:30. Mr. Hunker said that there are two liaisons to the Park District: Mr. Davies and Mr. Schramm. Mr. Regis asked that Mr. Masters continue to keep Council updated. Mr. Masters said there is a playground meeting scheduled for Wednesday at 6:00.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street asked about the causes of the financial concerns facing the City. Mayor Krajnyak said that the Governor has cut \$500,000 from local government funding. He explained that the City would not be in this trouble if that money had not been cut. Mayor Krajnyak said he is waiting for a rainy day so the \$2.5 billion in the rainy day fund can be used. He added that cuts will have to be made.

Mr. Hord invited everyone to the Hall of Honor inductions in the Martins Ferry High School cafetorium on Sunday April 10 at 2:00 pm.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT WITH THE PURCHASE OF THE CITY GARAGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was given a third reading. Mr. Regis moved to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Rodgers seconded the motion. Mr. Davies asked about the use of the blue building. Mayor Krajnyak said that the entire property was included in the purchase and that if officers were moved the cost would be divided. Mr. Wallace asked if there is a plan for renovation. Mayor Krajnyak said they are nearly move-in ready. Mr. Hunker asked Ms. Randall how moving offices would affect the City Building. Ms.

Randall that the State Auditors set the amount charged per square foot. She added that expenditures show in the General Fund and that money comes back through cost allocation. She said that tech support updated the internet in the City Building and that would need done in the new building as well. She said cables could be run by City Employees but they would need state approval. Mr. Davies asked if funding could be added for renovations. Ms. Gagin said the amount can be adjusted until the last minute. Mr. Davies said that the legislation should have been put into three ordinances. Mayor Krajnyak said this was originally done last March. He explained that the purchase of the property was approved and sent. The extra equipment came available later and was added in November. Renovations could come from Permanent Improvement. Mr. Davies said he would like to stay away from Permanent Improvement. Mr. Hunker suggested waiting until after the Finance Meeting to see the budget and county certification. Mr. Regis said everyone is concerned with the cost but when divided three ways it comes out to approximately \$900 per department. He added that the safety and health of the employees is worth more than \$900. Mayor Krajnyak said that a solution was needed and this was the best fit. Mr. Neiman said that the garage is in horrible shape and no one should go in. Mr. Davies asked Mr. Stecker if another ordinance is needed to change the amount or if this one could be amended. Mr. Stecker said it could be amended later. Mr. Rodgers called a point of order. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker and Wallace voting no, 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. Schramm and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Regis said he would not be at the March 2 meeting due to a prior commitment. Mr. Rodgers added the next meeting would be held at the Vigilant's Fire Station. Mrs. Davis said she is unable to attend the March 16 meeting.

Mr. Rodgers said he was approached concerning the water issue on GlenHurst. Mr. Cleary said he was there today. A culvert is needed on both sides when the weather breaks. Mayor Krajnyak said he was contacted by several people and that now only temporary things could be done.

Mr. Davies suggested live streaming of Council Meetings.

Mr. Wallace asked to meet with Ms. Gagin and Mr. Stecker.

Several Council Members need ordinance books.

Ms. Gagin asked about the OPWC ordinance. President Davis said it was tabled.

Mr. Regis moved to untable the OPWC ordinance. Mr. Rodgers seconded the motion. Mr. Davies asked how much and where it would come from. Mr. Stecker explained RUMA agreements and said that a RUMA agreement should be signed before the project moves forward. Mr. Davies asked if the City has to take the money. Ms. Gagin said it could be refused at anytime. Ms. Randall said \$155,000 has been appropriated from Permanent Improvement. Mr. Regis asked if National Lime and Stone was in favor of the RUMA agreement. Ms. Gagin said yes.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED

was given a third reading. Mr. Davies asked about the \$155,000 appropriated from Perm. Improvement. Ms. Randall said it has been appropriated, not spent. Mr. Hunker asked when the RUMA agreements will be signed. Mayor Krajnyak said it has been 18 months and the agreements would have been signed through the past administration. Mr. Regis moved to postpone the decision on the resolution for two weeks. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Wallace, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Schramm asked how long it would take to prepare the RUMA agreement. Mr. Stecker said a few hours.

Mr. Neiman asked if the cameras in the Park are working. Chief McFarland said yes. Mr. Neiman asked who purchased the cameras. Council purchased them.

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