

Minutes of May 18, 2016 Council Meeting

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday May 18, 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, and Jack Regis Sr. Council at Large.

Correspondence: A letter was received from the Lion's Club announcing the date and time of the Veteran's Memorial Deedication.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as received.

Reports of Officers of the City:

Mayor: Mayor Krajnyak updated Council on Mayor's Court.

The lot of the former AME Church on N. Zane Hwy. will become a community garden. White Construction will be donating topsoil for the project.

A tentative agreement has been reached with AFSCME. The Union has approved this tentative agreement. A Special Meeting will be called to discuss the matter.

Director of Public Service: Mr. Cleary said debris has been cleaned up from creeks and culverts after the recent heavy rainfall. A culvert that runs under a private drive was fixed today.

Mr. Cleary, Mr. Vaughn, and Mr. Suto met with Sarah Wallace of the Ohio EPA regarding the County Rd. 4 project. There is an issue involving prevailing wage. 60% of the actual line for the project has been completed and 50% of the cost has been reached. Mr. Cleary and Mr. Suto met with Julie Ward of RCAP concerning an asset inventory plan and GIS mapping of the water, sewer, and sanitary sewer systems.

The loan application for the OPWC Cemetery Rd. Project was discussed at a Sewer Committee Meeting last week.

Chief McFarland has requested a server to be used to store body camera footage. The cost would be \$2,500 and the server is guaranteed for five years. This would not be cloud storage and would be safe from viruses.

Mr. Davies asked about the estimate for the storm drain. Mr. Cleary said three were received. The paving portion of the estimate should be reduced by \$20,000 to \$25,000 with funding through Belomar because of the location. Mr. Davies asked Ms. Randall if the server for the Police Dept. could be paid for using the Mayor's Technology Fund. Ms. Randall said that can only be used for Mayor's Court. Mr. Regis asked about forms for prevailing wage. Mr. Rodgers asked about AEP and street lights. Mr. Cleary spoke with Mr. Deaton and AEP. The light in question may have been a private light. Mr. Rodgers asked about the road at Glenhurst. Mr. Cleary said he spoke with Mr. Matz and the Sewer Dept. about the catch basin. The issue is a high pressure gas line at the bottom of the catch basin. Someone from Columbia Gas will probably be needed on site when that

catch basin is worked on. Mr. Cleary spoke with the EMS and they said they can get up the road. Mr. Cleary said it will be fixed before the end of summer.

Safety: No report

Auditor: Ms. Randall said several items were distributed. The 2017 budget needs to be discussed at a Finance Meeting. The public hearing of the budget will be held the first meeting in July.

A price for a software upgrade was distributed. It has not been updated since 2003 and the provider will stop servicing it soon.

The resolution for the premium only plan was distributed. This needs passed every year.

Code Administrator: No report

Water Superintendent: Mr. Suto said the County Rd. 4 project is 60% complete. The servicing of filter bed #2 will start this week. It should be done in three weeks. It will be filled by hand. Well work will begin on Friday.

Law Director: No report

Fire Dept. No report

Park District: No report

Committees of Council:

Finance/Audit: No report. Mr. Regis will be out of town next week.

Street: No date has been set for the Street Committee Mtg. The North Ridge paving issue was discussed. \$65,000 was set aside in the grant for the paving of the road. The estimate for the job is \$375,000. Mr. Rodgers said the job needs to be done right. It will be discussed at the Finance Meeting along with the Cemetery Rd. project. Mr. Cleary said Mr. Vaughn drove N. Ridge and said it would be a huge mistake to just put down a top coat without dealing with the other issues. He said a top coat only wouldn't last three years. Mr. Regis said it has been an issue since the 70's and 80's. He added that it needs to be done and that the residents have been patient long enough. Mr. Davies said the money was supposed to have been put back for the paving. Mr. Cleary said that the money put back was to pave the 3ft wide section of trench from the waterline project, not the entire road. Mr. Rodgers said that the Finance Meeting will be followed by a Street Mtg. He agreed with Mr. Davies and said that it was supposed to be included. Mr. Cleary said he is waiting for two more estimates. Mr. Davies asked Ms. Randall how much money is in Permanent Improvement. Ms. Randall said \$197,000. Mr. Cleary said he has looked into grants. The problem is the median household income in the area. It is not considered moderate to low income so fewer grant opportunities exist. Matching money would be the best option. Mayor Krajnyak told Mr. Regis that he also takes the blame for not looking into the details. He was also under the impression that paving was included. Now we are discovering that it is a bigger issue.

