

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL
Monday, September 14, 2020

Call to Order:

Medina City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 14, 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.

Roll Call:

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

Also present were the following members of the Administration: Mayor Dennis Hanwell, Keith Dirham, Greg Huber, Patrick Patton, Nino Piccoli, Chief Kinney, and Kathy Patton.

Minutes:

Mr. Shields moved that the minutes from the regular meeting on August 24, 2020 as prepared and submitted by the Clerk be approved. The roll was called and the motion passed by the yeas of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and E. Heffinger.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Finance Committee: Mr. Coyne stated they met prior to this evening's Council Meeting and will meet again in 2 weeks.

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

Public Properties Committee: Mr. Shields had no report.

Special Legislation Committee: Mr. Lamb had a meeting to discuss three items, they were tethering of dogs, feeding wild animals, and demolition permits. Tethering of dogs was determined that legislation was already being met by state and was not passed. There was a lot of discussion on feeding wild animals and demolition permits but no vote, will return to both of those next month.

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

Water & Utilities Committee: Mrs. Hazeltine was absent.

Emerging Technologies Committee: Mr. Rose had no report.

Requests for Council Action:

Finance Committee

20-175-9/14 – Budget Amendments

20-176-9/14 – Donation of old Computers to Medina City Schools

20-177-9/14 – Revision of Civil Service Rule VIII (K)(2)

20-178-9/14 – Expenditure Over \$15,000 – CTL Engineering, Inc.

20-179-9/14 – Resolution of Support – Spring Grove Arboretum Designation – FOC

20-180-9/14 – Preliminary Legislation – ODOT – SR 18 Improvement Project

Reports of Municipal Officers:

Dennis Hanwell, Mayor, had the following prepared report:

- A. Covid-19-** Thank you to public for helping reduce the spread by following guidelines of social distancing, wearing masks in public, and avoiding large gatherings. Updated information on business openings, safety protocols, etc. are on the City and Medina County Health Dept. website. Please continue to support our local businesses.
- B. New Parking Deck/TIF-** The deck is now open and available to the public.
- C.** Please complete the **U.S. Census**. Important that all residents are counted. We qualify for state and federal grants based on the reporting.
- D. The original Medina Square Farmers Market** opened its 15th season on the Medina Square on June 6th, and will run through October 17th. I stopped up at 10 a.m. Saturday, September 12th, for Customer Appreciation recognition, thanks for supporting Farmers Market and encouraged the attendees to visit and support our local businesses.
- E. State of the City** was presented to Medina City Council and Medina Area Chamber of Commerce. Links will be on city website, www.medinaoh.org
- F.** Patriot's Day Reflection Ceremony at 911 Memorial south of Fire Station 1 was Friday, September 11th at 10 a.m. Keith Dirham and I attended. Next year going to have group of Pastors dedicate memorial on 20th anniversary.
- G. Halloween-** Trick or Treat will be held this year- October 31, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Encourage masks, social distancing, and other precautions for COVID. Please avoid houses with lights off as residents may be elderly, immunity compromised or both.
- H. Fiber to the home-** please take survey at this link- www.Medina.LitCommunities.net

Lori Bowers, Deputy Finance Director, stated they implemented their new software last week and the utility billing accounts have new account numbers. If anybody is having issues trying to do online bill pay, you can just call our office and we will give them their new number. The new numbers will show up on the bills that go out the beginning of next month.

Greg Huber, Law Director, had no report.

Chief Kinney, Police Department, stated the Police Department has seen an increase of vandalism and theft of political signs here recently. If your signs have been stolen or tampered with, please call the Police Department so that we can track these incidents. It is important for everybody to understand that anyone engaging in that type of activity can be charged with theft, criminal damage, and criminal trespassing and those are some fairly serious offenses for essentially a juvenile act. He asks that everyone is respectful of their neighbor's property.

Kimberly Marshall, Economic Development Director, Stated the Ohio Means Jobs office is partnering with Spray Products Corp for two virtual career fairs to be held on Thursday, September 17th and Tuesday the 22nd from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Need to hire between 100 and 200 people immediately with 17 different job openings. Online interviews can contact Shawn Thomas at 330-441-0409 email: shon.thomas@medinaomj.org

Jonathan Mendel, Planning Community Director, had no report.

Chief Painter, Fire Department, was absent.

Mike Wright, Rec. Center Director, was absent.

Jansen Wehrley, Parks and Recreation Director, stated a good portion of our single track mountain bike trail at Huffman Cunningham is going to be closed for quite some time due to flooding and causing damage to many of the bridges. We have volunteers and Parks department staff working to get some of those fixed.

