

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL  
Monday, June 14, 2021

**Call to Order:**

Medina City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 14, 2021 at Medina City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President John Coyne III who led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:**

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

Also present were the following members of the Administration: Mayor Dennis Hanwell, Greg Huber, Keith Dirham, Patrick Patton, Nino Piccoli, Jonathan Mendel, Police Chief Kinney, Fire Chief Walters, Jansen Wehrley, Dan Gladish, and Clerk of Council Kathy Patton.

**Minutes:**

Mr. Shields moved that the minutes from the regular meeting on Monday, May 24, 2021, as prepared and submitted by the Clerk be approved, seconded by Mr. Simpson. The roll was called and the motion passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, and E. Heffinger.

**Reports of Standing Committees:**

Finance Committee: Mr. Coyne stated Finance Committee met prior to Council this evening and will meet again on June 28th.

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

Public Properties Committee: Mr. Shields stated that Public Properties has a meeting tentatively scheduled for July 7<sup>th</sup> the time is to be determined.

Special Legislation Committee: Mr. Lamb stated he will schedule a meeting in a week and a half to revisit the proposal on Demolition and issue of feral cats.

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

Water & Utilities Committee: Mrs. Hazeltine had no report on Water & Utilities but reported on Strategic plan update. Jessica reported on Balanced Development which is great and easy because there is already a healthy mix of residential, industrial & commercial in Medina. We also have the TIF which for people at home that don't know what that is it is a tax increment financing subsidy that you use for community improvement projects, infrastructure, and redevelopment. We also have, as Mr. Gladish said, reported new builds so we are in great shape.

Emerging Technologies Committee: Mr. Rose stated that during the Finance meeting the Charter Review Committee presented a proposal to add an Emerging Technology Advisory Committee. It was well received and it is a very good start. There are a few things that we could do to improve it as far as the people who are on the committee and the scope of it. Paul will schedule a meeting in the next few weeks.

**Requests for Council Action:**

- 21-115-6/14 – Budget Amendments
- 21-116-6/14 – Approve Variance for 2020 State Audit – Municipal Court
- 21-117-6/14 – 2021 Charter Review Recommendations
- 21-118-6/14 – Then & Now – CT Consultants – Law Dept.
- 21-119-6/14 – Amend S&B / Approve Agreement – Medina TV Technical Operations Position
- 21-120-6/14 – Extend Lease Agreement w/ Williams Scotsman – Municipal Court
- 21-121-6/14 – Establish Municipal Court Planning Committee – Ad Hoc
- 21-122-6/14 – Amend S&B Code 31.01 – Elected Official Salaries
- 21-123-6/14 – 2022 Tax Budget
- 21-124-6/14 – Bids – Job #1089 – 2021 Pavement Marking Program
- 21-125-6/14 – Bids – Job #1094 – Lighting, E. Reagan Parkway Multi-Purpose Trail
- 21-126-6/14 – NOACA TLCI Grant Application – Parks

**Public Properties**

- 21-127-6/14 – MCRC Marketing Discussion
- 21-128-6/14 – Ray Mellert Park Capital Bill Grant

**Reports of Municipal Officers:**

**Dennis Hanwell, Mayor**

- A. Medina Farmer’s Market - Each Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- B. First Friday Medina - July 2, 5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- C. July 4th activities- Fireworks will be set off at dark on July 3rd. All COVID-19 restrictions Have been lifted effective June 2nd. The Twin Sizzler races will be back this year July 4 from 7:45 a.m. to 11 a.m.. All races start from the Square. The July 4 parade will line up at west lot of Medina High School at 3 p.m., and parade starts promptly at 4 p.m. Again, no COVID-19 restrictions will exist at that date unless added between now and then. **CANDY MAY NOT BE THROWN FROM VEHICLES!** We are asking all parade entries to display an American flag to honor our Independence Day. We do not expect new restrictions, but if any new COVID restrictions are added, we will share with newspapers and on social media.
- D. Medina Community Band- planning to have a July 4th concert at the Bandstand area vs Gazebo to spatially distance. The concert is tentative provided they may find rehearsal location and is weather dependent. More details to follow. The concert is planned for 7:30 p.m. due to needed day lighting.
- E. Thankful that Medina outdoor pool opened Saturday, May 29th with no restrictions as well as our splash pads, Greenwood and Mellert Parks, will both open without restrictions June 2.
- F. Proclamation for Sandy Davis retirement.

