

NORWALK CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

September 6, 2016
7:30 p.m.

Municipal Court
Norwalk, Ohio

REGULAR SESSION

Council President Steve Euton called the meeting to order. Council member David Wallace 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, Steve Schumm, Deb Lucal, Kelly Beck, and David Wallace.

Mayor Rob Duncan, Law Director Stu O'Hara, Public Works Director Josh Snyder, Police Chief Dave Light, and Parks and Recreation Superintendent Joe Lindenberger were also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mr. Schumm moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mrs. Lucal seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES Mr. Wallace moved to approve the August 16, 2016 and August 30, 2016 minutes as presented. Mr. Beck seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS The Clerk said that she received a liquor license transfer request from Gardner's Supervalu to Miller's Market to which Chief Light has no objection.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - none

OFFICIAL REPORTS

MAYOR Mayor Duncan read a proclamation designating September 8, 2016 "Go Orange Day" to raise awareness for hunger. He added that City employees are encouraged to wear the color orange on that day and to bring canned goods to City Hall to be donated to the Food Bank.

SERVICE DIRECTOR Mr. Wendt started by saying that the landscaping at City Hall had been replaced as a result of complaints from the public in regard to the lack of curb appeal. He said Miller's Landscaping designed the space and discounted the materials which amounted to \$1,000 and General Services completed the work. In relation to the Sanitation Fund, he said both the residential portion of the street sweeping program and removal of refuse in public parks will now be deducted from that fund. He said the street sweeping amounts to around \$40,000 and the refuse to around \$20,000. In Parks and Recreation he said that of the 13 main revenue streams, 10 have increased revenue compared to 2015. He said the largest revenue generator has been facility rentals. He also said the aquatic facility has had a \$23,000 increase in revenue thanks in part to the Silver Sneakers Program in which the insurance companies pay for senior citizen memberships. In the Fire Department, he said engine #523 has a cracked frame and they are awaiting a quote. He encouraged everyone to participate in the September 17th Paws for a Cause 5K at Gaymont, the September 23rd Siren Run at Suhr Park, and the October 1st Family First Event at Veteran's Memorial Lake Park.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – no report

LAW DIRECTOR – no report

ENGINEER Mr. Snyder said the Pleasant Street Lift Station is in the final phase of construction before park restoration. He said the sheet piling is being driven along the creek where the basin will be installed. Westwind/Route 250 Intersection, he said, is scheduled to be milled on Monday and paved Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. He said Old State Road Widening Project will be out for bid next week. He added that ADA Ramps are in progress in preparation for the Safe Routes to Schools Project slated for 2017.

Mr. Beck asked if any kind of safety barrier is to be added to the Westwind/Route 250 project. Mr. Snyder said yes, there will be a hand railing.

APPOINTED OR ELECTED OFFICIALS Chief Light requested permission for Records Clerk Tacy Bond to attend Alert Public Safety Solutions training in Asheville, North Carolina which is 546 miles away. He said that EMA has agreed to pay \$550.00 for registration in addition to room and board which amounts to \$1570.00. The Police Department will be responsible for fuel costs ranging from \$115.00 to \$150.00.

In addition, he said that Detective Jim Fulton has been subpoenaed to testify against a former Norwalk resident who was arrested in Eau Claire County, Wisconsin, and charged with child sexual assault. Detective Fulton previously worked on a similar case against the defendant in Huron County. He said that Eau Claire County is covering all costs related to the trip.

Mr. Euton asked how far Eau Claire County is from Norwalk. Chief Light was unsure of the distance.

Mr. Mushett asked what the trial date is. Chief Light said October 10, 2016 at 9 am.

Mr. Castle moved to approve both travel requests. Mr. Beck seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL Mary Ellen Hamernick, 15 Valley Park Drive thanked Council for taking the time to listen to the public at the previous work session. She added that if the Police and Fire Departments are the reason for the new tax legislation she would prefer to see it presented in the form of a levy.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none

SECOND READINGS OF ORDINANCES

Item No. 16-067

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 181.06 OF THE NORWALK CODIFIED ORDINANCES

Mr. Schumm moved to table the item and refer it to the Finance Committee. Mr. Wallace seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 16-078

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Mr. Wallace moved to change the legislation to correct the second “Section 2” to read “Section 3”. Mrs. Lucal seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Mushett moved to adopt the resolution. Mr. Beck seconded. All members voted in favor. Resolution No. 2016-037 adopted.

Item No. 16-079

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES

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

Mr. Mushett moved to table the item and refer it to Planning Commission. Mr. Beck seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Item No. 16-080

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO PAY A.J. RILEY, INC., FOR PAVING PERFORMED IN THE CITY OF NORWALK

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

Item No. 16-081

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2015-056 TO SET THE COMPENSATION FOR PART-TIME LEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mrs. Wilhelm moved that the clerk be instructed to read the legislation. Mr. Wallace seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Item No. 16-082

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CITY’S APPROVAL OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BIKE ROUTE 30

Mr. Castle moved to adopt the resolution. Mr. Wallace seconded. All members voted in favor. Resolution No. 2016-038 adopted.

Item No. 16-083

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CITY’S APPROVAL OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE BIKE ROUTE 65

Mr. Wallace moved to adopt the resolution. Mr. Castle seconded. All members voted in favor. Resolution No. 2016-039 adopted.

Item No. 16-084

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF CONSTRUCTING OR REPAIRING SIDEWALKS IN THE CITY OF NORWALK, OHIO, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2017 SIDEWALK PROGRAM, APPROVING THE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATE OF COSTS THEREFOR, ASSESSING THE COST THEREOF TO THE ABUTTING LOTS OR LANDS, AND DIRECTING NOTICE THEREOF TO BE SERVED UPON AFFECTED PROPERTIES

Mr. Mushett moved to correct Section 7 of the legislation to read 2017, not 2016. Mr. Castle seconded. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Beck moved to adopt the resolution. Mrs. Lucal seconded. All members voted in favor. Resolution No. 2016-040 adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Euton stated that there will be a Finance Committee meeting September 13, 2016 at 6 pm in the City Hall Conference Room followed by a Work Session at 7:30 pm.

Janice Slavik, 119 Sycamore Drive was present and wanted a show of hands in the audience as to how many people were present to oppose the change to City Income Tax. Mr. Euton explained that the item was tabled and sent to Finance Committee for further discussion.

Kathy Sickinger, 129 Whittlesey Avenue asked if the public would be notified when the item comes back up for a vote. Mr. Euton referred her to the upcoming City Council Facebook page and the City website.

Kathryn Ryan, 127 Fairway Circle inquired as to whether the Finance Committee meetings are open to the public. Mr. Euton said yes, but due to time constraints he could not guarantee the opportunity to speak. Mrs. Ryan asked if persons who could not attend the meeting could email Committee members. Mr. Euton said yes, and stated his email address as Chair of the Finance Committee.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Stephen E. Euton
President

Jaime L. Peiples
Clerk