

NORWALK CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

August 2, 2016
7:30 p.m.

Municipal Court
Norwalk, Ohio

REGULAR SESSION

Council President Steve Euton called the meeting to order. Pastor Jeff Watson offered the prayer which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following council members were present: Chris Mushett, Chris Castle, Steve Euton, Samantha Wilhelm, Kelly Beck, Deb Lucal, and David Wallace.

Mayor Rob Duncan, Law Director Stu O'Hara, Safety/Service Director Dan Wendt, and Finance Director Diane Eschen, were also in attendance.

Mrs. Wilhelm moved to excuse Steve Schumm. Mr. Wallace seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mr. O'Hara requested that Item No. 16-071 be removed from the agenda. Mr. Euton added that Item No. 16-052 is to be removed from the table and placed on the agenda. Mr. Wallace moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mrs. Lucal seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES Mr. Beck moved to approve the July 19, 2016 and July 26, 2016 minutes as presented. Mr. Mushett seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS - none

COMMITTEE REPORTS - none

OFFICIAL REPORTS

MAYOR Mayor Duncan said that it is going to be a busy weekend in Norwalk with several events including Imagine Norwalk, Ohio Flags of Honor, and Norwalk United. He concluded by saying that he noticed early in the year that according to the Charter, the Planning Commission is required to submit a yearly report to City Council. He distributed the 2016 report to Council members, a copy is on file with the clerk.

Mr. Euton asked Mr. O'Hara and the clerk to assemble a 2017 calendar assigning a date to each City group, Commission, and Department Head on which they are scheduled to report to Council.

SERVICE DIRECTOR Mr. Wendt reported that the new roof at the Police Station is in progress and should be completed in 5-7 days. He said there was a garage fire in the last week in which nobody was hurt and he thanked the neighbor that called for help. In reference to the new Fire Station, he said Mull and Weithman are in the process of adjusting the plans according to the budget. Next, he said the switch to the new generator will take place on August 11, 2016. He said it does require power to be cut for up to an hour which will only affect City Hall and the Fire Department. He announced that the Sanitation Department is hiring one part-time laborer which will pay \$14/hour and consist of up to 30 hours per week. He added that he recently received great comments from a citizen who said the Sanitation employees are very hard working. Also in

Sanitation, he said the conveyor belt will be down for repair at the Huron County transfer station. He said our Sanitation Department will do the County a favor and take recyclables to the Lorain County Recyclery. In Parks and Recreation, he said there was an all nighter tournament consisting of 150 players. He was pleased to report there were no problems. Finally, he encouraged Council to attend the next Public Forum which will focus on designing Jaycee Park.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – no report

LAW DIRECTOR Mr. O'Hara requested an Executive Session following the meeting to discuss a possible real estate transaction for the City with no action to be taken after.

ENGINEER Mr. Snyder began by saying that since General Services changed their street sweeping methods they are much more efficient. He said that they were previously able to cover 104 miles in 11 days and reach every street once a month. Now they can cover 104 miles in 5 days which he said reaches every street twice a month. In addition, he said what used to cost \$26.79 per mile for labor and fuel is down to \$12.18 per mile. In reference to projects, he said one of the two basins at the water treatment plant have been painted and the water towers are completed. He said Wooster/Marshall Phase 5 is done and just needs a top layer of asphalt. He added that the Resurfacing Program is 75% complete and the Sidewalk Program is complete. Pleasant Street Contract A is done, which he said is all of the piping. He said what remains is the restoration which includes seeding, tree planting, and driveway approaches. He said there was a main water line break on Rosedale earlier this week. He said work is about 75% complete on the main line. When that is complete they will tie in homes and begin restoration. He said the Route 250/Westwind Drive concrete wall is complete and will provide the framework for what will be 6 foot sidewalk, curb, and roadway. Finally, he said he has seen plans for Old State Road and is awaiting final design to bid the project.

Mr. Wallace asked what the differences are between the new and old street sweeping methods. Mr. Snyder said they are sweeping in the evening hours and using the same person all the time. He said he feels that dedicating one employee to this job provides continuity. Mayor Duncan said there were very few complaints and adjustments have been made to accommodate residents.

APPOINTED OR ELECTED OFFICIALS – none

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL Judge Conway was present to give his perspective in regards to the drug issue in Huron County. A handout is on file with the clerk.

Mr. Wallace referred to Judge Conway's presentation and asked who he means when he says the State is making decisions not to sentence first time traffickers. Judge Conway said that the Governor signed off on Housebill 86 which changed the laws. He said in essence he doesn't have the ability to send first time drug trafficking offenders to prison.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none

SECOND READINGS OF ORDINANCES

Item No. 16-052

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1161.01.A OF THE NORWALK CODIFIED ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO PERMITTED USES IN THE B-4 ZONING DISTRICT

Mr. Mushett moved to adopt the ordinance. Mrs. Wilhelm seconded. All members voted in favor. Ordinance No. 2016-032 adopted.

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 16-072

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO PAY THE K COMPANY, INC. FOR SERVICES PERFORMED AT CITY HALL

Mr. Mushett moved that the clerk be instructed to read the legislation. Mr. Beck seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Euton stated that there will be a Finance Committee meeting August 9, 2016 in the City Hall Conference Room at 6 pm followed by a Work Session at 7:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Castle moved to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss possible real estate transaction with no business after. Mrs. Lucal seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Stephen E. Euton
President

Jaime L. Peiples
Clerk