**Keith Dirham, Finance Director**, stated there are a few things on the agenda that he will address.

**Greg Huber, Law Department**, extended well wishes to Sandy Davis in her retirement

expressing she was great to work with and she will be missed.

**Chief Kinney, Police Department**, wished Sandy Davis a Happy Retirement.

**Chief Walters, Fire Department**, reported on a fire at the Liberty Plaza Apartments on Thursday morning of last week. This fire was in a multipurpose building that housed Rental offices, a Community Center, the laundry area and maintenance area. When they arrived, the attic area of the maintenance side of the building was already heavily engulfed in fire and was beginning to spread to the other attic area of the building. Chief Walters reported that Medina City Police arrived early in the incident and were able to quickly deploy one of the city's Drones and this provided us with both an aerial view of the fire conditions and additionally, they were able to use the thermal imagining capabilities of the drone to see the heat signatures of the attic which enabled the fire fighters to more quickly determine where those interior crews needed to be placed and operating. The drone and the officers proved to be an invaluable resource at this fire and he truly believes they assisted the firefighters in stopping the fire and saved the largest part of that building. Chief Walters thanked Chief Kinney and his officers for their quick response and assistance and he thanked the crews from the Medina Life Support Team from the Cleveland Clinic Medina Hospital, they did more than just provide rehab, many of them have been cross trained as firefighters and they assisted with many firefighting activities early in the operation. Chief Walters stated they are all aware of the unique collaboration they have here in Medina with the safety forces, the Medina Police Department and LST, assisting the Medina Fire Department at this incident truly was something special to see.

**Kimberly Marshall, Economic Development Director**, had no report but wanted to wish Sandy Davis a Happy Retirement and thanked her for all her help and support over the last ten years.

**Jansen Wehrley, Parks and Recreation Director**, was absent.

**Cindy Latuska, Municipal Court**, had no report.

**Dan Gladish, Building Official**, reported that the department continues to see building improvements, alterations and new construction along North Court Street. New construction includes Taco Bell, Chick-fil-A, Jiffy Lube. Discount Tire is under construction and expected to be completed by the end of July. The County Court Project started some minor construction last Thursday.

**Jonathan Mendel, Planning Community Director**, extended congratulations to Sandy on her retirement stating that she has been a critical part of the function of the three divisions within the Community Development Department.

**Nino Piccoli, Service Director**, extended well wishes to Sandy Davis on her retirement.

**Patrick Patton, City Engineer**, reported that they are under construction with the East Reagan Parkway Multi-Purpose Path Project. Starting tomorrow June 15<sup>th</sup>, the driveway entrance to BP Gas Station will be closed for three days to allow for the replacement of the drive apron.

Patrick stated he has worked with Sandy for her entire 21 years here at the city and stated she has always been fantastic to work with and she will be missed.

**Confirmation of Mayor's appointment:**

Cemetery Commission – Susan Harr – Term Expiring 12/31/23  
Mr. Shields moved to approve the Mayoral Appointment, seconded by Mr. Simpson, Motion passed with the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

**Notices, communications and petitions:**

**Liquor Permit:**

Mr. Shields moved not to object to the transfer of a C-1 and C-2 from WJF Investment Corp., dba Medina Marathon, 429 S. Court St. to Manal Petroleum LLC, dba Medina Marathon, 429 S. Court St. Motion seconded by Mr. Simpson and approved by the yea votes of J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, and P. Rose. Mr. Lamb cast a nay vote.

**Unfinished Business:**

There were none.

