

## Minutes of February 1, 2017

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday February 1, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Donald Myers City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance by Council President Kristine DavIs and was followed by a prayer by the clerk. A roll call vote was heard with Council Members Robert Hunker, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, John Davies, Third Ward, Ben Neiman and Jim Schramm, Council and Large. Council Member Rick Rodgers missed the roll call but was in attendance for the rest of the meeting.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the January 18, 2017 Council Meeting were approved as received.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

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

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Krajnyak said that representatives from the Business Advisory Committee would address Council later in the meeting.

Ferry Flower and Gift opened today.

Mayor Krajnyak said Mr. Stecker would be reviewing the lease from Gulfport for the 9.7 acres of land not previously leased. Mr. Stecker said the lease would need to go through the Port Authority or be put out for bid.

The wall on Pennsylvania Avenue near the railroad property is collapsing.

Meetings will be held with department heads to discuss the budget. Once this is complete the budget will be sent to the Finance Committee for review then presented to Council.

The traffic light project on Rt. 7 started today.

Mr. Shrodes said that a secure fence was to be placed around the Hanover and 10th Street property lot. A snow fence was installed that is now falling over. This is a safety hazard. Mayor Krajnyak said he would address the issue.

#### **Service Director:**

Mr. Cleary said that resolutions regarding the grant loan application for OPWC needs to be passed tonight. He also explained that the displacement resolution is for a grant loan application. It insures that if the land is used for housing in the future, it will be made available to low to moderate income homeowners. Mr. Cleary said that since this land will not be used for housing in the future, it is really just a technicality.

Mr. Cleary said that crews have been working on a sewer issue in the alley between N. 7th and N. 8th Sts. The manhole is blocked and the line no longer exists due to the slip. Mr. Cleary said

the Ohio EPA has been very helpful and are trying to get resources. Mr. Cleary said a plan has been presented. A meeting is needed with the Sewer Committee to discuss the plans.

Mr. Suto has been researching a new SCADA system for the Water Dept. The SCADA system allows the water system to communicate with the water plant. The current system is 20 years old and is the most important part of the system. The system works on radio frequency and the signal is being disrupted by the gas and oil wells. Mr. Hunker asked if other systems in the area are having issues. Mr. Cleary said most of the other systems have been upgraded.

Mr. Rodgers asked for confirmation that the sewer issue between N 7th St and N 8th St is related to the slip. Mr. Cleary confirmed. He said the secondary slip below the other slip has moved the lines. Mr. Shrodes asked for details of the plan. Mr. Cleary said that the manhole will be moved south and connected to N. 7th St. by installing a new manhole. This will effect 4-5 houses. Mr. Rodgers asked for a ballpark estimate. Mr. Cleary said 2 precast manholes will be needed and installed around 10 ft deep. He said it is really too early for estimates. Mayor Krajnyak said that he met with Mr. Burch last week. Mr. Burch has found a place to live and is in the process of moving. He should be out of his old house by the end of the week. Mayor Krajnyak said that Dick Stobbs has checks from various VFW's from the area and maybe some CAC funds that will be presented to Mr. Burch.

**Auditor:** No report

### **Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit:** Mr. Regis could not attend tonight's meeting. It was established that the Mayor or Service Director will let the Finance Committee know the schedule for the meetings with the department heads. Mr. Shrodes asked if there is ever a meeting with the department heads that includes the Auditor.

**Street:** Mr. Rodgers said that procrastination on N. 8th St. has now cost the City \$80,000.

**Ordinance:** No report

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** Mr. Schramm said storm drains are being cleaned. Mr. Cleary said several issues need to be addressed including Zane and Grant. Mr. Neiman asked about the sewer truck. Mr. Cleary said the pump went out over the weekend.

**Safety:** No report

**Cemetery:** No report

Mr. Shrodes requested that financial reports be emailed to save paper.

