

Minutes of March 22, 2017 Council Meeting

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Wednesday March 22, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Belmont County District Library. 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, Bruce Shrodes, 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 asked for a change of order to allow Bob Whipp, Road Engineer for Gulfport Energy to discuss the RUMA agreement regarding County Rd. 4.

Mayor Krajnyak said that the fire damaged house of Jefferson St. had been torn down. The foundation and fill work should be finished soon.

Edgeco gave an estimate on the culvert on Hanover St. of \$5600.

Information is being gathered on street vacs and sewer vacs.

The Martins Ferry Chamber of Commerce has asked for use of certain City streets on June 10 and 11 for the Soap Box Derby. Inspections will take place on June 7th, with time trials on the 10th and the Derby on the 11th.

Citizens are being contacted regarding a donation for the FOP. This has nothing to do with the Martins Ferry FOP. This group does not have a vendor's license and will be charged if soliciting continues.

Mayor Krajnyak asked for Council's guidance concerning the proposed \$10 license fee increase. The Belmont Co. Mayor's Association is collecting responses. Mayor Krajnyak said this is an additional \$10 that would go to the county for road repairs.

Service Director:

Mr. Cleary said an email had been sent to inform Council of the ongoing sewer issues in the alley between 7th and 8th Streets. The slip in the area has rendered the sewer line useless. An estimate of \$54,000 has been received. Mr. Regis said this problem is only going to get worse as the temperatures increase. Mr. Cleary said this project would comply with the EPA mandate. Mr. Shrodes asked for another estimate.

Mr. Cleary discussed a SCADA system that Mr. Suto has found. The current system is old and needs to be updated.

Mr. Cleary said that in regards to potholes, the City is trying to hold off on patching until hotmix becomes available. Mr. Vaughn has also drawn up specs for bids for the Cemetery Rd. paving and finishing.

The Business Advisory Committee had a positive meeting. A check for \$2500 has been granted for entertainment in the downtown this summer.

Mr. Cleary said there is currently n employee on light duty. The plan is for that employee to do litter control with the community service workers.

Mr. Shrodes asked the Mayor about talking to other local towns about splitting the cost and sharing a sewer truck. Mayor Krajnyak said he has discussed this and no other towns want to share equipment. He explained that some make money by loaning out equipment. Mr. Cleary said a lot of communities are struggling and it would be nice if the county could help.

Auditor:

Ms. Randall said the budget needs to be passed before the end of the month.

County paving money cannot be used to make payments on the 1st St and Zane Hwy projects, according to Dan Fry. Mr. Stecker is looking into the issue. Mr. Davies said he does not support a \$10 increase in license fees. Mayor Krajnyak asked if the procedure wasn't followed. Mr. Stecker said he had a discussion with the State Auditor. The procedure was not followed for Zane Hwy.

Police Dept. No report

Reports of Committees of Council:

Finance/Audit: A Finance Meeting was held last week. Mr. Regis thanked Mayor Krajnyak, Mr. Cleary, and Ms. Randall for their work on the budget. He discussed forgiving the EMS cost allocation and creating a sewer capital improvement fund.

Street: No report

Ordinance: No report

Sewer/Sidewalk: No report

Code: No report

Safety: No report

Service: No report

Cemetery: A meeting was scheduled for March 27 at 6 pm. Mr. Neiman said there is a backhoe in the cemetery leaving tracks. Mr. Cleary will check on the issue.

Public Relations: No report

Citizens to be Heard:

Lou Suriano of 1404 N. 8th St. said the sewer problem in the alley is a serious issue. He said he had a backflow valve installed. He said the problem needs to be taken care of because it is making his home unlivable.

Lois Suriano of 35 S. Ridge Rd. asked for a timeline on the N. Ridge/S. Ridge project. Mayor Krajnyak said the asphalt plants need to open. Money has to be appropriated. Mr. Davies said hotmix should be available next week.

Alan Marangoni asked for the status of the N. Ridge/S. Ridge project. Mayor Krajnyak said the plan is to do the slip when the money is appropriated. He is not sure if curbing will be done, but the road will be paved.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street said that as far as he knows, the \$10 license fee increase has not been decided.

Mr. Hord said he has concerns regarding the sale of EORH and OVMC. Mayor Krajnyak said Wheeling Hospital has requested a hearing.

Mr. Hord asked about proclamations. Mayor Krajnyak said the one for Shutler's is finished and will be presented soon. Fashion Manor is not done yet. Mr. Regis will gather info for Larry Deaton.

Mr. Hord said paving Hanover St. could draw people to the City.

Mr. Hord asked if there is still a possibility of lay-offs or cut services. Mayor Krajnyak said there is no intention to lay anyone off. He said some positions are not being filled as people leave and some jobs could be combined.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

Mr. Regis moved to waive the 72 hour rule. Mr. Schramm seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

was given a first reading. Mr. Regis moved to waive the 72 hour rule. Mr. Schramm seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed. Mr. Davies moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Rodgers seconded the motion. A roll

call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed. Mr. Rodgers moved to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Regis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Shrodes moved to allow the Chamber of Commerce to use City streets for the Soap Box Derby of June 10 and 11. Mr. Regis seconded the motion. . A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Regis moved to forgive the EMS cost allocation for 2017. Mr. Neiman seconded the motion. . A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Neiman asked if Council could move on the sewer issue tonight. Mr. Davies asked when Border Control could begin work. Mr. Cleary said crews are available, but he doesn't have an exact date. Mr. Cleary said there is a \$22,000 savings on 1st St. Mr. Davies asked if there is an engineer design. Mr. Cleary said Mr. Vaughn worked with the contractor for Cemetery Rd. Mr. Shrodes asked if Mr. Vaughn could come and look at it. Mr. Cleary will call tomorrow. Mr. Regis said it could be voice voted contingent on anticipation of money. Mayor Krajnyak said the project needs to be done. Ms. Randall said it can be made a part of the General Fund budget.

Mr. Regis moved to appropriate up to \$55,000 from the General Fund Miscellaneous Department to repair the sewer line in the alley between 7th and 8th Streets with approval and declaring an emergency. Mr. Neiman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Regis moved to forgive \$134,980 from the sewer department owed to Permanent Improvement and the development of a sewer department capital improvement fund. Mr. Davies seconded the motion. Ms. Randall said this will need the approval of Mr. Stecker and followed by an ordinance. A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Regis moved to upgrade the Auditor's computer at a cost of \$66,600 (\$6,600 down and \$20,000 a year for three years). A roll call vote was heard with Council members Hunker, Shrodes, Davies, Rodgers, Neiman, Schramm, and Regis voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

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

Mr. Davies thanked the EMS, Fire Department and Police Dept. for their professional help with a truck issue on State Rt. 7.

Mr. Hunker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schramm and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

Kristine Davis, Council President