**Introduction of Visitors:**

(speakers limited to 5 minutes)

**Introduction and Consideration of Ordinances and Resolutions:**

Mr. Shields moved to suspend the rules requiring three readings on the following ordinances and resolutions, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Res.90-21, Ord. 91-21, Res. 92-21, Ord. 93-21, Ord. 94-21, Ord. 95-21, Ord. 96-21, Ord. 97-21, Ord. 98-21, Ord. 99-21, and Ord. 100-21. The roll was called and the motion passed with the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields.

**Res. 090-21:**

**A Resolution commending Sandy Davis for her dedicated years of service to the City of Medina.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 090-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 090-21 passed by the yea votes of J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson.

**Ord. 091-21:**

**An Ordinance authorizing the Job Creation Grant Payment of \$33,717.45 to Sandridge Food.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 091-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mrs. Marshall stated this is to authorize the Job Creation Grant Payment to Sandridge Food Corp. for tax year 2020 in the amount of \$33,717.45. This is actually for two different grants and were a result of two expansion projects in the warehouse, production and employee welfare areas as well as investments in machinery and equipment. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 091-21 passed by the yea votes of J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb,

P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne.

**Res. 092-21:**

**A Resolution authorizing the filing on an application for Grant Assistance from the Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Housing and Community Development, in connection with the Small Cities PY21 Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) Program.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 092-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 092-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Mendel stated they have used the dollars out of this grant to help fund improvements within the community in targeted areas. This is a two-year grant starting PY2021 to almost the end of PY2023. Emergency clause is requested due to application deadlines. 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. 092-21 passed by the yea votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and J. Hazeltine.

**Ord. 093-21:**

**An Ordinance establishing a Medina Court Special Projects Fund – Pre-Trial Drug Testing (Fund #157)** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 093-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated that this is a fund that we have to have to account for monies that the court is going to collect from defendants. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 093-21 passed by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

**Ord. 094-21:**

**An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to solicit Requests for Proposals (RPF's) for Marketing & Solicitation Services for the Medina Community Recreation Center.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 094-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mayor stated the previous sponsorship contract expired on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The Rec Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended this to come to council for approval on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 094-21 passed by the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose. Mr. Shields abstained.

**Ord. 095-21:**

**An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with American Structurepoint, Inc. to provide Right-of-Way Acquisition Services for the West Smith Road, Phase 4 Project.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 095-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. We are at a point in ODOT's project development process we are authorized to begin right-of-way acquisition. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 095-21 passed by the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields.

**Ord. 096-21:**

**An Ordinance amending Section 31.05 of the Salaries and Benefits Code of the City of Medina, Ohio relative to Patrol Officers in the Police Department.** Mr. Shields moved for the

adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 096-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Chief Kinney stated this will increase the Patrol Officer allocation from 29 to 32, this is an increase of 3 officers that will be paid for by contractual revenue from Lafayette Township, for two officers and MCDAC grant funding for the third officer. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 096-21 passed by the yea votes of J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson. Mr. Coyne cast a nay vote.

**Ord. 097-21:**

**An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Municipal Court Conceptual Design Agreement with Brandstetter Carroll, Inc.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 097-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mayor Hanwell stated this will permit them to enter into an agreement not to exceed \$15,000.00. Half of which comes from the Court's Special Projects Fund and the other half from the City's Capital Improvement Fund and it is to look at the needs of the Municipal Court within the 1969 Common Pleas building. This will allow us to plan and work through this in the time that the county is building their new courthouse which will take an estimated 24 months. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 097-21 passed by the yea votes of J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne.

**Ord. 098-21:**

**An Ordinance amending Section 31.05 of the Salaries and Benefits code of the City of Medina, Ohio relative to the Parks and Recreation Department, Tree Care Technician Paygrade.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 098-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mayor Hanwell stated this will upgrade from 31A - F to 34A - F so that it is in line with the MEO classification pay grade. This was approved by the Civil Service Commission as well as the change in the job description and the increase will be funded with department carryforward. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 098-21 passed by the yea votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and J. Hazeltine.

