

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL
Monday, March 23, 2020

Opening:

Medina City Council met in regular, open session on Monday, March 23, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President of Council John Coyne who led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President John Coyne explained they are trying something new due to the Coronavirus pandemic and are asking members to communicate with them via Facebook or email for questions you may have rather than attend the meetings for your safety and ours.

Roll Call:

The roll was called with the following members of Council present J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose.

Also present were the following members of the Administration: Mayor Dennis Hanwell, Keith Dirham, Greg Huber, Patrick Patton, Nino Piccoli, Chief Kinney, Chief Painter, Teresa Knox, Kimberly Marshall, Dan Gladish, Janson Wehrley, Jonathan Mendel, and Mike Wright.

Minutes:

Mr. Shields moved that the minutes from the regular meeting on March 9, 2020 and Special meeting on March 18th as prepared and submitted by the Clerk be approved. The roll was called and the motion passed by the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Finance Committee: Mr. Coyne stated they are not holding any committee meetings at this time and will inform the public with further notice of any.

Health, Safety & Sanitation Committee: Mr. Simpson had no report.

Public Properties Committee: Mr. Shields had no report.

Special Legislation Committee: Mr. Lamb had no report.

Streets & Sidewalks Committee: Mr. Heffinger had no report.

Water & Utilities Committee: Mrs. Hazeltine had no report.

Emerging Technologies Committee: Mr. Rose had no report.

Requests for Council Action:

Reports of Municipal Officers:

Dennis Hanwell, Mayor, reported

- A. Covid-19 Press release review - City Hall will be closed effective immediately. Appointments will be required to meet with staff. Any items that may be submitted electronically or mailed are preferred. We will have a box or bin in vestibules at both

entrances to leave mail for any city department. We will distribute. Also have utility drops at Medina Municipal Court lot. If emergency and access is needed without an appointment, numbers will be posted at inner city hall doors to call office and ask for immediate help. Essential services to constituents will be maintained, but some services deferred, for example, fence permits, pool permits, etc. to limit exposure of public to staff and vice versa. We apologize for any inconvenience, but want to keep all safe and stop the spread of the virus. Thank Medina City Schools for sharing laptops during their closure with city to permit operations from home for some staff members.

- B. New Parking Deck/TIF- The new parking deck being erected was supplemented by a \$1m capital grant from the State of Ohio due to historical downtown and numerous events and activities that draw visitors from a broad region. The deck costs about \$3.8 million, so the city is loaning or fronting the remaining \$2.8 million. The city established a Tax Increment Finance District for areas adjacent and surrounding parking deck. This means that as new development occurs (like the old Chamber property at SW corner of W. Friendship and N. Court), the taxes paid for the property improvements will be reimbursed to the city until our \$2.8 million investment is repaid. So in the end, the city will own a \$3.8 million parking deck with no city money used. With limited ability to build new homes in city due to limited lots, to help increase income tax base, the city is focusing on industrial expansions and new employers, increase in commercial, retail and restaurants, as well as condensed housing like apartments, town houses, etc.
- C. Save the Courthouse group - Asking for signatures to prohibit city from spending any monies on design or construction of combined Common Pleas/Municipal Court facility on the Square. This action will not "save" any courthouse, it will simply make it impossible for the city to collaborate with Medina County to save tax dollars by working with the county. In essence, the engineering, design, and construction will have to happen twice - once for Common Pleas and once for Medina Municipal Court for two buildings within a couple blocks of one another. More concerning is that the efficiencies of a combined Courthouse for Common Pleas and Medina Municipal operations will be forever lost. These include, but are not limited to, shared hallways and restrooms, share elevators, shared security entrance, and shared meeting rooms. If city is restricted from taking part in the project as a result of this petition, the county intends to go along with their project without us and still remove the 1969 Common Pleas Courthouse once the new court facility is built and ready to move it. This will leave the city with only option of building a separate Municipal Court facility elsewhere. The Council, Administration and Municipal Judge Gary Werner all support the combined facility and feel the saving of tax dollars for county and city constituents as a result of this collaborative effort.

Keith Dirham, Finance Director, reported there are items on the agenda he will address when they get to them.

Greg Huber, Law Director, had no report.

Chief Kinney, Police Department, had no report.

Kimberly Marshall, Economic Development Director, Absent.

Jonathan Mendel, Planning Community Director, had no report.

Chief Painter, Fire Department, Absent.

Mike Wright, Rec. Center Director, Absent.

Jansen Wehrley, Parks and Recreation Director, addressed questions pertaining to the City Parks, they are open and so are the trails but the playgrounds are closed. All organized sports events are suspended. Parks staff is continuing to sanitize everything in the park to help better protect the community.

Dan Gladish, Building Official, had no report.

