

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL  
Monday, November 23, 2020

**Call to Order:**

Medina City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 23, 2020 at the Medina High School PDC Room. 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: B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and E. Heffinger (remote). J. Hazeltine was absent.

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

**Minutes:**

Mr. Shields moved that the minutes from the regular meeting on Monday, November 9, 2020 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, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields.

**Reports of Standing Committees:**

Finance Committee: Mr. Coyne stated Finance Committee met prior to Council this evening and will meet again in three weeks.

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

Public Properties Committee: Mr. Shields had no report.

Special Legislation Committee: Mr. Lamb had reported a meeting scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup> on topics of demolition proposal and feeding wild animals.

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

Water & Utilities Committee: Mrs. Hazeltine was absent.

Emerging Technologies Committee: Mr. Rose had no report but is looking to schedule a meeting in December.

**Requests for Council Action:**

- 20-235-11/23 – Amend S&B Section 31.13 re: Vacation
- 20-236-11/23 – RFP's – Drug Screen & Related Professional Services
- 20-237-11/23 – Increase P.O. #2020-1056 – HSH Excavating – Service Dept.
- 20-238-11/23 – Increase P.O. #2020-1206 – Dixon Engineering – Water
- 20-239-11/23 – Increase P.O. #2020-0605 – Main Street Lighting – Streets
- 20-240-11/23 – Establish New Fund – Medina Square Christmas Lighting Fund
- 20-241-11/23 – Request to Repay Advances
- 20-242-11/23 – Request to Rollover Outstanding Advances
- 20-243-11/23 – Budget Amendments

20-244-11/23 – Amend S&B 31.04 – Pay Adjustment for Parks Director  
20-245-11/23 – New Vendor – Expenditure Over \$15,000 – Halo Mechanical – Service  
20-246-11/23 – Expenditure Over \$15,000 – Mason Custom Builders – Police Dept.

**Reports of Municipal Officers:**

**Dennis Hanwell, Mayor,**

- A. Covid-19- Medina County was moved to level red November 5th, 2020. Please remain vigilant with avoiding large gatherings, wearing masks in public, washing hands frequently and social distancing. Updated information on business openings, safety protocols, etc. are on the City and Medina County Health Dept. websites. Recent health advisory from MCHD Krista Wasowski recommends that Medina County residents should remain at home as frequently as possible to assist curtail the rapid spread of COVID of late. Remain in homes per public health advisory from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. for the next 3 weeks. Employment, healthcare, caring for others or pets, groceries or other essentials are permitted exceptions.
- B. Porter's Shoe repair - relocating to 799 North Court, 26B. Please continue to support the Porters. City assisted with move of heavy equipment on Friday, November 20, 2020.
- C. Candlelight Walk event - Thursday, November 19th - Sunday, November 22nd. See Main Street Medina website for event activities and details - [www.mainstreetmedina.com](http://www.mainstreetmedina.com) . Gazebo Christmas tree and downtown lighting will take place in the afternoon of Friday the 20th with no public gathering due to COVID restrictions. Main Street Medina is also doing a targeted marketing campaign across northeast Ohio to promote Medina as a day trip holiday destination, to extend shopping and holiday enjoyment season.
- D. Fiber to the home- please take survey at this link- [www.Medina.LitCommunities.net](http://www.Medina.LitCommunities.net)

**Keith Dirham, Finance Director,** stated there are a few items on the agenda that originated from Finance.

**Greg Huber, Law Department,** stated they had a meeting last week with FAA personnel in connection with our airport. The Totts family owns land next to the airport and they are looking to sell it for about \$600,000.00, about 30 acres. The FAA is looking at prioritizing the question of purchasing this property as it is encumbered flight corridors and also would provide the best piece of property that might enable the airport to expand with additional hangars in the future. The folks at the FAA seem to be favorably disposed. The process would require the council to advance monies to purchase the property and then be reimbursed by the Federal government for it. First requirement is for the Master Plan to redraft to include the possibility to have this land with our airport. This would give this airport greater viability in the future. The Master Plan would be updated by our engineer.