**Ord. 099-21:**

**An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Medina, Ohio certifying that when a municipal obligation was incurred sums were lawfully appropriated in the funds to satisfy the obligation and sufficient sums currently exist to satisfy this obligation.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 099-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 099-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated this is to pay a vendor and it is a Then and Now so the emergency clause is needed due to work already being completed. 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. 099-21 passed by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

**Ord. 100-21:**

**An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 217-20, passed December 14, 2020. (Amendments to 21021 Budget)** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 100-21,

Medina City Council  
June 14, 2021

seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated that these are amendments to the 2021 to cover expenditures. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 100-21 passed by the yeas of J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose.

**Council Comments:**

Mr. Simpson expressed well wishes to Sandy Davis on her retirement. Please just be kind to each other.

Mrs. Hazeltine announced two events in June. June is of course Pride Month and she explained what Pride Month means stating that Pride Month commemorates the Stonewall riots where police raided the Stonewall Inn which had become a safe haven for the LGBTQA+ community, at the time it was illegal in almost every state for restaurants to employ or allow homosexual individuals into their establishments so that night the LGBTQA+ community took a stand and declared they were going to be in charge of determining their own identity. As a result, you will see a lot of events being held during Pride Month. Three Presidents have declared the month of June PRIDE Month under three different administrations but basically it is a celebration of what the LGBTQA+ Community has made an impact on the world.

The second event in June is Juneteenth which is this Saturday. This is something that is not been widely taught in history books so a lot of people are not aware of what Juneteenth is. Juneteenth celebrates the emancipation of slaves in the United States. You would think ok - the Emancipation Proclamation was in 1862 - but this was actually when word filtered down all the way to Texas. The southern most part of the United States finally reached that when Union Army General Gordon Granger proclaimed freedom from slavery in Texas by reading the announcement of General Order #3. These are your two informational things for today, so please take a moment this Saturday to recognize the importance of that and all month long for Pride Month.

Jess congratulated Sandy Davis on her retirement and thanked all safety forces for their quick response to the fire at Liberty Plaza.

Mr. Lamb thanked Fire Chief Walters for his explanation about the fire but most of all, his comments on the importance of collaborating and how working together you get good results. Bill thanked the Charter Review Commission for there work.

Mr. Rose congratulated Sandy Davis on her retirement. Paul also thanked the voters for the May 4<sup>th</sup> outcome. It was a hard-fought battle against a team that called themselves "Stop Government Waste" and I'd like to let you know how much money "Stop the Government Waste" cost the city in legal fees - \$63,000.00 and that is over and above Mr. Huber's salary and his department salary. These are dollars we had to spend on outside assistance, we were sued about the ordinance that put the courthouse in play for the city plan working with the county. The judge ruled in our favor! In addition to that, they opposed the ballot language that was put on the ballot for the May 4<sup>th</sup> election that was passed by the city residents to use the 1969 courthouse for the Municipal Court. The Supreme Court of Ohio ruled in favor of Medina City. Lastly there is a tax payer law suit going on about some meetings that were held and that right now is going through the process but

Medina City Council  
June 14, 2021

seems there is some stalling going on to slow down the case. This is where your tax dollars are going! Take a better look at who is wasting government money.

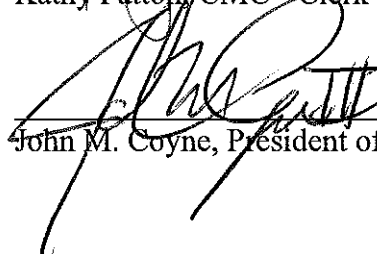
Mr. Coyne read a letter that was received from Ned Simpson and Paul Ryan who are both co-executors of the Estate of Howard C. Ward Jr. (included in minutes)

The City of Medina is honored that Howard wanted to gift the city of Medina with \$75,000 for Christmas Lights. We thank Howard and his family.

There will be a budget meeting on Wednesday in the rotunda at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

  
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Kathy Patton/CMC - Clerk of Council

  
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John M. Coyne, President of Council