Patrick Patton, City Engineer, reported to expect current projects to continue. Most notably is the parking deck and that has started back up today. The public open house scheduled for South Broadway Street repair has been cancelled but they will be sending out to the residents of S. Broadway a mailer with information.

Nino Piccoli, Service Director, had no report.

Notices and petitions:

Liquor Permit:

Mr. Shields moved not to object to the transfer of a D-5 and D-6 permit from Carrino Enterprises Inc. dba Jo Jos Sports Bar & Dominic's Pizza, 221 South Jefferson Street to Mann Down Enterprises Inc. dba Jo Jos Sports Bar & Dominic's Pizza, 221 South Jefferson Street. Motion seconded by Mr. Simpson and approved by the yea votes of J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson.

Liquor Permit:

Mr. Shields moved not to object to the issuance of a new DL-5 permit to Courthouse Pizzeria, 2 Public Square, Medina, Ohio. Motion seconded by Mr. Simpson and approved by the yea votes of J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne.

Unfinished Business:

There was none.

Introduction of Visitors:

There were none.

Introduction and Consideration of Ordinances and Resolutions:

Motion to suspend the Rules requiring three readings on the following ordinances and resolutions: Res. 51-20, Ord. 52-20, Ord. 53-20, Ord.54-20, Ord. 55-20, Ord. 56-20, Ord. 57-20, Res. 58-20, Ord. 59-20, Ord. 60-20 and Ord. 61-20. The roll was called and the motion to suspend passed by the yea votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and J. Hazeltine.

Res. 051-20:

A Resolution Accepting the Medina Evening Rotary Club Donation of \$5,000 to be used to care for, preserve and protect The 911 Memorial Monument. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 051-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Wehrley stated that Medina Rotary donated \$5,000.00 for the care and ongoing maintenance of the 911 Memorial Monument. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 051-20 passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, and E. Heffinger.

Ord. 052-20:

An Ordinance Authorizing a Water Service Connection at 5528 Lafayette Road in Lafayette Township. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 052-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Piccoli stated he was contacted by the property owner and he doesn't have access to city water and would like two taps on the city water system. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 052-20 passed by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

Ord. 053-20:

An Ordinance Authorizing the Increase of the Expenditure to Lake County Sewer Co. to \$85,000 for the Street Department. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 053-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Piccoli stated this expenditure will allow the Street Department to continue their work with the storm sewer system with this contract. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 053-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson.

Ord. 054-20:

An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Letter of Arrangement with the Auditor of State Keith Faber for the Preparation of the Annual Audit for the City of Medina for the Fiscal Period Ending December 31, 2019, and Declaring an Emergency. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 054-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 054-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated this is the annual audit and the auditors are currently working at home due to the Coronavirus situation, we are currently scanning items to them. Emergency is needed due to this going on right now. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 054-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose.

Ord. 055-20:

An Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase and Installation of Fitness Equipment at Ray Mellert Park from Gametime Fitness as part of the PY2019 Community Development Block Grant Program. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 055-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Wehrley this equipment was purchased using the OMNIA Partners contract and the grant was secured with the assistance of the Community Development Department First of two phases for the project at Ray Mellert Park. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 055-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson.

Ord. 056-20:

An Ordinance Amending Section 31.02(B), 31.04, 31.05 and 31.07 of the Salaries and Benefits Code of the City of Medina, Ohio Relative to the Tree Care Technician Classification and accepting the Job Description for the Parks Department. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 056-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Wehrley stated Forestry Department was given approval to change the job description of Tree Care Technician classification from part time to full time. The Teamsters have approved this addition of this position as part of their most recent bargaining agreement. Request is to change various sections of Salaries and Benefits code to accommodate position. After full time employee is hired the part time position will be eliminated. They made cuts in the budget to accommodate this cost. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 056-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne.

Ord. 057-20:

An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to advertise for competitive bids and to Award a Contract to the Successful Bidder for the Lindenwood Lake Dam Improvements Project, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 057-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 057-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Patton stated this is a project they have been discussing for a while. Pat stated this dam is in dire need of repair, the outlet structure is failing. This project will replace the outlet structure and also do some dredging and other improvements to the Dam. The intention here is that the city will once completed assess the property owners for the cost to this improvement. Emergency is needed so we may move forward on this project as soon as possible. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, and E. Heffinger. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 057-20 passed by the yea votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and J. Hazeltine.

Res. 058-20:

Resolution authorizing participation in the Ohio Department of Transportation's Cooperative Purchasing Program for the purchase of Sodium Chloride (Rock Salt), and declaring an emergency. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 058-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Piccoli stated this is his annual salt bid. Emergency is needed due to just receiving this notice with less than a month of turnaround time. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 058-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson.