**Chief Kinney, Police Department,** had no report.

**Kimberly Marshall, Economic Development Director,** Absent.

**Jonathan Mendel, Planning Community Director,** Absent.

**Chief Painter, Fire Department**, Absent.

**Jansen Wehrley, Parks and Recreation Director**, stated that on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> they are looking to expand the MCRC hours to improve accessibility for those trying to utilize the facility. There are many safety measures in place to make the facility available and he appreciates their cooperation and understanding as they try to make their way through this.

**Nino Piccoli, Service Director**, Leaf pickup is still in motion and they will continue to pick up leaves as long as the snow doesn't accumulate and cause damage to our vacuum equipment.

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

**Patrick Patton, City Engineer**, had no report.

**Notices, communications and petitions:**

**Unfinished Business:**

**Introduction of Visitors:**

**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:

Ord. 198-20, Ord. 199-20, Ord. 200-20, Ord. 201-20, Res. 202-20, Ord. 203-20, Ord. 204-20, Ord. 205-20, Ord. 206-20, Ord. 207-20, Ord. 208-20, Ord. 209-20. The roll was called and the motion passed with the yea votes of J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson.

**Ord. 198-20:**

**An Ordinance amending Ord. No. 176-20, passed October 13, 2020 relative to amendments to the 2020 Budget.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 198-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated they are correcting a transposition. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 198-20 passed by the yea votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne.

**Ord. 199-20:**

**An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Medical Mutual of Ohio for Health Care Insurance for the employees of the City of Medina.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 199-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mayor Hanwell stated they originally received a 9% increase from Medical Mutual on healthcare, if the city's claims to premium ratio is within certain standards the city could save up to another 5%. Switched dental to MetLife offered 24 month lock in premium saving over \$11,000.00 annual. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 199-20 passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and E. Heffinger.

**Ord. 200-20:**

**An Ordinance amending Section 31.02(E) of the Salaries and Benefits Code of the City of Medina, Ohio relative to the Salary Schedule for Part-Time Employees of the Medina Community Recreation Center affected by the Ohio Minimum Wage increase.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 200-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Wehrley stated this is to modify the part-time payscale due to the minimum wage increase and will go from \$8.70 an hour for 2020 to \$8.80 for 2021. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 200-20 passed by the yeas votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

**Ord. 201-20:**

**An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute Consent Legislation with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to complete a sign replacement project at various locations in the City of Medina.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 201-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Patton stated this will be for State route signs being replaced throughout the city by ODOT with no cost to the city. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 201-20 passed by the yeas votes of J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose.

**Res. 202-20:**

**A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreements with the Medina County Commissioners and the Medina County Public Defender Commission so as to provide legal counsel to indigent persons charged with a violation of the City's ordinances.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 202-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Huber stated that the State of Ohio requires them to have a contract with the local Public Defender's Office so that they can provide legal services for indigent persons charged with violations of our ordinances. This would extend the contract again for the future year. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 202-20 passed by the yeas votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields.

**Ord. 203-20**

**An Ordinance amending Section 31.13, Subsections 1 and 2 of the Salaries and Benefits Code of the City of Medina, Ohio relative to Vacations.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 203-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 203-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated this would allow employees to cash out more vacation time this year than they normally are allowed to because of COVID, this is a onetime thing for 2020. The emergency is needed due to approaching the end of the year. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yeas votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 203-20 passed by the yeas votes of D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, and J. Shields.

**Ord. 204-20**

**An Ordinance amending Section 31.02(E) of the Salaries and Benefits Code of the City of Medina, Ohio relative to the Pay Schedule for the new position of Facility Monitor at the**

**Medina Community Recreation Center and adopting the job description.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 204-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 204-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Wehrley stated this is to combine two existing positions and the responsibilities at the recreation center, the Facility Attendant and Building Monitor into the one position. Emergency clause is requested due to trying to expand the current hours at the recreation center and needing to get training in as soon as possible. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yea votes of J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 204-20 passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and E. Heffinger.

