

NORWALK CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

February 7, 2017
7:30 p.m.

Municipal Court
Norwalk, Ohio

REGULAR SESSION

Council President Pro Tempore Chris Mushett called the meeting to order. Major Lenny Boynton offered the prayer which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Council members were present: Chris Mushett, Chris Castle, Steve Schumm, Kelly Beck, and Dave Wallace. Mrs. Wilhelm was absent for personal reasons. Mrs. Lucal was absent due to family reasons. Mr. Euton was absent for work reasons.

Mayor Rob Duncan, Law Director Stu O'Hara, Safety/Service Director Dan Wendt, Finance Director Diane Eschen, Fire Chief John Soisson, Police Chief Dave Light, and Public Works Director Josh Snyder were also in attendance.

Mr. Beck moved to excuse Mrs. Wilhelm. Mr. Wallace seconded. Mr. Wallace, Mr. Castle, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Mushett, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Schumm moved to excuse Mrs. Lucal. Mr. Castle seconded. Mr. Wallace, Mr. Castle, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Mushett, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Wallace moved to excuse Mr. Euton. Mr. Beck seconded. Mr. Wallace, Mr. Castle, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Mushett, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mr. Mushett moved to remove *Item No. 17-013* from the agenda. Mr. Wallace seconded. Mr. Wallace, Mr. Castle, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Mushett, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Wallace moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Castle seconded. Mr. Wallace, Mr. Castle, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Mushett, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES Mr. Schumm moved to approve the January 17, 2017 and January 31, 2017 minutes as presented. Mr. Castle seconded. Mr. Wallace, Mr. Castle, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Mushett, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS – none

COMMITTEE REPORTS – none

OFFICIAL REPORTS

MAYOR – Mayor Duncan presented the State of the City Address, a copy of which is on file with the clerk.

Mr. Schumm asked if there have been meetings with the new Sheriff to fight the drug problem. Mayor Duncan said yes, Sheriff Todd Corbin has been meeting regularly with the Willard, Bellevue and Norwalk Police Departments and also with Mayor Duncan and the County Commissioners weekly. He said the communication has been fabulous.

SERVICE DIRECTOR – Mr. Wendt introduced Jeff Heinrich from the office of the State Treasurer who presented Ohiocheckbook.com in which the City is now participating. Mrs. Eschen credited Assistant Finance Director Michelle Reeder for her exceptional effort with the project.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – no report

LAW DIRECTOR – no report

ENGINEER – Mr. Snyder said he has been in touch with the new County Engineer to discuss upcoming joint projects on both Old State Road and Cleveland Road. He added that the Norwalk Creek is under a flood warning and they will continue to monitor the situation.

APPOINTED OR ELECTED OFFICIALS

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL – Randy Grosswiler, 417½ Jackson Street, Sandusky, and Jamie Mullins, 520 Milan Avenue, Lot 165 were present to discuss a drug awareness event they are hosting March 4, 2017 at Norwalk Middle School from 2-8pm. They said there will be guest speakers including former addicts and a person who recently overdosed.

Charles and Amanda Phillips, 54 Norwood Avenue were present to discuss the removal of two trees in the boulevard in front of their home. They said they did not receive any prior notice of the removal. Mr. Wendt said he made the decision to remove the trees. He said he is taking a proactive approach and removing unsafe trees with dead branches. He said in the future a courtesy letter will be sent to homeowners and the Tree Board will be consulted. Mayor Duncan apologized for the manner in which the trees were removed. He said in the future homeowners will have one week's notice to dispute the removal of boulevard trees unless they are an immediate safety hazard.

Mr. Beck added that he went on Google Earth and at least one of the trees in question did have several dead branches. He said the photos were taken in August of 2013.

Mary Hinckley, 59 Chapel Drive is a member of the Tree Board and asked Mr. Wendt if he plans to remove more trees without the involvement of the Tree Board. Mr. Wendt said he has a quote out for bid which includes stumps and a few trees. He said in the future he will consult with the Tree Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SECOND READINGS OF ORDINANCES

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 17-012

A RESOLUTION AMENDING JOB CREATION GRANT AGREEMENT NO. 2016-001 TO CORRECT A CLERICAL ERROR

Mr. Castle moved to pass the resolution. Mr. Beck seconded. Mr. Wallace, Mr. Castle, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Mushett, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Resolution No. 2017-007 passed.

Item No. 17-014

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO TERMINATE THE EDA-RLF PROGRAM

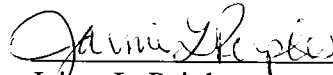
Mr. Castle moved to pass the resolution. Mr. Wallace seconded. Mr. Wallace, Mr. Castle, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Mushett, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Resolution No. 2017-008 passed.

NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Mushett said the next meeting will be a Special Regular Session followed by a Work Session February 14, 2017.

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



Stephen E. Euton
President



Jaime L. Peiples
Clerk