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The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yea votes of J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 058-20 passed by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

Ord. 059-20:

An Ordinance accepting the report and recommendations of the Fact Finder for the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association representing the Police Communications Division, Patrol Officers and the Sergeants Divisions, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 059-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 059-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mayor states the city and 3 OPBA unions got together at Fact Finding, the report was issued on March 16th and it requires council to take action as well as Unions within 7 days of the receipt, the fact Finder awarded the same wages which were 2.5% in 2020, 2.5% in 2021, and 2.75% in 2022. Same wage package as the Teamsters as well as the same Health Package and Hospital care which has the city paying 80% of the healthcare costs and employees not taking part in the Wellness program paying 20%. Provision is if our premium increases by 1% or greater in either 2021 or 2022 that the employee shared taking part of Wellness will increase from 13% to 14%, 14% being the max. Minor increase in shift differential. A minor adjustment for officers filling in for a vacant sergeant instead of having to work the whole shift if they work for 2 hours or more they get the additional 5%. If called in for an unscheduled Holiday the officer would receive double time. Educational benefit for officers and dispatchers with a college degree and added an honorable discharge from the military after serving three years and can't compound those it's one or the other for a maximum of one stipend. This fact finding report was accepted by the Patrol Officer Association and the Sergeants Association. The dispatchers have not yet voted on it and they have until the end of today to do so and if not then it defers to acceptance. Mayor Hanwell feels this is a fair and reasonable contract for both the city and union members and respectfully asks council to pass it. Emergency is requested due to having to make a decision in 7 days. Mr. Simpson will be abstaining from voting due to a relationship with an officer. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yea votes of J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shield. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 059-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields.

Ord. 060-20:

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 187-19, passed November 25, 2019. (Amendments to 2020 Budget) Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 060-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated this is a donation and they have to appropriate it in order to spend it. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 060-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne.

To be added to the Agenda:

Mr. Shields moved to add Ordinance 61-20 to the agenda, seconded by Mr. Simpson. The roll was called and motion passed by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

Ord. 061-20:

An Ordinance waiving the requirements of the Medina City Salary Benefits Code Section 31.09 with respect to fulltime employee James Pitsenbarger. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 061-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 061-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Piccoli appreciates this being added to the agenda with an emergency clause. He explained there is an employee in the Service Department that has a health issue which will not allow him to return to work for his last two months before retiring on June 20, 2020. A lot of departments collaborated together in working the details out and many thanks to them. The proposal is to pay Mr. Pitsenbarger 50 hours each month, 25 hours per pay period for the next ensuing 4 months to get him to his retirement date using his own banked time that he has accumulated roughly 200 hours. Emergency is requested so that we can begin paying him on March 27th. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yeas votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, and E. Heffinger. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 061-20 passed by the yeas votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and J. Hazeltine.

Council Comments:

Mr. Simpson stated we are all living through a difficult time currently with what is going on, we have not experienced anything like this before but we will get through this. The good thing is we are all getting more time to spend with our families. He encourages all to follow the advice coming from our government. Please be kind to one another.

Mr. Rose spoke about our governor Mike DeWine coming on every day at 2 p.m. with updates and has very factual information. Very impressed with Dr. Acton as well, so much good information to follow. Mr. Rose added that next time you go through a checkout line to remember to thank them because they've really been there for all of us.

Mr. Heffinger feels the word of the year will be "unprecedented" that's because all of this is so new to us. He asks that you all consider another word and that is "patience". We are just trying to figure this all out ourselves. Just be patient with everyone. We will get through this together. Take care of one another. Reach out to us if you need any help.

Mr. Coyne commented next time you go to the grocery store just be patient, there will be enough toilet paper.


Mrs. Hazeltine has a Facebook page you can reach her at Jess Hazeltine Ward 1 Councilwoman. She will share as much information as she can when it comes through whether it be from our Health Department or on a State level. Jess stated she is here as your public servant, it is her job to do whatever she can for whatever you need. Call if you need her at 330-421-4750. She thanked everyone at city hall and knows that the decision to close the inner doors at city hall was a tough one for the Mayor, but appreciates his efforts in keeping us all safe. Jess gave a special shout out to Kathy Patton for dealing with all of council and the prep this week in addition to dealing with a

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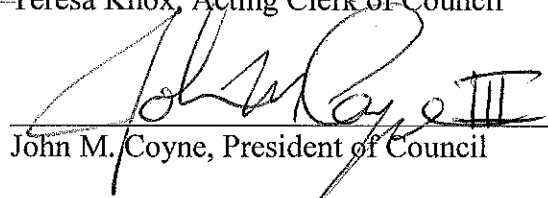
broken ankle. She may possibly be the most dedicated employee we have here, so a big thank you to her!

Adjournment:

There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.



Teresa Knox, Acting Clerk of Council



John M. Coyne, President of Council