Update on Sports Associations – Medina Youth Grid Iron, Medina Girl Softball Association and Medina Soccer are all planning fall seasons following the guidelines for responsible restart Ohio and have developed action plans to designate certain people to insure all participants are compliant.

Dan Gladish, Building Official, had no report.

Patrick Patton, City Engineer, reported that the South Broadway Street project is complete and officially opened today.

Nino Piccoli, Service Director, had no report.

Notices and petitions:

Liquor Permit:

Not to object to the transfer of a D1, D2, D3 and D6 permit to IBC Bars LLC, dba Diner 42, 665 Lafayette Rd., Medina from Wings Etc of Marietta LLC, 101 Crooked Run Lane, Marietta, Ohio 45750. Mr. Shields moved not to object, seconded by Mr. Simpson. The roll was called and passed by the yeas votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

Unfinished Business:

Res. 144-20 (tabled)

Introduction of Visitors:

Mike Ryan resides at 155 Roshon Dr. in Medina. There is a very wide disparity on a yes vote and a no vote over the Save the Courthouse issue and the ballot language. What exactly are the benefits and consequences of a yes vote and what are the benefits and consequences of a no vote?

Mr. Coyne stated the facts regarding the combined courthouse project with the county:

- Estimated budget for combined project is \$38 million dollars
- \$8 million is the city of Medina's responsibility and \$30 million is the responsibility of the County of Medina.
- Ballot issue is only going to be voted on by City of Medina residents.
- A building will be constructed on the east side of the square behind the current existing buildings of the old 1843 courthouse and 1969 courthouse and the prosecutor's office building.
- None of the buildings that are currently existing on the east side of the square are going to be torn down for this project.
- 129,600 sq. ft. size of new building. City will occupy 27,013 sq. ft. of that.
- If you **VOTE YES** you are saying yes you do not want the city to move forward with this project, I want the city to not do the project with Medina County, they can do something else.
- Latest cost to build a separate Municipal Court building by City Hall was \$9.3 million dollars.
- City residents are County residents and to save money for tax payers means combining efforts with efficiencies such as security entrances, having one building housing all of the court facilities in the county except for Wadsworth Municipal Court since they are in Wadsworth. Electricity can be shared along with HVAC. We

already have the parking deck that can accommodate 360 spaces for parking and all these things combined give a better approach of working together.

- If you **VOTE NO** you are saying yes you want the city to participate.
- This vote **WILL NOT** stop the tearing down of the existing courthouse because they are not being torn down.
- Mayor Hanwell added that the 69 building would not be saved if it were not for the efforts of the City Council and the Administration to meet with the Commissioners and express that there is a strong desire on behalf of the citizens of Medina to keep that same look on the square, and that is exactly what the Commissioners agreed to do. Additional efficiencies are also only having to have one elevator to share, sharing meeting rooms, and sharing restrooms. It is also efficient for the attorney's that are there to not have to be running 2 blocks back and forth from courts. The money that has been spent thus far for the engineering for the design for the preliminary drawings to see if it would all work, and then now to just say that is money out the window and start fresh.
- To have renovated the current 69 building means moving employees out and the estimated cost for the county to move all the common pleas courts, domestic courts and probate was \$2 million.

Mr. Coyne stated they will be putting together a fact sheet to make the public aware so that they can be informed voters.

Chuck Johnson resides at 3298 Foster Rd. in Medina Township, he came to introduce himself as the newly elected Township Trustee.

Introduction and Consideration of Ordinances and Resolutions:

Motion to suspend the Rules requiring three readings on the following ordinances and resolutions:

Ord. 152-20, Res. 153-20, Ord. 154-20, Ord. 155-20, and Ord. 156-20, Ord. 157-20. Ord. 158-20, Ord. 159-20, Ord. 160-20, Ord. 161-20, Ord. 162-20 and Ord. 163-20. Mr. Shields motioned to suspend the rules requiring three readings, seconded by Mr. Simpson. The roll was called and the motion to suspend passed by the yea votes of J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose.

Ord. 152-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2021 Dodge Durango AWD Mid-size SUV from Fred Martin Superstore for the Building Department. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 152-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Gladish stated that this is a planned budgeted purchase for a replacement vehicle for the Building Permits and Inspection Department. Dan stated it is going to be a 2021 model and there is a slight not to exceed price increase on this. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 152-20 passed by the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields.

