

## **Minutes of April 20, 2016 Regular Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday April 20, 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, Phil Wallace, Second Ward, John Davies, Third Ward, Rick Rodgers, Fourth Ward, Ben Neiman, and Jim Schramm, Council at Large.

Order of the meeting was changed. Proclamations were presented by Mayor Krajnyak to Betty Pokas, Yvonne Myers, and the First Presbyterian Church.

**Correspondence:** A Thank you note was received from Richard Hord, President of the Hall of Honor Committee and read.

**Minutes:** Minutes were approved as received.

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

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Krajnyak congratulated the recipients of the proclamations presented earlier. Mayor Krajnyak asked for a voice vote to allow Grace Presbyterian Church to use the City Park on Saturday September 3 for an all day event.

The Mayor discussed the sink hole at Jaycee Manor Apartments. He thanked National Lime and stone for all of their help.

New Heart Covenant Community Church has asked to use the railroad property lot to park cars on April 24-25.

The City will observe "Make a Difference Friday" starting in May. On the last Friday of the month canned goods and paper products will be collected for the Daily Bread Center. Mayor Krajnyak spoke with the State Attorney General's Office regarding the use of perpetual care money for cemetery upkeep. The City is not required to have a cemetery endowment fund. Private cemeteries can access the fund if permission is passed by their Board. They are checking to see if cities can do the same.

A meeting was held with the clergy on April 8. This was to help bring back a sense a community. The group will continue to meet. The group discussed the formation of three community gardens. On Friday April 22, an Earth Day event will be held at the Water Plant. Clergy will bless the water and school tours will take place.

Mayor Krajnyak congratulated Council Member Wallace on becoming the Belmont County Democratic Committee Chairperson.

The Chamber of Commerce will hold a Business After Hours on Wednesday April 27 at 6:00 pm. The event will be sponsored by Softite Community Federal Credit Union.

#### **Service Director:**

Mr. Cleary said that crews have been out patching and are making good progress. They are also taking care of holes from recent water breaks.

Community Service workers have been working in the cemetery. A number of graves need top soil and seeding. Some areas were damaged recently during wet weather. Those issues will be dealt with in the coming week.

Mr. Cleary updated everyone on the details of the sinkhole at Jaycee Manor Apartments. Mr. Cleary said the sinkhole is 25 ft deep. The sinkhole was discovered by a child whose leg fell into the hole. Fortunately, the child was not injured. Emergency funding will be necessary. This needs to be applied for quickly due to the proximity of the whole to the building. Mr. Cleary has a meeting with Belmor tomorrow and will speak with them regarding funding grants. The Sewer Dept. is monitoring the hole. Mr. Vaughn suggested painting the surrounding dirt to gauge additional sinking.

Mr. Cleary will speak with Cass & Baker regarding an estimate to pave North Ridge Dr. Mr. Rodgers asked that estimate be ready for the May 2 Street Committee Mtg.

Mr. Rodgers asked about the light by Convenient. Mr. Cleary said he will have Mr. Deaton contact AEP.

Mr. Neiman asked the cost of asphalt. Mr. Cleary said \$63 a ton. Mr. Cleary said some of the patching money came out of water because it was to patch after water breaks. He said additional patching will be done as money is available.

Mr. Neiman asked about the sink hole. Mr. Cleary said he had been up to check it today. He said he will know more about emergency funding after tomorrow's meeting with Belomar. Mr. Cleary thanked National Lime and stone for all of their help with the issue. He said they have been great neighbors.

**Safety:** No report

**Auditor:** No report

**Law Director:** No report

**Code Administrator:** No report

**Water Superintendent:**

Mr. Suto said that the County Rd. 4 project is moving along. There is a construction meeting Monday at 10:30.

The first round of hydrant flushing is complete. Three hydrants needed repairs. Two of those are already done.

Filter bed #2 is scheduled to be serviced starting May 9. It should be completed by the end of the month.

The slip repair has started on Ohio St. It should be completed by the end of May.

Both pumps at the Zane Knoll Pump Station have been rebuilt. Pumps are being switched every Monday morning.

A new rotary assembly was installed in pump #1 at the Woodmont Pump Station. The old one was sent for a rebuild.

Mr. Schramm asked about the hydrant on N. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Suto said it has already been repaired.

**Fire Dept.:**

Chief Reese said the Annual Memorial Service will be held on Sunday May 1. Everyone is welcome to meet at the Ladder Company at 9:00 for donuts and coffee. The church

service will be held at the First United Methodist Church with services in the park after the church service.

### **Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit:** A Finance Mtg was held. Mr. Davies reported that the Mayor is keeping an eye on the budget and no major decisions were made at the meeting.