### **Citizens to Be Heard:**

Rev. Webster, Grace Presbyterian Church and “Sweet Chuck”, Hot Rod Tattooing and Piercing addressed Council as spokesmen for the Business Advisory Committee. They discussed the advantages of keeping Fourth St. one way, which included the opportunity for diagonal parking and increased traffic for the businesses on Fifth St. The possibility of a future Subway drive-thru would create safety issues with Fourth St. being a 2-way street. Mr. Davies suggested including the next block as well to not exclude those businesses. Mr. Shrodes said he attended one of the Business Advisory Committee meetings and was very impressed. Removal of the parking meters was also discussed. Mr. Rodgers said he felt that would be catering to certain businesses. The committee explained that they are for removal of the meters all over town. Mr. Rodgers also said the issues with the trees and sidewalks need to be addressed. All were invited to attend the Business Advisory Meetings. The next meeting will be held at the Elks on Thursday Feb. 16 at 11 a.m. Mayor Krajnyak thanked the committee for attending. He added that he is impressed by their ideas and enthusiasm.

Richard Hord, 915 Virginia St. discussed an Economic Development Meeting including representatives for OMEGA, CIC, Port Authority, and the County Commissioners. Mayor Krajnyak said that Sue Douglas attended the first Business Advisory Committee Meeting. Mr. Hord asked if a petition sent to Governor Kasich would be more effective than a phone call. Mayor Krajnyak said the Belmont County Mayor’s Association signed letters to be sent to the Governor. Mr. Cleary added that phone calls are harder to ignore than a letter. Mr. Cleary said we need to make the Governor care by getting on the phones and filling up the switchboard. Mr. Cleary added that proposed additional cuts would cripple the City. Callers should request roll backs to the 2010 level. Mayor Krajnyak said Columbus is only concerned with how much money they can make off our area from the oil and gas industry. Mr. Hord said that this is the 10 year anniversary of the Martins Ferry Hall of Honor and suggested an honor for Les Douglas.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE OFFICIAL INTENT AND REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF OHIO (BORROWER) TO REIMBURSE ITS GENERAL FUND FOR THE 1ST STREET AKA INDUSTRIAL PARKWAY PAVING PROJECT (LOAN NUMBER CR17T/CR18T), WITH THE PROCEEDS OF TAX EXEMPT DEBT OF THE STATE OF OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a second reading. No action was taken and the resolution will go on to a third reading.

**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 first reading. Mr. Hunker moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, and Schramm voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Rodgers moved to pass the resolution as read. Mr. Neiman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, and Schramm voting yea and the resolution was passed as read.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY TO ACT AS THE SIGNATURE DESIGNEE FOR THE ADOPTION OF AN ANTI-DISPLACEMENT AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PLAN AND**

**DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Shrodes moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman and Schramm voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Schramm moved to pass the resolution as read. Mr. Neiman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman and Schramm voting yea and the resolution was passed as read.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Rodgers moved to hold the February 15 meeting at the Ladder Co. A voice vote was heard with one nay from Mr. Schramm and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Rodgers said the City Building's 100 birthday will be next year. Mr. Rodgers listed the many needed improvements and said that the building needs to be inspected and attempts should be made to find solutions for the issues. Mr. Neiman said grant money was used for the courthouse. Mr. Davies said grant money is available at the state level for historic sites. Mayor Krajnyak will look into funding opportunities.

Mr. Davies asked if Permanent Improvement mone could be used for patching of potholes. Ms. Randall said the Street Dept. is \$25,000 in the red. Mr. Rodgers said he didn't have a problem with it, but that N. 8th St was put off for 30 years. Mr. Cleary said he would meet with Ms. Randall.

Mr. Hunker asked Mr. Cleary about the barrell on Adams St. He said it had been there a year. Mr. Cleary said that sewer grates cost money.

Ms. Randall said there is \$110,000 in Permanent Improvement.

Mr. Hunker moved to accept the reports of supervisors and management. Mr. Rodgers seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Davies moved to excuse Mr. Regis and Mr. Rodgers (late). Mr. Hunker seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker moved to adjourn. Mr. Davies seconded the motion. After hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned after a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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Kristine Davis, Council President