Res. 153-20:

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to submit a grant application with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations for the City Hall Parking Deck. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 153-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 153-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Patton stated this is funded through the State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and is intended to install electrical

vehicle charging stations throughout key points of the State of Ohio. Medina City will be applying for 8 level II chargers and are asking for the emergency clause due to application being returned by September 30th. Mr. Coyne stated it is his understanding that these are four separate stations but 8 separate charging receptacles. Patrick stated if we are awarded these they will be in by late spring. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 153-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson.

Ord. 154-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the purchase of two (2) 2020 Ford Explorer Interceptors from Lebanon Ford for the Police Department. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 154-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Chief Kinney stated these are budgeted and state bid. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 154-20 passed by the yea votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne.

Ord. 155-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to approve the trade-in of two (2) 2015 Police cruisers and accept \$8,000.00 toward the purchase of two (2) new cruisers from Lebanon Ford for the Police Department. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 155-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 155-20 passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and E. Heffinger.

Ord. 156-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for the auction, sale or disposal of City equipment and vehicles no longer in use. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 156-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Nino stated this is the annual city auction and the tentative date is for Saturday, October 17th, 2020 held at the City garage on 781 West Smith Rd. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 156-20 passed by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

Ord. 157-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for competitive bids and to award a contract to the successful bidder for the West Liberty Storm Sewer Improvement/City Hall Parking Deck Detention Project. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 157-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 157-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Patton stated this originally was going to be the responsibility of our contractor. Asking for the emergency clause because it needs a more permanent result. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 157-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose.

Ord. 158-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a LPA Federal Local-Let Project

Agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the West Smith Road, Phase 4 Project. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 158-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Patton stated this is to enter into a LPA Federal Local-Let Project Agreement with ODOT for the Medina City Job #1025. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 158-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson.

Ord. 159-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement with American Structurepoint, Inc. to provide design services for the West Smith Road, Phase 4 Project. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 159-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Patton stated this is to engage with this consultant that is prequalified in several different areas. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 159-20 passed by the yea votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields.

Ord. 160-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Improvement Agreement with the Medina Community Design Committee for repainting and repair to the City's Interurban Ticket Building. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 160-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Mendel stated this project will paint and do minor repair work to the Interurban building. Mr. Lamb will abstain from voting since he is a member of the CDC Board. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 160-20 passed by the yea votes of E. Heffinger, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne. B. Lamb abstained.

Ord. 161-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute a Revocable Use Permit with Beacon Farmers Exchange LLC for a projecting sign for the Medina Brew Company business at 320 South Court Street. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 161-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Mendel stated this is to allow a projecting sign over the South Court St. right-of-way. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 161-20 passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and E. Heffinger.

Ord. 162-20:

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Friends of the Cemetery for Cemetery Drainage Improvements at Spring Grove Cemetery. Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 162-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Wehrley stated this is for a drainage project in Sections 11 and 12. Upon completion of the project, the Friends of the Cemetery want the city to accept this improvement as a gift. The project estimate is just a little over \$26,000.00. Jansen thanked the Friends of the Cemetery for spearheading this effort, drainage has been a significant issue in these sections and he looks forward to getting it improved. Mr. Simpson echoed what Jansen stated about the Friends of the Cemetery, they are stepping up and this cost is over \$26,000.00, will be a great improvement, and is truly appreciated. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 162-20 passed by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

Ord. 163-20:

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. 163-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Lori Bowers stated these are adjustments to the budget and new appropriations for the Cares Act Funds that we received and some grants that we received. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 163-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose.


Council Comments:

Mr. Coyne clarified to Mr. Ryan about where this \$8 Million dollars for the city's portion is coming from. He reiterated that the city is not borrowing any money to build the courthouse. We saved for this both through the court efforts and the city efforts. The city has a Special Projects Fund and it has about \$4.3 million dollars in it right now and we will be using that money to pay for a portion of the courthouse together with re-implementing the fee to help pay for additional funding for that and the City has saved up enough money in the 301 account which is our capital project account to pay for it without borrowing any money.

Denny thanked Debra Hallock and Jinny Pritchard for starting a Go-Fund-Me page for Porter Shoes and Repair on West Liberty Street. Phyllis and Herb have had their business there for decades. He reminded people to please support our local businesses. Even though they are able to remain open, their foot traffic and number of people that would normally visit their business have been cut drastically and a lot of people are suffering. Support our community members that are in need. Be kind to one another.

Mr. Rose thanked Patrick Patton for answering all the questions he had on the vehicle charging stations.

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



Kathy Patton, CMC - Clerk of Council



John M. Coyne, President of Council