Safety: No report

Service: No report

Cemetery: Mr. Neiman said it looks good. He said an employee was hired and he has been receiving compliments. Mayor Krajnyak said he spoke with CAC and they have a meeting next week. Mr. Neiman and Mayor Krajnyak thanked everyone who volunteered.

Liaison to the Chamber of Commerce: Mr. Wallace said he was asked by several people at the Chamber meeting why the gravel wasn't cleaned up after the recent storms. Also, there are two dead trees on Hanover Street. Mr. Wallace also encouraged citizens to keep plastic shopping bags with them for clean up when they walk their dogs.

Citizens to be Heard:

Alan Marangoni of S. Ridge Dr. suggested that part of the road be done this year and the other part next year to help with the cost.

Lois Suriano brought a piece of road to show Council how the road is falling apart. She thanked Mr. Suto for getting the waterline project completed with the County Rd 4 grant.

Carol Holmes of S. Ridge Dr. said the township used to take care of the road. She said she appreciates that the City doesn't have the money and is surprised that grant money isn't available. Mayor Krajnyak said that grants are part of State and Federal Gov.

Ed Lewis of N. Ridge Dr. said the road has been a problem for a long time. Mr. Lewis asked about the grant to pave First St. Mr. Cleary explained that grant money was available because it is in the Industrial Park and it will help attract business. Mr. Cleary said that for license plate money to be used to pave a road it has to have an intersection. A petition would need to be submitted. Mr. Cleary said the curbs need to meet code.

Wendy Suto of Overhill Dr. discussed the drainage issues due to no catch basin. Mr. Cleary said that S. Ridge has settled and now the catch basin is uphill. Mr. Hunker said the state is considering allowing \$5 additional license plate fees.

Mr. Hord of 915 Virginia Street asked about the painting of lines on Broadway and Aetna Streets. Mr. Cleary spoke with the business that submitted a prior estimate. He is going to resubmit his estimate.

Mr. Hord asked about a Meet the Candidates event. Mayor Krajnyak put Mr. Hord in charge of setting up the event.

Mr. Hord asked how successful the initiatives have been to help with the financial situations of the City. Mayor Krajnyak said that all options are still on the table. He said plans are working well. Income tax revenue is up as is collection of fines. Mayor Krajnyak added that laws are being enforced so only violators need to be worried.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$677,000 BUILDING ACQUISITION AND IMPROVEMENT BOND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

The 72 hour rule needed to be suspended for other legislation to be read. No motion was made.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Wallace will not be here for the June 1 meeting. Mrs. Davis will not be here either.

Mr. Wallace asked about a date for the Special Meeting to discuss contract negotiations. The meeting was set for May 31 at 5:30 pm for legislation only.

Mr. Regis 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. Regis moved to excuse Mr. Schramm. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Wallace asked if the Police server needed immediate consideration. Mr. Cleary said it was up to Council.

Mr. Rodgers asked Mr. Cleary to check into two locations. 613 S. Zane Hwy and 113 N. 8th Street need attention. Mr. Cleary said N. 8th was worked on and asked Mr. Rodgers to look at it.

Ms. Davis offered to email EORWA minutes to any Council Members interested.

Mr. Rodgers thanked the Police for their work getting the cemetery ready for Mother's Day. He also reminded everyone that it is Police Appreciation Week.

A Finance Meeting was scheduled for Thursday May 26 at 5:30.

Mr. Rodgers 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