**Ord. 205-20**

**An Ordinance amending Sections 31.05 and 31.07.7 of the Salaries and Benefits Code of the City of Medina, Ohio by the addition of the position of Recreation Center Superintendent and adopting the job description.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 205-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 205-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Wehrley stated the new position of the Recreation Center Superintendent will supervise day to day activities and operations at the recreation center and work collaboratively with him. Their plan is to make a temporary promotional appointment to fill the position and then continue to evaluate operations at the recreation center. Emergency is requested due to needing to officially make an appointment and are asking for retro pay back to November 9<sup>th</sup>. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 205-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, and P. Rose.

**Ord. 206-20**

**An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to solicit Requests for Proposals (RPF's) for drug screening and associated professional service for the employees of the City of Medina.** Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 206-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 206-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mayor Hanwell stated that every year they solicit requests for proposals from a number of companies in our community and receive their proposals, evaluate them and then award them. Emergency clause is needed due to just receiving this. 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. 206-20 passed by the yea votes of J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, and D. Simpson.

**Ord. 207-20**

**An Ordinance authorizing the Finance Director to repay certain fund advances.**

Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 207-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated these are advances and this is where they borrow money in one fund from another fund and then repay it. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 207-20 passed by the yea votes of E. Heffinger, B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, and J. Coyne.

**Ord. 208-20**

**An Ordinance authorizing the Finance Director to rollover certain outstanding advances.**

Mr. Shields moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 208-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated in this case they are continuing these advances on for another year. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 208-20 passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, and E. Heffinger.

**Ord. 209-20**

**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. 209-20, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Dirham stated there are a slew of budget amendments tonight, they are getting close to the end of the year, they have the CARES Fund, the advances and then all the accounts that are running low they need to cover. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 209-20 passed by the yea votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, E. Heffinger, and B. Lamb.

**Council Comments:**

Mr. Rose wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and to stay safe.

Mr. Shields thanked all the city employees and all the work that went into decorating the square and south of town. A lot of people said this year especially that it made them feel better to see the decorations. Thanks to Main Street Medina.

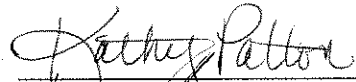
Mr. Simpson wished all a Happy Thanksgiving. Thanks for all the hard work with everyone involved in decorating the square. Thank you to all involved in helping move the Porter business.

Mr. Heffinger noted that he is the only one that remoted in, he teaches and is in the community a lot but he is really trying to limit his exposure to anybody that he does not have to have. He prefers being present in person but he is really nervous for what is ahead for COVID this winter, stating we all have a responsibility and I know everyone is sick of hearing it but we need to stop and reconsider all our actions because our schools are shutting down, our businesses are going to start shutting down and it's not because the government is telling them, it's because they can't function at the level they are because so many people are getting sick or quarantined because of this COVID. Speaking from personal experience he said he has 20 students in his second period class and today 11 of them were absent, 9 because of quarantine. How is he supposed to function, how is the school to function when their teachers are all disappearing, how does a business function when their managers and employees are gone for two weeks at a time. It's difficult, it's hard, he knows this is not over just because we are tired of it and he hopes as a community, as a city that we can come together to bring our numbers down. Every health advisor out there is telling us right now that it is going to get worse, just today our numbers reached almost 12,000 cases in the State of Ohio in just 24 hours.

Mr. Coyne wished everyone a Happy and safe Thanksgiving. He congratulated the Medina High School Varsity Bowling Team, they won their all county meet.

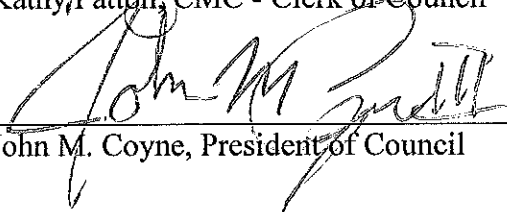
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There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



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Kathy Patton, CMC - Clerk of Council



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John M. Coyne, President of Council

