

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 – Special Council Meeting

**Opening:**

Medina City Council met in special open session on Tuesday, July 20, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President of Council John Coyne III.

**Roll Call:**

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

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

Mr. Shields moved to suspend the rules requiring three readings on Ord. 130-21 and Ord. 131-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. The roll was called and the motion passed with the yea votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and J. Hazeltine.

**Ord. 130-21:**

**An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 217-20, passed December 14, 2020. (Amendment to 2021 Budget)** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 130-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated there is over \$1 million dollars in the capital buildings fund for this kind of thing. Mr. Piccoli stated the sub-pump failed on the elevator, pit took on water and then the travel chord had a nick in it and it shorted out and had to be repaired and it came to about \$10,300.00. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 130-21 passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, and E. Heffinger.

**Ord. 131-21:**

**An Ordinance amending Section 31.01 of the Salaries and Benefits Code of the City of Medina, Ohio relative to the Schedule of Pay for the positions of Mayor and Finance Director.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 131-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 131-21, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Coyne stated that this ordinance came from their last Finance Meeting and is back to discuss the salary of the Mayor and Finance Director. Emergency clause was requested as it has to be in place prior to August 4, 2021 date of deadline for filing for the Mayor and Finance Director positions. This ordinance provides that the Finance Director salary will remain constant at \$92,006.55 through the years 2022 – 2025. The Mayor's salary will be modified based upon a graduated scale going from year 2022 at \$88,759.32 to year 2025 at \$95,584.06.

Mr. Lamb is in support of the raise for the position of the Mayor. He feels out of balance and fairness, these raises aren't going to individuals who are currently in office but to individuals that will be here after the next election. It's the right thing to do as they are the two elected officials and should address the Finance Director in the same way and get a raise as well.

Mr. Shields agreed that we should be looking at the positions more than anything else. Everybody at City Hall gets a raise except for these two positions and yet these are two positions that help run the city. Anybody that works, looks forward to and counts on some kind of increase to stay up with the cost of living which is all we are really doing here. Jim supports Mr. Lamb's comment as well that maybe both positions need to be looked at.

Mr. Simpson agreed with Mr. Lamb and Mr. Shields that both positions are deserving of a raise.

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Mr. Coyne asked what about Council? Are they not deserving of cost of living raises? Mr. Simpson replied that this is not our full-time job. He stated he would not support a raise for Council at this time but maybe in 4 years. Mr. Coyne stated that the recommendation from the Charter Review Commission was that we all get raises.

Mr. Shields stated he would distinguish it between full-time and part-time and none of us do this as our main job, nor do we do it as our main source of income.

Mr. Coyne stated does anyone want to make amendments because the way this ordinance currently reads is the Mayor is the only one getting the cost of living adjustment and the Finance Director is not and in order for that to occur we would have to come up with a number that would be for the Finance Director. There will be confusion out there because council is going to vote on giving a raise to a Finance Director that is also trying to put on a ballot language that the Charter Review Commission said we want to make it an appointed position.

Mr. Simpson stated he would go along with the Charter Review Commission recommendations for the amount that they recommended for each position.

Mr. Coyne asked if there was going to be an amendment to this ordinance to add in the Finance Director as a salary increase? We don't have the numbers here so will it be based upon the Charter Review recommendation?

Mr. Rose stated forget what position it is and who is sitting in that position we need to make sure that there are certain increases along the way.

Mrs. Hazeltine stated where she is coming from through her lenses, feels the Finance Director is adequately compensated at this time and that the Mayor is not, but in four years the Finance Director will no longer be adequately compensated so if we don't vote for that raise now then it will be another four years.

Mr. Coyne feels when the elected positions are up for Mayor and Finance Director he feels we should vote the following year so we are not waiting for the "year of", or "emergency clause" we need to have better planning than that.

Mr. Lamb stated as an elected official you can't base a raise on "I think they are doing a great job", or "they are not doing a great job" and we can lower their pay, that is for the voters to judge. The Mayor of this city is also the Safety Director and if we had to hire a Safety Director, we'd be looking at a whole lot of more money than what we are looking at now.

Ms. Hazeltine stated she did take that into consideration when looking at the job descriptions.

Mr. Rose read the numbers for the Finance Director that the Charter Review Commission recommended.

Mr. Coyne stated if you want those numbers then we need to have a motion to amend the ordinance

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to include that or if you want something different we need a motion.

Mr. Lamb motioned that they amend the ordinance to include those numbers that the Charter Review Commission recommended for the Finance Director's salary, Mr. Simpson seconded the Motion.

Mr. Shields asked if we want to follow that or do we want to do a number somewhere between 0 and 2.5%?

Mr. Rose stated he agrees with Councilwoman Hazeltine in that the Finance Director is adequately compensated for the work that the position requires. Paul stated he worked a table of numbers for 1.25% and for 2022 salary would be \$93,156.00 and 2023 / \$94,321.00, 2024 / \$95,500.00, and 2025 / \$96,694.00.

Mr. Coyne stated right now there is a motion and a seconded on the council table to raise or modify the salary of the Finance Director for 2022 to 2025 based upon the Charter Review recommendation that was just previously read by Mr. Rose and that is what we will be voting on. So, it will go from \$94,000.00 to \$101,000.00 and that is what we have to vote on now. If there is a motion and it's seconded we can change the numbers.

Mr. Lamb asked if we could amend his motion on the table. Mr. Coyne stated yes you can amend that motion.

Mr. Lamb moved to amend his motion made previously and make a motion that we adopt the figures that Councilmen Rose gave with the 1.25% raise for the Finance Director each year.

Councilwoman Hazeltine clarified that the new motion is 1.25% raise for the Finance Director position each year and 2.5% for the Mayor position each year for 2022 – 2025.

Mr. Rose seconded the motion.

Mr. Coyne restated the current amendment on the table for council is we are voting on an amendment to the ordinance adding the Finance Director at 1.25% increase for 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 that is all we are voting on right now.

The roll was called on the amendment to Ord. 131-21 and passed by the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields. J. Coyne cast a nay vote.

The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 131-21 passed by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Hazeltine, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb. J. Coyne cast a nay vote.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.


Council reconvened at 5:41 p.m.

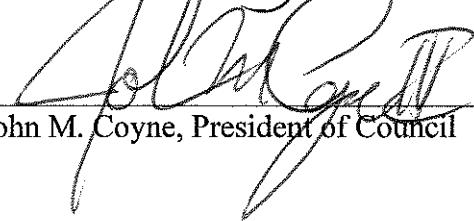
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Council President Coyne explained that the meeting was adjourned before the roll could be called on the emergency clause, therefore, they needed to reconvene for a vote on the motion and second that was presented earlier. Jessica Hazeltine did not return for this vote.

The roll was called on the emergency clause for Ordinance 131-21 and passed by the yea votes of J. Shields, D. Simpson, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose. J. Hazeltine was absent, J. Coyne cast a nay vote.

There being no further business before council, the meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

  
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Teresa Knox - Acting Clerk of Council

  
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John M. Coyne, President of Council