Mr. Rodgers discussed the increase in FEMA insurance. He said that the purchase of the future City Garage property should decrease those rates. Mr. Cleary said a corner of the property is in the flood zone, but not the building.

**Street:** A mtg. will be held on Monday May 2 at 5:30

**Ordinance:** There are 2 ordinances and 1 resolution to be read tonight. An Ordinance meeting will be scheduled after the next meeting.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report. Issues on N 6<sup>th</sup> and N 9<sup>th</sup> were discussed with Mr. Cleary.

**Safety:** No report. Mr. Hunker said Mr. Vaughn can get a map of the flood zone information.

**Code:** No report

**Service:** A meeting will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Cemetery:** A mtg. was held on Monday. Mr. Neiman said we are making progress.

**Liaison to the Chamber of Commerce:** Mr. Wallace said the Chamber asked permission to use City streets for the Soap Box Derby on June 12 and the Fireworks on July 1.

### **Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street thanked everyone for their help with the Hall of Honor. The new inductees will be displayed at the Belmont County Tourism Office in the Ohio Valley Mall for the month of May.

Mr. Hord said work was being done on the crumbling wall on South 10<sup>th</sup> St.

The street sweeper is leaving a trail of dirt.

Mr. Hord asked about the impact of decisions being made to deal with the deficit. Mayor Krajnyak said revenue is up and everyone is keeping an eye on the budget.

Mr. Hord thanked the Mayor for the proclamations presented tonight. He reminded everyone that Don Falbo will be celebrating 35 years as a barber.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING REIMBURSEMENT BY THE SEWER FUND TO THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF A LESCO SEWER PUMP** was given a first reading. Mr. Wallace moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Rodgers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council

Members Hunker, Wallace, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, and Schramm voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker moved to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Schramm seconded the motion. . A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Wallace, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, and Schramm voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING REIMBURSEMENT BY THE WATER, SEWER AND SANITATION FUND TO THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE UTILITY OFFICE COMPUTER SYSTEM** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Wallace, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, and Schramm voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker moved to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Neiman seconded the motion. . A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Wallace, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, and Schramm voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE OF THE AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE INCURRENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A PORTION OF THE COST OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, ENLARGING, IMPROVING, AND/OR EXTENDING ITS FACILITY TO SERVE AN AREA LAWFULLY WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION TO SERVE** was given a first reading. Mr. Wallace moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Davies seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Wallace, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, and Schramm voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Neiman expressed budget concerns in light of the recent sink hole as well as paving needs and cemetery concerns. Mayor Krajnyak said this has been going on for over a year. He said there are parties interested in purchasing the current city garage property. Mr. Neiman said the current garage is unsafe for employees. The Mayor said an announcement can be made to no longer use the building. Mayor Krajnyak said it would be a 30 year loan. The sale of the current property can offset some of the payments on the new property. Mr. Davies said he has similar concerns. He said there are money issues in the departments that would need to pay for the building. Mr. Wallace asked if the money from sale of property goes into permanent improvement. Ms. Randall said yes. Mr. Wallace said CAC would need to be involved. Leasing the property was also discussed. Mr. Hunker said money put in permanent improvement could be used for other things. Ms. Randall said things with a life span of 5 years or payment of debt. Mr. Hunker asked the amount in permanent improvement. Ms. Randall said \$197,000. Lease money would go into the general fund. Mr. Rodgers moved to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Schramm seconded the motion. . A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Wallace, and Davies voting no, Rodgers, Neiman, and Schramm voting yea causing a tie. President Davies then cast the tie breaking vote voting yea and the resolution was declared passed.

#### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Wallace moved to allow the Chamber of Commerce to use City Streets on June 5 and June 12 for the Soap Box Derby. Mr. Schramm seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Wallace moved to allow the Chamber of Commerce to use City Streets for the Fireworks on July 1<sup>st</sup> and to block entry to Riverview Cemetery throughout the weekend during firework shows. Mr. Neiman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Hunker, Wallace, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, and Schramm voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Rodgers asked that RSVP information be included in the invitations to the Business After Hours at the Elks on May 9 from 5-7:30 pm.

Mr. Wallace reminded that the next Council Meeting will be held at the Alerts on May 4.

Mr. Wallace moved to require an agenda for City Council Meetings with specifics to be decided by the Ordinance Committee. No one seconded the motion.

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

Mr. Davies asked about progress on live streaming of meetings. Mr. Cleary said that the Service mtg. will be a test run.

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

Mr. Hunker moved to allow Grace Presbyterian Church to use the City Park on Sept. 3. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Rodgers moved to allow New Heart Covenant Church to park in the railroad property lot on April 24-25. Mr. Neiman seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Neiman asked about benches around the business district. Mr. Cleary will look into it.

Mr. Wallace 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.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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Kristine Davis, President of Council